



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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NOTES AND NEWS

CONFERENCES

NZAA Conference 1991

'Karl Gillies reports from the frozen wastes of subantarctic Invercargill that the rescheduled date for the May NZAA conference is now Monday 13 May to Friday 17 May (venue: Southland Museum Pyramid).

- Monday 13 May: registration and powhiri at the Museum; various papers.
- Tuesday 14: fieldtrip to Chinese mining sites (bring boots and parkas); 8.30 pm public lecture by Dr James Ng, 'Chinese in Southern New Zealand'.
- Wednesday 15: various papers; 7.30 pm NZAA AGM.
- Thursday 16: fieldtrip to Colyers Island pre-European quarry (bring boots and wet-weather gear); 7 pm Chinese banquet.
- Friday 17: various papers; 3.30 pm onwards, general discussion regarding role of NZAA.

Registration on arrival (the cost yet to be decided) for daily or 5-day basis. Lunch and morning/afternoon teas will be included, but there will be an extra charge for fieldtrips. A Museum classroom and personnel will be available for babysitting. Monday-Wednesday-Friday sessions 9 am - 12, 1 pm - 5.

Please note that I require *many more* contributions of papers than I have so far received - the topics are unrestricted with a time limit of 25 minutes (plus 5 minutes for questions); overseas papers are also welcomed.

Papers offered so far are as follows:

- H. Leach, topic to be decided;
- J. Coster, 'Professional standards and ethics in archaeology';
- R. Hooker, topic to be decided;
- R. Scarlett, 'Looking backwards';
- R. McGovern-Wilson, 'Taphonomic analysis of NZ archaeological sites';
- N. Ritchie, topic to be decided;
- A. Anderson, 'Prehistoric muttonbirding';
- B. McCulloch and M. Trotter, 'Huirapa Gate, Kaiapoi - the good, the bad and the ugly';
- T. Higham, 'Seasonality of Shag River Mouth site derived from oxygen isotope and shell growth ring analysis';
- R. Fyfe, 'Pa sites, New Plymouth';
- K. Gillies, 'Maori sites on the Snares and Auckland subantarctic islands';
- J. Hall-Jones, 'Fiordland explained';
- R. Beck, topic to be decided;
- K. Bradley, 'Goldmining sites of Preservation Inlet';
- S. Bulmer, 'Pre-European vegetation of Auckland';

P. Houghton, topic to be decided;

R. Clough, 'The last roast: further investigations of the Kawau Island copper industry'.

There is a camping ground (with cheap caravans) and various motels and hotels within walking distance of the museum. More detailed information on accommodation is provided in the enclosed leaflet.

So please, all you museologists, archaeologists, ethnologists and anthropologists out there, I need more contributions of papers; and for the rest of you guys - the secret is to bang the rocks together!

Contact: Karl Gillies (03-2189753)
NZAA 1991 Conference Organiser,
Southland Museum,
PO Box 1012 Invercargill.'

ASHA Conference 1991

The Australian Society for Historical Archaeology will be holding its annual conference in Melbourne on 19-22 September 1991. The conference theme is 'Land and sea connections', reflecting the view that there is a need to move from looking at sites and artefacts as isolated occurrences to considering them in broader contexts. Four sessions have been proposed, to which contributions are invited:

Urban archaeology (convener Kristal Buckley);
Material culture (convener Susan Cheney);
Culture contact (convener Iain Stuart);
Trade (convener Tim Murray).

Papers dealing with non-Australian topics within these categories are welcome. Please send a title and a brief précis to the appropriate convener. A draft of the paper must be made available for pre-circulation to other speakers and to the audience on the day.

Contributors should write to the conveners care of:

Iain Stuart
ASHA Conference Organiser
c/o Victoria Archaeological Survey
PO Box 262
Albert Park 3206
Australia
(Ph. (03) 6905322/ Fax (03) 6962947)

Women in Archaeology Conference 1991

A conference entitled 'Women in Archaeology' took place on 8-11 February at Charles Sturt University, New South Wales. Its aims included an examination of the ways in which feminist socialist theories contribute to archaeology, the

provision of a forum for these theories, the addressing of issues relevant to women working in archaeology, and a celebration of the contribution of women's experiences to archaeology.

