



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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NOTES AND NEWS

CONFERENCES

1993 NZAA Conference Update

The Kaikoura conference will follow the usual format for a 5 day meeting.

Registration will be from 9.00 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. at the **Memorial Centre**.

Please note that we will be running field trips on the Sunday before the Conference from Picton / Blenheim to Kaikoura, and on the Saturday following, from Kaikoura to Christchurch. A reminder that these will only be run if there is sufficient interest so

PLEASE LET US KNOW - **BY 15 APRIL** - IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

The cost of these trips will probably be in the region of \$30.00 to \$40.00 each, depending on numbers.

A reminder too that early bookings for accommodation are essential (for list of places to stay - see notice in last issue of *Archaeology in New Zealand*).

If you have any queries please write to:

New Zealand Archaeological Association Conference
C/- Canterbury Museum
Rolleston Avenue
CHRISTCHURCH

FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

I am very grateful to the various contributors for continuing to keep me informed of activities in their areas. If anyone else has information of interest to *AINZ* readers I would be glad to hear from them.

Northland

For the last few months Northland radio station has tried to persuade us that our semi-tropical region is blessed with "101 days of summer" - a gross exaggeration this season. However, through gifts of prognosis or intervention by the gods, DOC archaeologists have managed to accomplish a number of fieldwork projects, most of them in the Bay of Islands area.

Re-checking of archaeological sites at Mimiwhangata has been completed with the assistance of volunteers, and several of the more spectacular pa have been surveyed in more detail. This peninsula, situated between Whangarei Harbour and the Bay of Islands, contains evidence of dense Maori occupation exemplified in a wide range of sites including pa, unfortified settlements, agricultural evidence and numerous midden. It is intended that the recent work should provide the basis for site preservation, and for interpretation where this is considered appropriate by Ngati Wai.

Plane-table plans have been made of three pa administered by DOC in the eastern Bay of Islands, none of which had been adequately surveyed for conservation purposes. They include Tapeka Pa, a gazetted Historic Reserve, Paeroa Pa, a proposed Historic Reserve, and a small pa on Motuarohia which attracts several thousand visitors annually. The detailed plans will assist in future monitoring of visitor impact on sites.

Rainbow Falls, on the western side of the Bay near Kerikeri, contains a site of more recent historic interest. A hydro-electric generator was established here in the 1930s, before the national grid was set up, and continued in operation until the 1960s. The remains of this installation were excavated recently by James Robinson and members of the Kerikeri Fieldcentre during a brief blistering hot period when fieldstaff were forced to admit that archaeology is not a cushy job. One of the most interesting artefacts recovered was a large mercury temperature gauge used to check the temperature of transformers. If these were too hot they were cooled by the simple expedient of spraying with a hose. It is hoped that the site can be reconstructed with assistance from sponsors such as Electricorp, as an addition to the visitor attractions of the Kerikeri Basin.

Finally, DOC staff, local volunteers and university students have just returned from a further two week investigation of pa site N7/70 at Butler Point, Mangonui Harbour. This has been a continuing project over several years. Periods of excavation have been necessarily brief, owing to limited funding, but the sequence of occupation on this small pa and the surrounding area is slowly emerging.

The site was occupied, perhaps intermittently, from at least the 16th to the 19th centuries. To begin with it appears to have been an undefended settlement. Subsequently there were two or more periods of ditch and bank construction with palisading continuing outside the earthworks. House sites and stone workfloors have been identified both within and outside the fortifications, but the vast majority of food preparation and resultant midden deposits appears to be confined to the exterior area especially in the later stages of occupation. There are virtually no food remains at this level within the pa itself.

Artefacts recovered from the site consist mainly of stone flakes including obsidian, greywacke and chert; a few adzes which can be classified as 2B although two have unusual and almost identical narrow butts; sandstone files; bone chisels and awls; a grooved seal tooth; a small greenstone pendant, and in close juxtaposition with the pendant, a relatively large, open ares of the pa, a broken basalt sinker with two intricately carved, asymmetrical heads on the upper surface. It should be possible to date this unusual artefact from a shell

deposit found at approximately the same level of occupation.

