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NOTES AND NEWSObituary: Tony Fomison

Tony Fomison became associated with the Canterbury Museum and the world of Maori archaeology in the late 1950s. He was a senior member of the Museum's Archaeological Club and was appointed Filekeeper for the New Zealand Archaeological Association's Canterbury and West Coast site records which were held at the Museum. He later assisted with the display of Maori artefacts in the Museum and was employed as Assistant Ethnologist in 1962-63.

During this time much of the Museum's archaeological research programme was carried out by Tony. He found and recorded archaeological sites from Kaikoura to South Canterbury, took part in a number of excavations, and, of special importance, made the first accurate tracings of large numbers of the prehistoric Maori rock drawings in the region.

In 1963 Tony received an Arts Council travel grant and left Maori archaeology to study art in Europe. On his return to New Zealand a few years later he renewed his interest in Maori rock art, but soon became well known for his distinctive, dark paintings. In recent years he lived in Auckland and was acclaimed as one of New Zealand's leading expressionist artists.

Tony Fomison died in Whangarei in early February at 50 years of age. His reports, fieldbooks, tracings and other records at Canterbury Museum make an important contribution to our understanding of the prehistoric past.

Archaeological publications:

- 1959a Site survey of the Kaikoura Peninsula. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 3(1):4-15.
- 1959b The Canterbury survey. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 3(1):16.
- 1959c Maori Rock Drawings in South Canterbury. Interim report (cyclostyled) for the South Canterbury Regional Committee of National Historic Places Trust (23 pp).
- 1960a Report on the site survey. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 4(1):14.
- 1960b South Canterbury Rock Drawings. Final report (cyclostyled) for the South Canterbury Regional Committee of National Historic Places Trust (15 pp). With Addendum (9 pp) in 1961.
- 1962 An exploratory survey of Maori rock-shelter art in South Canterbury. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 5(2):116-124.
- 1963a Excavations at South Bay Kaikoura - site S49/43. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 6(2):14, 6(3):160.
- 1963b Maori Rock Drawings (Exhibition handbook). Victoria University of Wellington Council of Adult Education.

- 1969 A note on birds and "birdmen" drawings in South Island rock art. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 12(3):138-140. [Appendix in Trotter and McCulloch's Recent Rock Shelter Investigations in North Otago].
- 1982 Prehistoric Rock Art of New Zealand (review of Trotter and McCulloch 1981). Journal of the Polynesian Society 91(1):166-168.
- 1987 Theo Schoon and the retouching of rock art. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter 30(3):158-160.

Michael M. Trotter
Canterbury Museum

Recent reports and publications

Barber, I. 1989. An archaeological assessment of the Askew's Hill argillite quarry site, P26/169. Unpublished report, Department of Conservation, Nelson. 16 pp.

Inspection of Askew's Hill quarry site and recommendations on management.

Coates, J. 1990. Bluestone and bureaucracy. A project on the presentation of an archaeological site: Albert Barracks R11/833. Department of Conservation Science and Research Internal Report 65. 91 pp.

A detailed discussion of the construction and layout of the Albert Barracks, the subsequent demolition of the Barracks and the use of the site for housing and as a public park. Report on the excavation of a small area in the vicinity of the guardhouse.

Forbes, S. 1989. Mohaka archaeology: a survey of the lower Mohaha River, Hawke Bay, North Island, New Zealand. Kotuku Consultancy Ltd Report 4, for the East Coast Conservancy, Department of Conservation. 24 pp.

Survey of lower Mohaka River area. Seven existing records for the area field checked and an additional 13 pa, 8 'village' areas (recorded on the basis of local knowledge), pit sites, waahi tapu, and historical features were located - 36 sites in all.

Forbes, S. 1989. Willow Flat archaeology: a preliminary inspection of the Willow flat area, Mohaha River, Hawke Bay, New Zealand. Kotuku Consultancy Ltd Report 6, for the East Coast Conservancy, Department of Conservation. 7 pp.

Survey of Willow Flat area in Mohaka Valley.

Hamel, J. 1990. Historic and archaeological sites on Morven Hills, Lindis Valley. Unpublished report for Department of Conservation. 29 pp.

Survey of sites on Morven Hill pastoral lease lands and vicinity. Sites recorded are related to early farming and goldmining.

Johnson, L. 1990. The Waitangi Treaty House. The home of New Zealand's first British Resident. Department of Conservation Science and Research Internal Report 68. 17 pp.

Investigations carried out as part of the Treaty House sesquicentennial restoration project.

Johnson L. 1990. Archaeological site survey of the Shepherd residential subdivision, Whangaroa. Department of Conservation Science and Research Internal Report 70. 7 pp.

Archaeological survey and assessment of two proposed subdivisions in the Tauranga Valley, Whangaroa, Northland.

Johnson L. 1990. Archaeological site survey of Compartments 237, 228, 227, 72, 71, 65, 63, 50, 1001 and 1002 Aupouri Forest. Department of Conservation Science and Research Internal Report 71. 41 pp.

Survey and assessment of 10 compartments in Aupouri Forest. A total of 81 sites, mostly midden, recorded. Management recommendations.

Walton, A. and B. McFadgen 1990. An archaeological survey of Motiti Island, Bay of Plenty. Unpublished report, Department of Conservation. 4 pp.

Twenty-two pa and 8 other sites recorded.

The contents of Vol 11 (1989) of the New Zealand Journal of Archaeology are:

M. Trotter and B. McCulloch, Historical records or archaeological facts? The Withells Road Cemetery (pages 5-21).

Ian Barber, Of boundaries, drains and crops: a classification system for traditional Maori horticultural ditches (23-50).

John Coster, Dates from the dunes: a sequence for the Aupouri Peninsula, Northland, New Zealand (51-75).