Ninety-five people attended, and the conference was broken down into eight sessions. Session 1, 'Gender as a dimension in archaeological theory', examined the theoretical basis of gender identification and the role of feminist social theory in archaeology, investigating ways in which gender and other feminist theories could be integrated into archaeological interpretation. Session 2, 'The Pleistocene and physical anthropology: removing the stereotypes', applied the debate specifically to the Pleistocene era and/or the discipline of physical anthropology, examining in particular the androcentric bias and preconceptions evident in the interpretation of Pleistocene skeletal data. Session 3, 'Gender case studies in prehistory', considered case studies which use gender theory to interpret or reinterpret archaeological data. Session 4 examined 'Gender case studies in historical/classical archaeology'. In Session 5, 'Cultural resource management and gender issues', the gender balance within the cultural resource management structure in Australia was examined, together with its status as a sub-discipline of archaeology. Session 6, 'Gender and rock art studies', discussed the contribution gender theory could make to the study and interpretation of rock art. Sessions 7 and 8 were devoted to 'Women in the archaeological career structure' and 'Women in the archaeological workplace'.

There were three papers which were felt to have particular impact. Stephanie Moser of La Trobe University spoke on 'Women in reconstructions: the visual portrayal of gender stereotyping', identifying gender stereotyping evident in hundreds of archaeological reconstructions dating from the late 1800s to the present, stemming from the andro/ethnocentric attitudes of some prehistorians and archaeologists. Linda Conroy of New England University considered 'Female figurines and the emergence of gender in the Upper Palaeolithic'. This paper served as a cautionary tale in the interpretation of gender from archaeological evidence, highlighting distortion in art and sex typing of images. Conroy also hypothesised that the emergence of gender division of behaviour was late in the Palaeolithic, in which she sees the use of symbols as part of the institutionalisation of gender. The third paper was by Alison Wylie, University of Ontario, who spoke on 'Chilly Climate' issues: the mechanisms by which the status of women is diminished on a day to day basis in the workplace.

Overall, the underlying message at the conference was to stress the need for the cautious use of assumptions and interpretations when dealing with such a complex issue as gender. It appeared that a gender approach to archaeology could be most useful in comparative analysis, and in critically assessing the origin of certain ideas, such as the division of labour question. Generally it was accepted that there was no one way to apply gender theory to archaeology, but by applying a gender perspective in interpretation and analysis, it is possible to challenge what we think we know about the past.

There were three New Zealand contributors: Susan Bulmer, on 'Hearths and ovens: gender bias in New Zealand archaeological theory and method'; Beverley Parslow, 'Gender identification in the archaeological record: a New Zealand example'; and Pamela Russell, 'The Palaeolithic Mother-Goddess: fact or fiction?' (Information Beverley Parslow and Chris Jenkin)

FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Several NZAA members around the country have kindly agreed to contribute information to Notes and News on a regular basis. Many of these are Department of Conservation staff and the areas referred to below broadly follow Conservancy boundaries. If anyone else has information they feel would be of interest to *AJNZ* readers, I would be glad to hear from them.

Northland

Major site surveys are under way in the Te Pahi dune areas and around Whangaroa Harbour.

Reserve areas in the extreme Far North were surveyed by Janet Davidson about 15 years ago. She, and later John Coster, recommended more detailed recording of sites in the coastal dunes. So far the survey has proved very rewarding. Although a large majority of sites are deflated, several have been found that remain partly *in situ*.

Whangaroa includes large areas of DOC land which have not been surveyed. The tangata whenua have approved of the project, and historical research has been carried out and fieldwork begun. NZHPT has provided some funding for work outside the DOC estate.

Excavations at Butler Point (pa site N7/70) have continued for brief periods over the last three years. A recent two week investigation has revealed two definite stages of occupation, the later one continuing into the early historic period. Outside the fortifications there is evidence of extensive habitation and cooking areas.

Myfanwy Eaves has been involved with continuing excavations at Pompallier House. Further evidence has been found relating to both the Catholic Mission period and to James Callaghan's tannery.