At present this is the only long-term investigation taking place in Northland, and the first intensive research on a pa north of the Bay of Islands. Given the support of the owners, Dr. and Mrs Ferguson, and the tangata whenua, Ngatikahu, we hope that it can be continued for at least another season. Certainly this would be justified from the current results.

Once again we should like to thank all of the local volunteers, DOC Fieldstaff, and the University of Auckland students and graduates who have taken part in projects, and without whom we could not have accomplished this summer programme.

Joan Maingay, DOC

Auckland

Over the summer Doug Sutton continued research into settlement on Matakana Island, Tauranga. This work will be the focus of the University of Auckland's Anthropology Department field school at Easter and in May.

In February Rod Clough and Peter Sheppard mapped a large area at Tahanga, Opito Bay in the Coromandel. Total station theodolite with electronic notebook enabled rapid data recording. This was carried out in conjunction with a remote sensing survey using a ground conductivity meter (EM38) in preparation for further fieldwork in May.

In association with the Hauraki Maori Trust Board, Historic Places Trust and members of the Ngati Maru and Tamatera, the department is presently carrying out Impact Assessments of flood control work on archaeological sites. MA students Trudy Doelman and Stuart Bedford, were involved in a salvage excavation of a swamp pa, Hurumoimoi, and the mapping of two other large swamp pa. EDM was used for electronic recording of the excavated material. Kim Tatton with members of the Ngati Wai continued archaeological survey on the DOC estate, from Harataonga to Okiwi on Great Barrier Island. Phil Simpson and Jeff Mosen were involved with impact assessment survey in the Waitakere Ranges.

Rod Clough, University of Auckland

Waikato-Coromandel

Discussions are presently underway with iwi and landowners with regard to possible investigations on two pa sites near Kopu, viz on Hurumoimoi (T12/347) and Pukeahue (T12/300). The names are derived from Maori Land Court records. If there is an agreement with tangata whenua that the excavations should proceed they will probably be conducted simultaneously in February 1993.

Neville Ritchie spent a week on Red Mercury Island in November undertaking an archaeological site survey of the island while other DoC staff continued kiore eradication work. Records of the three previously recorded sites were updated and fourteen new sites including garden areas and pits were

recorded. They will be described in a forthcoming paper in AINZ.

A substantial report authored by Harry Allen and Stuart Bedford on the 1991 and 1992 investigations on the Puriri River has recently been released. The work, necessitated by stopbank construction along the river, was contracted by the Waikato Regional Council.

Owen Wilkes, well known CND campaigner and one time Canterbury filekeeper (c.30 years ago), recently approached the Regional Archaeologist at Hamilton about doing a voluntary site recording project. This has evolved into two trips "just for the pleasure of the walk" through the coastal country between Kawhia Harbour and Awakino during which Owen recorded some 200 new sites and updated information on 80 previously recorded sites - a magnificent voluntary effort. The site records are presently being compiled.

Neville Ritchie, DOC

Bay of Plenty

An inventory project within the northern Kaimai-Mamaku Forest Park was completed in December 1992. A number of unrecorded sites associated with kauri logging have been located and mapped. The report on this inventory project will be available shortly.

The preparation of Conservation Plans for Historic Reserves administered by the Department of Conservation within the Bay of Plenty has commenced. It is expected that plans for four Historic Reserves will be completed by June of this year.

Three pa sites within the Omataroa Forest, Te Teko, were mapped recently prior to felling of *Pinus radiata*. An authority to modify has been granted by the Historic Places Trust for removal of the pines after which the sites will be excluded from further forestry operations.

An inventory survey has just commenced within the Ohope and Matata Scenic Reserves with the aim to produce management recommendations for the conservation of archaeological sites within the reserves.

Further upgrading of town services at Te Kauri Village, Katikati, are due to commence shortly. Stage one of this work was completed two years ago and archaeological monitoring was carried out. Monitoring of construction works during stage two will also be undertaken.

Lynda Bowers, DOC

Taranaki

Two unfunded field archaeologists have commenced visiting and recording pa in west Taranaki. All those visible on aerial survey photographs were plotted by Tony Walton, but only a few were actually recorded from field visits. The present project continues the 1980-83 detailed survey by Nigel Prickett in the northern part of the area published in the Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum.