T. Worthy, Aspects of the biology of two Moa species (Aves:Dinornithiformes) (77-86).

R. Green and J. Bird, Fergusson Island obsidian from the D'Entrecasteaux Group in a Lapita site of the Reef Santa Cruz Group (87-99).

N. Ritchie, Polar excavation techniques and technology (101-115).

Ian Smith, Fort Ligar: a colonial redoubt in Central Auckland, New Zealand (117-141).

There have recently been a number of important papers discussing the pattern of colonisation of the Pacific and New Zealand. Geoff Irwin, S. Bickler and P. Quirke have put the case for systematic colonisation of the Pacific in "Voyaging by canoe and by computer: experiments in the settlement of the Pacific Ocean" (Antiquity 64:34-50). Geoff has also discussed the settlement of the remote Pacific islands in "Against, across, and down the wind" (Jnl Poly. Soc. 98:167-206) and in "Human colonisation and change in the remote Pacific" (Current Anthropology 31:90-94). Athol Anderson and Rick McGovern-Wilson discuss "the pattern of Polynesian colonisation in New Zealand" (Jnl of Royal Society of N.Z. 20:41-63). The paper presents a detailed analysis of Caughley's proposal that colonisation followed a pattern of radial expansion, and was probably centred on the north-east coast of the South Island. Anderson and McGovern-Wilson argue that an analysis of radiocarbon dates reveals no significant chronological gradient. They also argue that there was a long period of local co-existence of human and moa and that there was no rolling wave of moa extinction as proposed by Caughley.

Conferences

The World Archaeology Congress 2 will be held in Cartagena de Indias, Columbia from 4-8 September 1990. The conference is organised around ten themes including "Education and archaeology", "Management of the archaeological heritage", "Sacred sites/Sacred Places and 'sites of significance'", "The social context of the practice of archaeology", and "Ethnohistory and oral tradition: two approaches for interpreting the archaeological past".

The XVII Pacific Science Congress will be held in Hawaii from 27 May to 2 June 1991. The programme includes a number of symposia of particular interest to archaeologists: "Human biodiversity in the Pacific: mitochondrial DNA diversity and migrations in Pacific populations", "Archaeology and

biocultural complexity in the Pacific", "Physical and cultural relationships of the peoples in Asia and the Pacific Basin", "Environmental and landscape change in prehistoric Oceania", "Evolution of late prehistoric social systems in Polynesia", "Hawaiian archaeology", "Pleistocene-Early Holocene human occupation of SE Asia, Australia, New Guinea, and Island Melanesia", and "Colonisation processes in the settlement of Polynesia".

The dates for the Fourth Australian Archaeometry Conference in Canberra have been changed to 29 January - 1 February 1991.

Department of Conservation

The Department of Conservation's approach to historic resources has only slowly become apparent. It is now clear that the Department's effort in the historic resources area is firmly focussed on the DoC Estate. The Historic Resources Directorate in DoC is preparing national policy guidelines on management, conservation, and interpretation of sites on the DoC Estate. It is also planning a national inventory of Historic Reserves and other actively managed historic places on the DoC estate, and an audit of the standard of management of Historic Reserves. The Department has decided to give a high priority to completing a Strategic Plan for historic resources for each of the fourteen conservancies. These are intended as a general statement of the Department's approach to managing historic resources and will be tailored to the circumstances which exist in each of the conservancies.

Recent staff changes in DoC include the appointment of an archaeologist (Lynda Bowers) to the Bay of Plenty Conservancy, and re-organisation of the existing staff in the Northland and Auckland Conservancies.

Projects undertaken recently by DoC include: (1) Work on a 'restoration' and interpretation project centred on three pa sites (W15/33, 34, 35) in a DoC Reserve at Ohope. The project is being undertaken in conjunction with Ngati Awa as a 1990 event. The Restart Team involved has removed the scrubby vegetation from the three pa and thinned the trees on the lower terraces. A car park, walking track, and interpretative panels are also part of the project. (2) Interpretative panels have been erected at pa along the Kohi Point walkway behind Whakatane in a joint project with the local authority (see cover photo). (3) Otatara Historic Reserve at Napier has been the focus of a N.Z. Conservation Corps project which has involved track improvements, fence re-alignment, landscaping, weed eradication, and tree planting.

RADIOCARBON DATING HANDBOOK

DSIR and DoC have published a guide for the submission of samples to the Institute of Nuclear Sciences, DSIR:

McFadgen, B.G. and M.R. Manning (eds) 1989. Radiocarbon Dating Handbook. DSIR/DoC.

SIZE OF CENTRAL FILE as of 31 March 1990

On 31 March 1990 the Central File held a total of 43640 records. This is an increase of 906 on last year's figure of 42734. This represents an increase of about 2.1%.

Regional totals are as follows:

<u>Region</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>Change</u>
Northland	7521	8043	+ 522
Auckland	6669	6778	+ 109
Coromandel	3618	3625	+ 7
Waikato	2178	2197	+ 19
Bay of Plenty	6302	6303	+ 1
Taupo	306	306	
East Coast	2441	2510	+ 69
Taranaki	1328	1330	+ 2
Inland Patea	287	288	+ 1
Hawkes Bay	1015	1071	+ 56
Wanganui	573	573	
Wellington	856	884	+ 28
Nelson	1230	1204	- 26
Marlborough	440	451	+ 11
Canterbury	1084	1088	+ 4
West Coast	661	747	+ 86
Otago	2215	2215	
Central Otago	1942	1941	- 1
Southland	1278	1296	+ 18
Outlying Islands	<u>790</u>	<u>790</u>	
	<u>42734</u>	<u>43640</u>	<u>+ 906</u>

Count based on metric boundaries, whether or not they are in use.