(Information Joan Maingay, DOC)

Auckland

A joint DOC/University of Auckland excavation of the remains of the copper industry on Kawau Island took place in January under the direction of Rod Clough. Excavations were focussed on two locations: the industrial complex at Smelting House Bay in Bon Accord Harbour; and the site of the 1840s mining settlement at Miners' Bay. Behind the smelting house, a symmetrical battery of eight roasting furnaces was exposed, along with adjacent storage structures. Some of the roasting hearths still contained the remains of the last ore to be roasted. One of the storage cells was a third full of fine quartz sand, an integral part of the smelting process. The roasting hearths will be conserved for future presentation to the public. It was the second season of excavation at Miners Bay and an effort was made to sort out stratigraphic problems encountered during the first - in particular differentiating between the mid 19th century settlement and those remains relating to the 1900 attempt to reopen the mine. Apart from clarifying this issue considerably more evidence of the early mining settlement was retrieved. (Information Rod Clough.)

Marianne Turner, Dominic Wilson and Pat Stoddart carried out a second season of excavation at 'Clovernook' (site R11/1694), in the Auckland suburb of Newmarket, in December 1990. This historic house, built in 1861 by the Stichbury family over the remains of a prehistoric shell midden, was demolished in 1962 to make way for motorway construction. During the first season's excavation a great deal of 19th century cultural material associated with the initial and later occupants of the house was recovered. The second season's work was undertaken to investigate both surrounding historic structures and the prehistoric occupation of the site. Hearths, hangi, a possible storage pit, up to a metre of shell midden, and some bone and lithic artefacts were recorded. At least two radiocarbon dates will be presented at a later time. (Information Dominic Wilson.)

Waikato/Coromandel

Harry Allen, Caroline Phillips, Rod Wallace and 15 students spent three weeks in January/February excavating at Opitau, Hauraki Plains, as part of a combined project between Auckland University Department of Anthropology's summer field school and Caroline Phillips' Ph.D. research on the history of Maori occupation of the Waihou River valley. Opitau pa, adjacent to the Raupa and Waiwhau sites, was known from Maori Land Court Records and oral tradition to have been occupied by Ngati Tamatera c.1830-1840, following a period of abandonment after the Ngapuhi raids. The excavations revealed a series of occupations, with drainage ditches, a possible defensive ditch, midden, garden and houses dating from the earliest phase of occupation, followed by later phases associated with clay pipes, pig bones and pottery. No definite fortifications are associated with the final phase.

Neville Ritchie is presently undertaking a survey of historical sites and features on the Huntly Coalfield on behalf of the NZHPT. The surface sites associated with the earlier underground mines in the area are now threatened by the advent of extensive opencast mining.

The NZHPT has granted a permit to Mr L. Vulecich of Hamilton, a member of the Waikato Archaeological Society, to investigate the presence of archaeological material in the bed of the Mangahoe Stream near Te Awamutu. If anything is found, it is likely to be derived from redoubt sites in the vicinity. Recovered items and a report on the work will be deposited in the Te Awamutu Museum.

A radiocarbon date has been received from the Waikato laboratory on a charcoal sample collected by Dr John Ogden (Botany Department, Auckland University) from the base of a hearth in the deepest occupation layer exposed in an old dune at Waikorea, a beach south of Waikato Heads. The sample produced a date of 1390 AD (560 BP \pm 40). Small fragmentary pieces of moa bone were found in the blow-out near the *in-situ* section from which the charcoal was obtained.

Neville Ritchie has taken over as Coromandel filekeeper from Louise Furey, and the file will now be based at DOC in Hamilton.

The Waikato Museum of Art and History is holding an exhibition entitled 'Te Mihaia Hou: Rua Kenana at Maungapohatu' (16 February - 1 May 1991). The exhibition investigates the life of the Maori prophet and includes a quarter size

replica of his famous parliament house, Hiona, as well as pieces of the original building and art depicting his religious beliefs.

(Information Neville Ritchie, DOC, and Harry Allen, Auckland University)

Taupo

Neville Ritchie is presently writing a report on a small salvage excavation he undertook in December 1990 on Hapu-a-wai, a contact era site exposed during road-widening operations at Acacia Bay, Taupo. A musket barrel was among the recovered artefacts. It overlay numerous flakes of the local Whangamata Stream (Kinloch) obsidian. A gourd fragment was also recovered.

Bay of Plenty

Tauwhare pa, Ohope. This complex of three pa was opened to the public on 15 December 1990. The project was first mooted by Kevin Jones a few years ago and involves public interpretation of the site by way of information panels and guided walks. The site was partly bulldozed during the 1950s when it was in private ownership (it is now a DOC reserve) and some minor restoration work was completed in 1990. Kevin Jones and Lynda Bowers completed a small excavation at that time. The most outstanding aspect of this project has been the level of involvement by Ngati Awa and their continuing commitment to the site. Kaumatua from Ngati Awa have been guiding the public over Tauwhare as part of DOC's summer programme.