Local bottle collectors are undertaking the rescue of a dump on the site of New Plymouth's first brewery of the 1860s, with a Historic Places Trust permit. Not surprisingly most of the bottles were broken, but a good range of early examples were obtained. The Taranaki Museum will benefit from the work.

Alastair Buist

East Coast

The East Coast Conservancy, with assistance from Science and Research, has been heavily involved in the East Coast Forestry Project. This is an afforestation project considered a high government priority which financially assists landowners to plant up eroding land. There are a number of issues associated with this project. The Department of Conservation had input into developing exclusion criteria which included "Any archaeological site or other sites of particular cultural or historic importance".

Over the next 28 years it is planned to plant a forest twice the size of Kiangaroa.

Science and Research assessed the likelihood of archaeological sites on all tendered blocks at very short notice. To date, 35 blocks have been approved for planting this year and HPT has negotiated a survey of these blocks which will be initiated after HPT discussions with Ngati Porou Runanga. Negotiations are also continuing regarding future archaeological survey of tendered blocks.

Pam Bain, DOC

Wellington

Brian Sheppard has been appointed to a senior management position within the Science and Research Division of DOC and Aidan Challis has taken over as leader of the unit. The unit has been operating on this basis for some time but the temporary arrangements have recently been made permanent.

There have been further steps in the development of the Archaeology Database. The database has been converted to work using a new software package and this provides greater flexibility in the way reports can be produced and also opens the way to later development of more sophisticated ways of searching and displaying data.

Electronic copies of some key sections of the Archaeology Database are currently being made available to local bodies on a trial basis. Local bodies want the information in this form for incorporation in GIS or other databases and it is hoped that the streamlined handling of archaeological information will allow them to begin screening projects which would otherwise not be checked for archaeological impacts. Each release is subject to a standard set of conditions worked out with NZAA. The conditions are designed primarily to minimize the risk of mis-interpretation of the data.

Ann Williams and Bruce McFadgen have produced an interim report on the

ethnohistorical and environmental history of the lower Wairau Plains for the Nelson/Marlborough Conservancy. The results may have implications for the archaeological interpretation of the Wairau Bar moahunter site.

Kevin Jones has received a Churchill fellowship to study management of earthwork sites, including vegetation management, repair of earthworks, visitor management, etc. in the south east United States.

Aidan Challis and Tony Walton completed an eleven day survey of the margins of the Pouerua volcanic stonefields site in early November. The work was undertaken at the request of the N.Z. Historic Places Trust and was intended to define the boundary of the area of archaeological interest.

Bruce McFadgen, Ann Williams, and Tony Walton carried out a brief investigation at Fort Dorset in December 1992. The base is being sold and the investigation was intended to identify any archaeological remains, and to examine the underlying beach and dune deposits. A series of trenches were dug by machine in grassed areas. A small area of midden was found intact but elsewhere material was re-deposited and it is likely that most traces of occupation were destroyed when the area was levelled. A large rubbish dump, dating to the late 1930s, was found underlying a playing field.

Bruce McFadgen was on Matakana Island in January looking at the late Holocene stratigraphy and mapping the evolution of the seaward side of the Island. The work, which is being done in conjunction with a member of staff from Massey University, is a part of a University of Auckland archaeological research project studying the archaeology of that part of the island.

Tony Walton, DOC

Nelson and Marlborough

The months before Christmas yielded a spate (for this region anyway) of unauthorised disturbances of sites and the authority to modify assessments. This has resulted in a heightened community awareness of the existence of the Historic Places Act and a much overdue tightening of procedures in relation to the Act within local authorities in the region. It is somewhat dispiriting nevertheless that despite having been around for 18 years such ignorance of the Act and its provisions persist. In response to these notifications Steve Bagley has carried out a number of site investigations including a small excavation at Little Kaiteriteri prior to a subdivision.

Jack Walls has been kept busy assessing the numerous coastal building permits in Golden Bay for the Tasman District Council in an effort to develop a more proactive approach to site protection.

