

# ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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# NOTES AND NEWS

## CONFERENCE

#### NZAA CONFERENCE 1994

To be held in Whangarei at Forum North from 9-13 May.

Forum North is in the centre of the city and there is a wide range of accommodation available.

Proposed field trips - half day on Monday 9th; whole day Wednesday 11th. Detailed information will be published in the March 1994 issue of **Archaeology** in New Zealand.

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Department of Conservation Northland Regional Office PO Box 842 Whangarei

### NEW MEMBERS

The Association would like to welcome the following new members and wishes them many happy years of archaeological endeavours:

Larry Bruce, Jannye Freeman, Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences (Taupo), Jeanette Jones, Helen McCracken, Sheena McLachlan, Prue Matthews, Owen Wilkes and Jan Worrall.

### DONATIONS

Council would like to thank the following members for their donation to the Association: James Gale, Alison and Dan Witter (Australia).

### MONOGRAPH 19

Monograph 19 of the Association, **The Evolution and Organisation of Prehistoric Society in Polynesia**, edited by Michael W. Graves and Roger C. Green, is now available. The papers were presented at a session od the XVII Pacific Science in Hawaii in 1991.

There are eleven papers on Hawaii, Tonga, Samoa, Rotuma, Cook Islands, Easter Island and eastern Polynesia.

The book is available from:

The Sales Manager New Zealand Archaeological Association Auckland Museum Private Bag 92018 Auckland

Cost: \$39.50 non-members, \$25.00 members, plus \$3.50 post and packaging within New Zealand. Overseas orders and post and packing for multiple orders will be invoiced seperately.

#### CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIP STUDY TRIP

Kevin Jones has returned from a Churchill Fellowship study trip to the United States. He travelled to North Dakota, Illinois, Mississippi, Alabama, and Virginia to learn from efforts at site stabilisation and reconstruction.

One of the first sites visited was Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, North Dakota, reconstructed by the National Park Service from 1987-1989. Much of the impetus to reconstruct came from local interest groups impatient



Figure 1. Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, North Dakota.

to see the federal dollar being put into development of potential tourist attractions. However, there was extensive archaelogical excavation of the ground in the areas to be reconstructed, especially the palisade line, and some intact structures were left exposed (such as the kitchen and dairy attached to

the main house) or not excavated and their plan ghosted with wooden beams (see Figure 1. bottom left). The National Park Service architect spoken to by Kevin gave top marks to the value of the archaeological advice received in the course of the reconstruction.

One of the highlights was a visit to Poverty Point, Louisiana, where Kevin met the sites's curator, Nancy Clendenen (née Wilkenson), who had a story to tell of student days with Roger Green as a site supervisor (Figure 2.). At the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, Kevin went on field visits and had detailed discussions, including a videotaped interview, with Dr Robert Thorne, an authority on archaeological site stabilisation whose assistance is frequently called on by the National Park Service. Other highlights were visits to the early English settlements of c. 1610 in the lower James River, and visits to Cold Harbour and the Petersburg Battlefields, all in Virginia. At the last, mixed success has been gained in converting earthwork fortifications to native grasses such as the short prairie grass Andropogon virginiacus.

Kevin is currently writing up his report for the Fellowship Board, and will be writing up draft guidelines for site stabilisation in New Zealand.



Figure 2. Poverty Point, Louisiana, with curator Nancy Clendenen.