A site survey was carried out in two Tasman Forestry Ltd blocks north of Lake Rotoiti. The survey was abandoned after one week's fieldwork at the request of Te Runanga o Ngati Pikiao. Three new sites were recorded during the fieldwork and a considerable amount of traditional information has been gathered from kaumatua of Ngati Pikiao.

An application to modify was granted in December 1990 to the Western Bay of Plenty District Council who wished to carry out service upgrading at Te Kauri Village. The earthmoving activity was monitored for disturbance of unrecorded archaeological sites. Eight new sites were recorded, the majority of which were midden. One complex of 11 infilled pits was revealed.

An interpretation panel has been completed for the Kaingaroa Rock Shelter site. The protective fencing has been replaced and the area is now under covenant. Pam Najar has made recommendations on the future monitoring of this site.

(Information Lynda Bowers, DOC)

East Coast/Hawkes Bay

Pam Bain has been appointed archaeologist for both the East Coast and Hawkes Bay conservancies. She is currently establishing community contacts and getting to know the district. Her immediate priority is to develop an archaeological/historic resources strategy for the two districts and follow through

with the identified priorities.

Nigel Prickett has recently completed a thorough examination and mapping of Hawkes Bay shore whaling stations dating from the 1830s to the 1840s. This area included Mahia peninsula, where three sites were added to the Gisborne file.

The Gisborne Museum and Arts Centre have been active. They have recently received collections from Mary Jeal's archaeological survey at Mahia Peninsula and from Kevin Jones' work at Whangara, which are available for research. The Museum includes a Maori wing which holds changing exhibitions (four since October 1988). They are currently displaying 'Te Taonga a Ruatēpūpū - Carvings of the East Coast'. The Museum has established a Maori Advisory Committee which comprises representatives of regional tribal and sub-tribal groups and representatives of the District Maori Council, practising artists, and the Director.

The local NZHPT Regional Committee has also been busy. On 9 October 1990, the site where Captain James Cook first landed in New Zealand was declared a National Historic Reserve, the first on the New Zealand mainland. The Cook Landing Site National Historic Reserve commemorates both the first landing place of Europeans and also the first major contact between the Maori and Pakeha. The ceremony on 9 October was the culmination of years of work by the Committee.

Mark Allen (a Fulbright Ph.D. Scholar from UCLA) has returned to California where he will complete his dissertation on his study of fortified pa sites of central Hawkes Bay. The Hawkes Bay Cultural Trust Museum has a copy of an initial report which gives some information about the sites studied. From March to July of 1990 Mark organised a team project (a MACCESS course provided for by the Runanganui) utilising eight Maori trainees. During the term of the project Mark and his team mapped about 30 previously unrecorded pa sites between the Esk and Tuki Tuki rivers and from the coast to the western ranges. Sampling was carried out from minimal excavations on pa of different styles around the Heretaunga Plain and inland lakes. Radiocarbon dates from these samples should be available soon.

At the 1990 Conference Mary Jeal handed over the reins of Hawkes Bay filekeeper to Elizabeth Pishief, who also keeps up the monthly meetings of the local archaeological group.

(Information Pam Bain, DOC, and Chris Arvidson, Hawkes Bay Museum)

Taranaki

Roger Fyfe has started work on a heritage inventory of New Plymouth City. The first stage is the documentation of the prehistoric/contact historic landscape. Some fieldwork is planned for next summer to complete and update site record forms on the 14 remaining intact sites. Using Taranaki Museum records, maps, plans, photographs, paintings, recorded tradition, etc, a total of 75 named sites have been located so far. The Museum is fortunate that the Plymouth Company surveyor Frederick Alonzo Carrington included many sites in his 1843 plan of the town. Manuscript sections of this plan have some wonderful sketches of pa that now no longer exist. Included in the inventory will be artefacts in the Museum collections that come from known sites. It is anticipated that the project will take

four years to complete. A sponsor is being sought to produce a publication for the general public, schools, planners, etc.