The hitherto familiar figure of Ian Barber has not been seen in the area for several months and it is rumoured that he has been locked away in Dunedin and has almost completed his PHD thesis "Culture Change in Northwestern Te Wai Pounamu".

DOC have a string of historic resources projects underway at present including conservation work at the Trout Hatchery, Fire Engine House and Powder Magazine in the old Provincial Government Reserve, Albion Square and

the Perano's Whaling Station in Tory Channel. The Johnston's United 20 stamp gold battery site has been cleared of vegetation and mapped prior to replacement of the battery's treacherously rotten foundations.

Michael Trotter and Beverly McCulloch and a Canterbury Museum team carried out excavations on the site of Fyffe's woolshed, Armers Cove, Kaikoura in mid January.

Bruce McFadgen and Anne Williams of Science and Research have been researching and documenting evidence of landscape changes in the lower Wairau Plains with particular reference to the Wairau Lagoons and the moa-hunter site on the bar.

Steve Bagley, DOC

Canterbury

Michael Trotter directed an excavation at Kaikoura aimed at identifying George Fyffe's woolshed. This is part of an ongoing research programme by Michael and Beverly McCulloch on the history and archaeology of the Fyffe whaling station and subsequent farming settlement.

David Nobes, a geophysicist at the Geology Department of Canterbury University, is directing a survey programme at Onewe Pa using both magnetic equipment and ground penetrating radar.

Ian Hill, of the Department of Conservation, excavated the opening of a brick-lined well at the "The Levels" in South Canterbury, prior to its capping with concrete. He suggests that it was associated with the station's 1856 homestead.

Cris Jacomb carried out some test-pitting at the Purau site in Lyttelton Harbour prior to two building permit approvals. Where cultural material was encountered it was heavily disturbed - probably through fossicking.

Chris Jacomb, Canterbury Museum

Otago

Helen Leach has taken over as Head of the Anthropology Department at Otago University and Atholl Anderson will be leaving at the end of June to become Head of the Prehistory Department in the Research School of Pacific Studies at ANU in Canberra.

Several excavations were undertaken during the summer. In November Matthew Campbell investigated the site of the Waikouaiti whaling station, founded in 1837 and owned for almost 30 years by Johnny Jones. Unfortunately little archaeological evidence of the whaling era seems to have survived there. During December Dinah Higham excavated at Baird's Hotel in the Ida Valley. The site was an isolated "roadhouse" on Dunstan Road, occupied for a brief period in the 1860s, and was investigated as part of Dinah's M.A. thesis research into the archaeology of coach transport between Dunedin and the Central Otago goldfields. Structural remains of three separate buildings were

uncovered and artefacts from the goldrush era. In February Peter Bristow excavated some "dugouts" thought to be tent sites on the Campbell's Creek goldfield high on the Old Man Range near Alexandra and found cobbled floors and other evidence consistent with their supposed function.

Ian Smith, Otago University

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS

Bedford, S. and H. Allen. 1992. Report on the 1991 and 1992 Investigations on the Puriri River. Report for Waikato regional Council, Hamilton. 42 pp.

Report describes rescue excavations at the site of the Puriri Mission Station of the 1830s and on a series of nearby shell middens and ovens. No definite trace was found of the Mission Station. The middens were sometimes cooking and refuse dumps but sometimes were associated with structures. Occupation dates from the late prehistoric into the historic period. The sites will be modified by the construction of stopbanks.

Challis, A. 1992. A review of archaeological site records for the Canterbury region. Science and Research Series 45. DOC. 20pp.

Existing site records provide a potentially misleading basis for site protection, if used without specialist advice. The majority of records lack detail and require verification of location and updating. Site survival rates appear to be poor.

Rains, R.J. and R.B. Rains. 1992. Late Holocene river courses and early Polynesian sites, lower Waimakariri River, Canterbury. *New Zealand Geographer* 48 (1): 21-26.

NZAA COUNCIL MEETING

Items of interest to members from the meeting held on the 13th of February 1993. It appears there are a number of monographs in preparation and it is hoped that the next publication is not far away. Nigel's effort as editor (and contributor) is gratefully recognised.

Progress is being made in the Ethics / Maori consultation issue and there will be a session on these at Conference.

