



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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NOTES AND NEWS

New Members

Tautala Asaua, Matthew Carter, Hayden Cawte, James Gale, Greg Gedson, Gerald Morse and Ben Thorne

Donations (received with thanks)

G. Farley, Dr G. Hamel, Gillian Deane, G.L. Baker, I.J. Morrison, S. Macready and R. Clough, Dr E.L. Phelan, D. and A. Witter, D. Harrowfield, J. Wylie

From the editor

While AINZ is a non-commercial publication and is not available to advertise, for instance, archaeologists seeking work, it makes sense for it to notify work that is available. As the professional community grows, so more and more full- or part-time jobs become available; AINZ seems the perfect place to match positions to new graduates, giving young archaeologists a foothold in the industry/lifestyle. Similarly, calls for volunteers are always welcome, though not calls for paid field crew. Accordingly a new section, called Employment and Fieldwork Opportunities is included with this issue at the end of Notes and News.

2005 ASHA Conference, La Trobe University, Melbourne

From 29 September to 2 October 2005, a variety of consultant archaeologists, students and academics attended the annual ASHA (Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology) conference, held at La Trobe University, Melbourne. Spirits were high and wine was flowing. Injuries were kept to a minimum.

This year's theme was *The City and the Bush*, investigating "the archaeology of rural and urban settings, and the relationships between them, including trade, migration, industry and religion." A significant number of presenters managed to incorporate the conference title into their papers, though this of course is not the sole criterion for judging a successful conference. The fact that this was the first time in the ASHA conference's history that concurrent sessions were scheduled goes some way to indicate the large numbers of presentations that organisers had to coordinate. Presentations not only cov-

ered research and topics from Australia and New Zealand, but also from as far away as the UK, Africa and Singapore. All tastes were covered for, from graves (author's personal favourite), footwear (for the fashionably inclined), station huts (for the ruralists), missionaries (for the religious)... and at the risk of offending various presenters the list will be cut short here; it is suggested that abstracts should be looked up if curiosity has been stirred.

Well, it was obviously a successful conference. But highs cannot be truly appreciated if they do not have a few lows to provide contrast. The concurrent sessions provided (probably well-needed) opportunities for exercise, with a trek to the 2nd floor if viewers wished to see papers in both sessions. Sometimes viewers had difficult decisions to be made about which paper had to be sacrificed. Such is life. Also, a few vegetarians learnt the hard way that they need to be very specific about requesting their needs for catering—we are outnumbered quite considerably and caterers are not telepathic.

Of course the highlight of a conference is the field trip, and this conference was no exception. The Old Melbourne Gaol was particularly fascinating, from the preserved in situ cess pits to the claustrophobically narrow prison cells and their death masks. I suspect I was not the only person making a mental note to behave myself more, at least while in Melbourne. The Heritage Victoria Conservation Laboratory earned itself respect also. But I have to say, the post-conference field trip to the Mornington Peninsula was particularly enjoyable, whether due to the intimate size of the group (around 20), or the high proportion of Kiwis (sorry Aussies). The first lime kiln site, which featured a reconstruction, provided creative photo opportunities. The lunch at the T'Gallant winery served delicious gourmet pizza and the wine encouraged some entertaining conversations. The second lime kiln site on a golf course provided a serious contrast to the rumoured plans of stealing golf carts, as well as speculation on who did and didn't meet the golf course dress code.

In summary, the conference was a great opportunity to learn more, meet interesting people, and have great fun—if you weren't there, you should have been.

Tiffany James-Lee, University of Otago

New Zealand Archaeological Association Annual Conference 2006

The 2006 Conference will be held in the Waihi Beach Community Centre, at Waihi Beach, at the base of the Coromandel Peninsula, from Wednesday 17th–Sunday 21st May 2006. A street map of Waihi Beach showing the location of venue is posted on the NZAA website (www.nzarchaeology.org).

Waihi Beach is approximately 12 kms south of Waihi Township or 1 hours drive north from Tauranga. The closest airport to Waihi Beach is Tauranga. Waihi Beach is approximately 2 hours drive from Auckland airport or 1.5 hrs from Hamilton airport. There is a variety of accommodation available from B&Bs to cabin accommodation, motels (basic to luxurious) and also baches and houses for short term rent. Visit the Tourism Coromandel website for more information (www.thecoromandel.com/waihi.html).