DOC have completed the removal of pine trees from Pukerania Historic Reserve. Visitors can now see the remaining section of sap and Maori defensive positions of the First Taranaki War 1860-1861. The area is to be managed by sheep grazing.

After many years Alistair Buist has retired from the honorary position of Regional Filekeeper for Taranaki. The files are now housed in the Museum and Roger Fyfe has taken over as filekeeper.

The Taranaki Museum's Education Gallery is mounting an exhibition this year on the European settlement of New Plymouth. It will include a simulated immigrant ship, a wharf, and clothing for school classes to wear for role play, together with tapes of sounds associated with the theme.

(Information Roger Fyfe, Taranaki Museum)

Canterbury

Michael Trotter and Beverley McCulloch have been working on a proposal for a historic precinct around Fyffe House, Kaikoura. Eighteen prehistoric and historic features have been located and some time was spent at New Year surveying these and photographing them for an illustrated report which will be sent to more than 30 relevant organisations and individuals (including NZAA, of course).

Michael and Beverley will also be running a small excavation at some historic lime-burning pits at Ward, Marlborough, in February.

Chris Jacomb spent five days in the Waverley District in October, mapping and photographing archaeological sites, so rounding off the fieldwork for his Waverley project. He also commenced work on a new project in November, a study of Banks Peninsula. The first part was a 4-week field survey of sites in the southernmost area, and a 4-day salvage excavation of an early whaling station at Oashore Bay.

Davina Didham (née Hodgkinson) has begun a year-long Restart project, working with Beverley McCulloch at the Canterbury Museum, to metricate the Canterbury Site Record File and (it is hoped) to computerise it as well.

Laura Vodanovich, under Chris Jacomb's guidance, is preparing a reference collection of bones to assist with the identification of skeletal material recovered archaeologically. This is also a Restart Project.

(Information Beverley McCulloch, Canterbury Museum)

Otago

Atholl Anderson excavated a moa dung deposit in the Cromwell Gorge over the summer. Other fieldwork has been confined to site surveying. In December Ian Smith recorded historic sites in an area around Maclaggan St, one of the older parts of Dunedin, while in early February Atholl Anderson surveyed part of the Clutha Valley.

Two excavations are planned for the coming months. Matthew Campbell

is hoping to excavate the tryworks at Otakou as part of his MA research into early whaling stations in southern New Zealand. This may take place in late February or March. In April Ian Smith will conduct a Field School excavation at Pleasant River Mouth.

There have been several recent staff changes in the Anthropology Department at the University. Atholl Anderson has taken over from Peter Wilson as Head of Department; Carol Quinn has been appointed Head Technician; and Richard Walter has arrived from Auckland to take up a lecturing position.

(Information Ian Smith, University of Otago)

Ross Sea Region, Antarctica

Following his visit and report on historic sites in Antarctica, Roger Fyfe has been working with a team that includes Chris Cochran (NZHPT), Neville Ritchie (DOC), Karel Peters (Auckland Museum), David Harrowfield (Antarctic Division), and Baden Norris (Canterbury Museum), to prepare a conservation plan for all historic sites in the Ross Dependency. The plan is designed to guide the long-term conservation and management of the historic sites cared for by the Antarctic Heritage Trust and the New Zealand Government. It will update and build on the Corporate Strategic Plan prepared by David Harrowfield and Gerry Turner (1984).

(Information Roger Fyfe, Taranaki Museum)

RECENT REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Berry, J. and Robinson, S. (eds) 1990. *Gisborne Exposed: The Photographs of William Crawford 1874-1913*. Gisborne Museum and Arts Centre. 192 pp. \$49.95 + \$3 p&p.

Brassey, R. 1990. The History and Archaeology of the Brown's Mill site, 15-17 Durham Lane, Auckland. DOC Science and Research Internal Report 77. 83 pp.

The results of an investigation at the site of the recently demolished Brown's Mill building in central Auckland. Investigation was primarily concerned with the early history and archaeology of the site from the time of initial European settlement in 1841 up to 1876 when the Brown's Mill building was constructed.

Macready, S. and Robinson, J. 1990. Slums and Self-Improvement. The History and Archaeology of the Mechanics Institute, Auckland, and its Chancery Street Neighbourhood. Vol. 1. The Site (R11/1589). DOC Science and Research Internal Report 91. 125 pp.