Some of you will be aware that nominations for membership of Regional Conservation Boards and the National Conservation Authority closed on the 15th February. The criteria regarding background experience is notable for its lack of any specific reference to historic heritage. This is an issue the council is not happy about and a submission on the matter will be made to the minister.

Thanks to the many submissions made re archaeological values on the Motutapu Revegetation Plan a review is underway. A forum / workshop is

planned for early March and Louise will attend on behalf of the council.

Good progress is being made on an agreement with DOC on management of the NZAA Central File following a meeting attended by Ian Smith in Wellington.

The Resource Management Act and the implications in Resource Consent applications was considered. There doesn't seem to be any coherent procedure for the determination of archaeological values or notifications to regional file keepers. This matter will be taken up with the Ministry for the Environment and a paper drawn up for the file keepers' guidance. The system at present relies on local interested members spotting newspaper notifications. These same individuals then have to check the application and determine if archaeological values are threatened. A brief submission can then be made to the relevant local authority. Under the Resource Management Act it is the responsibility of all Consent applicants to determine historic values but this is not happening. The local authority determines an application based on the evidence presented. Several cases of Resource Consents being granted which have or will have detrimental consequences for archaeological values are known to council. How many others is anybody's guess. We are reliant at present on members taking notice of R.M. Consent applications tucked away in local newspaper.

Ray Hooker

OBITUARY

MEDFORD KELLUM JR. 1902-1992

Medford Kellum Jr. was not an archaeologist but contributed substantially to the development of archaeology in French Polynesia during his 67 year residence in the 'Opunohu Valley on Mo'orea. Med arrived in Papeete, Tahiti in the dawn of New Year's day 1925 in his family boat the Kaimiloa, a 55 metre, 4 master. On board, in addition to the Kellum family and friends, were six Bishop Museum scientists, including Kenneth Emory on his first trip to the South Pacific beyond Hawaii. Emory chose to stay in Tahiti for 15 months to conduct archaeological surveys of *marae*. Med and his fiancée Gladys fell in love with 'Opunohu Valley on Mo'orea and chose to stay there for the rest of their lives.

Medford Kellum Sr. purchased the beautiful 1500 hectare 'Opunohu Valley for his son and future daughter-in-law to settle in. Med Jr., through his long association with this valley, facilitated three generations of archaeological research.

This research began in 1925-26 with Emory's *marae* survey which resulted in the recording of some of the larger *marae* in the valley (Emory 1933). The Kellum hospitality made Emory's work considerably easier, especially at a time when the Island was little developed.

Med was quick to recognize that the archaeological sites in his valley were

a rare resource as he read extensively the early ethnohistories and ethnographies of Tahiti. He protected the sites in the valley with the hopes that one day someone would conduct archaeological work there. That day came in 1960 when Roger Green and his wife embarked on a 10 month survey of the valley (Green 1961), followed by limited inland and coastal excavations. They returned to excavate additional sites in late 1961 - early 62 in the interior of the 'Opunohu. The project resulted in the recording of over 200 site complexes in the valley and excavations in five inland and six coastal sites (Green et al. 1967; Green and Descantes 1989). The Kellum's hospitality and assistance during the two field seasons greatly facilitated the research programme.

More recently, I have just completed dissertation field research in the 'Opunohu Valley on prehistoric agriculture and geomorphic change (Lepofsky et al. 1992). The support of the Kellum family in the form of meals, housing, encouragement and logistical help was invaluable.

In addition to the archaeological research teams, several other scientific studies in other disciplines have benefitted from the Kellum hospitality over the years (Murray and Clarke 1980; Murray et al. 1988).

Through his late 80's, and until his death at 90, Med remained passionately interested in Polynesian prehistory and committed to protecting and understanding the prehistory of Opunohu.

Med Kellum Jr. died on December 7, 1992, quietly in his home in the 'Opunohu Valley he loved so much. Med is survived by his daughter Marimari, a well respected Polynesian archaeologist in her own right, her brother Rotui and his family, and Marimari's son Hiria. Med was a truly great man to whom the Polynesian scientific community owes much.

Dana Lepofsky
North Vancouver, B.C.
Canada

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