



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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NOTES AND NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

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

Matt Felgate, Dr Mike Green, Kaye Green, Victoria Grouden, Prof. Charles Higham.

DONATIONS

Council would like to thank Anne Leahy for her donation to the Association.

1996 CONFERENCE

Council wishes to advise members that the 1996 Conference will be held in Whakatane in the week following Easter, probably from Tues 9 April to Sunday 14 April. Further information will be forthcoming towards the end of the year, meanwhile write those dates in your diary.

The Association for Women in the Sciences

SCIENCE - WOMEN AND OUR FUTURE, 1996 CONFERENCE 29-31 MAY, WELLINGTON

FIRST NOTICE AND CALL FOR PAPERS

After the success of our Suffrage Year conference, W2(SC), we are planning to do it again. This time we're calling for speakers to bring us visions, actions and mechanisms to take us into the future.

Come to debate and influence the future of science, to hear local and international speakers. Between sessions there will be plenty of time to socialise, network and have FUN!

For more information or if you are not on our mailing list, contact Helen Hancox at:

86 Daniell St Newtown, Wellington 6002.

Phone: 04-389 2578, fax: 04-389 2589, email: hancox@actrix.gen.nz

world-wide web home page: <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/~parrww/>

Principal sponsor: ECNZ

WRITER/RESEARCHER: ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH MANAGEMENT

The Council of the New Zealand Archaeological Association wishes to rewrite and update its publication *New Zealand Archaeology: A Site Recording Handbook* in light of new resource management and historic places management. We seek a person with a background in archaeological resource management, substantial field experience, and a good understanding of the Resource Management Act 1991, The Historic Places Act 1993, and the Antiquities Act 1995. This is a short term contract position.

For further information, please write to the Secretary of the New Zealand Archaeological Association, P O Box 6337, Dunedin North. Applications for the position close on 31 October 1995, and should be forwarded to the Secretary marked "Handbook Researcher".

NEW JOURNAL

A new journal is being published which may be of interest to NZAA Members. It is a quarterly, published by James and James Science Publishers, 5 Castle Road, London NW1 8PR, called *Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites*.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS JOIN FORCES IN THAILAND

New Zealand and Thai students join forces in December with professional archaeologists to investigate the origins of the ancient Angkor culture which once spread across parts of Thailand and Cambodia.

"This is one of the biggest archaeological undertakings to come out of New Zealand," said Professor Charles Higham from the University of Otago's Anthropology Department in Dunedin. He will co-direct the four-year research project with Dr. Rachanie Thosarat, senior archaeologist with Thailand's Fine Arts Department. The two worked together in previous Thai fieldwork projects.

Professor Higham and Dr. Thosarat have selected two moated settlement and cemetery sites dating back to around 1000 BC in the vicinity of the Angkorian centre of Phimai in northeast Thailand, Noen U-Loke and Ban Lum Khao. They lie about 240 kms northeast of the Cambodian temple complex of Angkor, which was the centre of the earliest and most powerful civilization in mainland Southeast Asia.

"They are large and complex sites surrounded by five concentric moats," said Professor Higham. "Some settlement mounds are about 40 hectares in area.

NOTES AND NEWS

hardly anything is known about the society that lived there."

The archaeological programme includes an international team of specialists. It involves three stages: nine months of digging spread over three dry seasons followed by analysis of the findings and then, if possible, in the year 2000, a major publication on the origins of civilization in Southeast Asia.

An Asia 2000 Foundation Higher Education Programme (HEEP) grant will help to finance the involvement of graduate students from Otago and Khon Kaen universities. Professor Higham is adamant that the students become involved "in a programme which will illuminate one of the major transitions in the cultural history of Southeast Asia, the origins of the state."

He anticipates the dig will uncover skeletons, grave goods, artifacts and imported Indian jewellery. Khon Kaen and Otago students will then work together to analyse most of the finds in laboratories in Khon Kaen and Phimai.

Professor Higham also plans with the approval of the National Research Council, to ship some of the finds to Dunedin for analysis. He hopes that a Thai archaeologist will be able to take part in this process and contribute to the final report. (Reprinted from *Asia 2000 Foundation of New Zealand* No. 5 August-September 1995)

NZAA COUNCIL NEWS

At the NZAA General Meeting in June it was resolved that NZAA would endeavour to be more pro-active in site protection. This would include lobbying, strategising, making submissions and attempting to gain increased publicity for historic resources. To do this the Council needs the help and involvement of ordinary NZAA members. It is usually local people who know their area and the issues best. If you would like to get involved, i.e. wish to contribute to submissions to district and regional plans, can turn up at regional meetings, or know if something happening in your area that should be publicised or NZAA should be involved in, please get in touch with a member of the NZAA Council (preferably somebody living in your area). They are as follows:

Kelvin Day (President): Taranaki Ph (06) 758 9583; fax (06) 758 5485
Chris Jacomb (Vice-President): Canterbury Ph (03) 366 8379; fax (03) 366 8379
Ray Hooker (Past-President): Waikato Ph (07) 827 9079; fax (07) 823 0025
Rick McGovern Wilson (Treasurer): Otago Ph (03) 455 7127
Moirá White (Secretary): Otago Ph (03) 477 2372
Elizabeth Pishief: Hawkes Bay Ph (06) 835 5860
Sue Bulmer: Auckland Ph (09) 624 2385; fax (09) 624 2385
Amanda Young: Bay of Plenty Ph (07) 357 4606 or (025) 510 630

NOTES AND NEWS

Warren Gumbley: Wellington Ph (04) 472 4341; fax (04) 499 0669

As part of a move to involve members and let you know what is going on, the Council will regularly contribute to the Notes and News section and keep you updated.

The first meeting of the new Council was held on 22 July 1995. A number of important issues were raised. Strategies for addressing the issue of site protection were discussed. These included the nomination of a Media/Publicity officer (Amanda Young) to initiate and co-ordinate publicity. The possibility of raising a parliamentary question was discussed and we are presently formulating questions. The Royal Society had been previously approached in order to obtain a review of the current situation involving archaeological sites in New Zealand. However, in light of the announced review by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, NZAA are instead hoping to be involved in formulating the terms of reference for the parliamentary review. This review appears to have arisen out of a number of well publicised cases of sites being destroyed including Wiri Stonefields in Auckland and Ngunguru Sandspit in Northland. NZAA will also raise with DOC concerns about the current DOC policy of 'mainstreaming' and the consequent loss of people and positions with archaeological expertise.

The Central File was discussed at length. DOC have agreed to still house the file but long term solutions need to be found. External funding options will be investigated to see if they can provide a permanent solution. The problem of permanent preservation of the file is another issue that needs to be addressed, especially of the original maps and photographs in the regional files. There are also concerns about the need of NZAA to keep control of the file, and the on-selling of information for commercial gain by outside agencies.

The negotiations with Kai Tahu over the Memorandum of Understanding are still on-going. The draft Membership Brochure is at a final draft stage and will be released soon. The project to revise the handbook (using Lotteries funding) is also likely to commence in the near future.

The new Movable Cultural Property Bill was briefly discussed and it is likely that NZAA will be further involved in this. Submissions are also being made to a number of district and regional plans.

Finally, and of probably the most interest to members, it was agreed that the 1996 Conference will be held in Whakatane. This will probably be the week after Easter but more details will be available nearer the time.

Amanda Young