Macready, S. and Goodwyn, J. 1990. Slums and Self-Improvement. The History and Archaeology of the Mechanics Institute, Auckland, and its Chancery Street Neighbourhood. Vol. 2. The Artefacts and Faunal Material. DOC Science and Research Internal Report 92. 139 pp.

The history and archaeology of part of Chancery St, one of the earliest areas of European settlement in Auckland and soon to develop into one of its worst slums. Excavations uncovered structural evidence of the Mechanics Institute (1843-1879) and early timber cottages, including the residence and workshop of William Bacon, one of Auckland's earliest ginger beer brewers. The artefact assemblage is one of the largest so far reported from an historical archaeological site in New Zealand.

Maingay, J. 1990. Archaeological Inspection of a Proposed Subdivision at Oakura. DOC, Northland Conservancy. 10 pp.

Inspection of a proposed subdivision on the south side of Whangaruru Harbour and recommendations aimed at better protection of a pa (N16/2) therein.

Nichol, R. 1990. Barrytown Flats Archaeological Site Survey. DOC, West Coast Conservancy. 58 pp.

Survey of an area of a proposed largescale ilmenite mining venture. Sites recorded include a group of shell middens and a range of features associated with goldmining. Recommendations for mitigating impact on archaeological sites.

Prickett, N. 1990. *Historic Taranaki: An Archaeological Guide*. Government Printing Office, Wellington. \$16.95.

The guide outlines the history and archaeology of more than 30 sites around Taranaki in public reserves. They include both Maori sites, and European sites dating from the New Zealand Wars.

Prickett, N. 1990. Hawkes Bay Coast Archaeological Survey, Summer 1989-90. Report to NZHPT. 22 pp.

Site survey concentrating on prehistoric sites on the coast and on shore whaling stations of the 1830s and 1840s.

Ritchie, N. 1990. Survey of Historic Mining Sites in the Thames and Ohinemuri Areas of the Hauraki Goldfield. DOC, Waikato Conservancy. 334 pp. \$70.00.

Orders should be addressed to the author, DOC, Hamilton.

Veart, D. 1990. North Head: The Development of a Fort. DOC Science and Research Internal Report 79. 77 pp.

North Head was an important part of Auckland's coastal defences from the 1860s until World War II. During this time it underwent repeated modification as more installations were built and defences were upgraded. It is now an historic reserve. This report documents the changes and

identifies the features on and below the ground. It concludes with recommendations on management.

Forthcoming publication

Ritchie, N. and Hooker, R. 1991. *Archaeologist's Guide to Mining Terminology*.

Pre-publication orders should be addressed to N. Ritchie, DOC, Private Bag, Hamilton. The price per copy will be in the region of \$30.00.

Special offer to NZAA members

Unearthing New Zealand, by Michael Trotter and Beverley McCulloch, Government Printing Office, Wellington (1989), is now available for \$25.00 (recommended retail price \$44.95). This price includes postage within New Zealand. Add \$9.00 for postage to Australia and the South Pacific; \$12.00 to Europe, North America and Japan.

Apply to: NZAA (Publications)
c/o Auckland Institute and Museum
Private Bag
Auckland 1

The book was runner-up for the 1990 Science Communicators' Award, made each year by the New Zealand Association of Scientists, and was reviewed in *AINZ* 33 (2), 1990: 111.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO *AINZ*

The new layout introduced in this issue has made more space available, so please keep your contributions rolling in. I hope that some of this will be taken up by increased coverage of fieldwork and other matters in *Notes and News*, but would also like to see an increase in the number of preliminary reports submitted, and of short notes on (for instance) new radiocarbon dates, artefacts, etc. Unless major editorial changes are required it should be possible to publish all contributions within 3-6 months of submission. Letters to the Editor are also welcome and will be included as space permits.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ILLUSTRATION

An experienced archaeological illustrator is available for the preparation of line drawings of artefacts, maps and site plans for theses and publications.

Please get in touch with:
Joan Lawrence, MA (Hons.)
34 Park Road
Titirangi
Auckland 7
Ph. (09) 8174330/ Fax (09) 873734

UPDATING THE SITE RECORDING HANDBOOK

The Council of NZAA has resolved to produce a new version of *New Zealand Archaeology: A Site Recording Handbook*, the last edition of which appeared in 1979. Before determining exactly what the content, style and format of the new handbook will be, we are seeking comments from members of the Association on what they see as the strengths and deficiencies of previous editions, and what they would like to see in a new one.

Please send comments to: Ian Smith
Anthropology Department
University of Otago
PO Box 56
Dunedin

NZAA COUNCIL MEETING

A meeting of the Association's Council was held in Dunedin on 9-10 February. Some of the issues discussed, and action to be taken, are as follows. (It is hoped that summaries of future meetings can be presented in Notes and News to keep members informed.)

Over the past few years money collected from commercial enquiries to the NZAA site files has been deposited in a Search Fees Account with the intention of using it for research purposes. It was decided to contribute \$1500 from this account to the Skinner Fund administered by The Royal Society. The Association has made contributions to this fund in the past and some very worthwhile research has eventuated from grants awarded to individual members.

A questionnaire for members will be posted out with this issue of *Archaeology in New Zealand*. This is an opportunity for members to express their views on how the Association is performing, and a widespread response will help direct the Association's actions in the 1990s. It is hoped to present preliminary results of the questionnaire at the conference in Invercargill in May.

The meetings of the Council over the last few years have increasingly been dealing with site file issues. This meeting was no exception. The transfer of the Coromandel Site File to DOC in Hamilton raised issues regarding ownership of and access to NZAA site files when a DOC archaeologist is the filekeeper. It was proposed that a sub-committee write an agreement reasserting the Association's ownership of the files and setting conditions of use and access which will be binding in all such situations. The subject of releasing site file information in electronic form was also discussed. Abbreviated site information is currently available in the County Inventories and Central File printouts supplied by DOC. The Council had no objections to the same information being supplied on disk provided it was for a legitimate reason.

A sub-committee is also looking at the feasibility of rewriting the Site Recording Handbook, in line with proposed changes in legislation, and including more graphics. A pamphlet promoting the site recording scheme and briefly explaining how to fill in a site record form is also being considered (see above).

The proposed new Historic Places legislation was discussed. The timetable for introduction of the Bill to Parliament is uncertain as it is closely related to, and

will follow, the Resource Management Bill. When the draft Historic Places Bill is released the Council will prepare a submission and an attendance at the Select Committee hearings is planned.

A letter is to be sent to the Minister of Conservation expressing concern that there was no consultation with interested parties over the proposed restructuring of historic resources within DOC and the Historic Places Trust. The review document advocates four sources of historic resource direction: HPT, DOC head office Historic Resources responsible for policy formulation, Head Office Science Group, and Regional Conservancies. We believe that duplicated structures will lead to competition for limited resources and fragmented protection and management. The report also makes recommendations about the archaeological database without being aware of NZAA's involvement.

(Louise Furey)

OBITUARY

Martin McLean joined the Regional Archaeology Unit (DOC, Auckland) as a historian in June 1988. He carried out much of the historic research necessary for the location and interpretation of the increasing number of historic archaeological sites recorded and investigated by the DOC team over the last few years.

In 1989 he produced a report entitled 'Auckland 1842-1845. A Demographic and Housing Study of the City's Earliest European Settlement' (DOC Science and Research Internal Report 33), a transcription and analysis of the police censuses taken in those years which have been of immense value in the ongoing survey of historic archaeological sites in the central city area. He also produced a detailed study of the structural history of the Waitangi Treaty House ('The Garden of New Zealand', DOC Science and Research Internal Report 78, 1990), and at the time of his death was embarking on a survey of historic archaeological sites in Onehunga.

He was a member of the Auckland Regional Committee of the Historic Places Trust, and for a brief period edited its Newsletter. He was also well known to local historical societies, giving frequent lectures on the history of Auckland. At Auckland University, where he completed an MA (Hons), specialising in 19th century American political history (the Monroe era in particular), he was Secretary and President of the Historical Society.

Marty died on 24 October 1990 of heart failure, aged only 31. He had contracted a virus a few years previously which progressively weakened his heart and knew that his future would depend on a heart transplant operation. Despite this he retained a wonderful capacity for enjoying life and was always willing to involve himself in all aspects of the Department's activities - whether organising the catering for a departmental hui on Motutapu Island or arranging lunchtime history lectures. His sense of humour, courage, and violently patterned shirts, made him a familiar and well-loved figure in the Department, and he is deeply missed by all his friends and colleagues.