For any assistance with travel and accommodation, please contact Meri Low, one of our conference organisers, via email meri.low@clear.net.nz. If you are flying in or out of Tauranga and would like to book a place on the Shuttle Bus to or from Waihi Beach please contact Meri.

Conference theme: *Managing and interpreting archaeological sites*

Programme:

Wednesday 17 6.00–8.00 pm Welcome event

Thursday 18 Morning papers

Afternoon field trip – Interpretation & management of sites in public ownership, Northern Tauranga Harbour

Friday 19 Morning papers

12.30–1.30 AGM

Afternoon papers

Evening conference dinner and dance

Saturday 20 Full day field trip – Tour of the historic archaeology of the Waihi Karangahake Gorge areas (includes lunch).

Sunday 21 Morning papers

Registration forms are included in this issue of AINZ and on the NZAA web site: www.nzarchaeology.org early 2006.

Cathryn Barr is the Papers Coordinator and is seeking offers of papers. Please email to Cathryn_b@paradise.net.nz. Preference will be given to those papers which address the conference theme. Abstracts must be with Cathryn by April 28th.

NZAA Council

At the 3 December 2005 meeting of the New Zealand Archaeological Association Council, General Business included the following matters:

1. Upgrade Project

See separate report.

2. NZAA/HPT/DOC working party

The next meeting is scheduled to be held in Wellington in December. A key agenda item will be getting a transitional agreement to replace the tripartite agreement.

3. NZAA/DoC/MCH meeting report

The President reported on a meeting held with representatives from NZAA, DoC and MCH to discuss aspects of the Upgrade Project. Lynda Walter, Karen Greig, Garry Law, Karen Southon, Ailsa Cain, Dave Jane and Paul Mahoney attended. To increase speed of communication between the various parties it was agreed that Karen Greig would work directly with Paul Mahoney on day-to-day operational matters. Karen Southon, Dave Jane and Lynda would also maintain regular communication.

4. WAC

Ian Barber represented both the University of Otago and NZAA on the panel discussion. Issues of intellectual property and data management were discussed and there was talk of forming a regional (New Zealand and the (warmer) Pacific) WAC group being formed. There was also talk of having a Maori group within NZAA at the next conference. Council organisers to ask Des Kahotea if he wishes to have some time in the programme for a specific event/meeting.

5. Conference 2006

Conference organisers reported that there would be a conference flyer going out with the next issue of AINZ. Conference theme: Managing and Interpreting Archaeological Sites.

6. Consultant's Directory

Ian Barber reported that very few consultants had sent back the matrix information so far. He suggested that we maintain the present listing and add a skills directory alongside. Offering a link to consultants with their own websites was also discussed. Moved (Greig/Walter) that we create a position called Consultant Co-ordinator to manage the Consultant Directory, communicate with consultants over the Directory, liaise with the Webmaster and Membership about the Directory, and provide a report to Council prior to its meetings. Agreed.

7. Professional organisation proposal

Lynda reported on a proposal to use the INZA fund for a professional development workshop. This would be a residential workshop, run by NZAA, held at Capital House in March or April 2006. NZAA would pay for food and accommodation but not transport. The focus is to be “What does our professional membership want from NZAA?”

8. Registration

Takahanga : this paperwork has now moved to the Auckland office and is on Martin Jones’ desk, to progress during the 2005–2006 year.

Cape Kidnappers: the boundary needs to be more closely defined but it will be presented as one site. The extra information required will be submitted in the New Year.

9. EBOP Regional Policy Statement

Garry Law noted that NZAA had made a submission and could be involved more if necessary. Only parties who had made submissions could be involved in the appeals process.

10. Land Tenure Review Process

It was decided to write to the Canterbury Conservancy suggesting that work in Otago and Marlborough was a good guide for how high country heritage could be approached. NZAA would advocate the use of historic specialists rather than notes on buildings by botanists, ecologists, etc.

The NZAA Site Recording Scheme Upgrade Project

The regional wrap-up of progress with the Upgrade Project over the last few months is as follows.

In Northland the audit of the Northland district file has been completed, and the process of following up on allocated site numbers that have no corresponding site record form has begun. James Robinson and Phil Latham have been making great progress with fieldwork in Whangarei district over the last two months. It took a long time to get into the field in Northland but at last it is happening.

Iwi consultation for work in three districts in the Auckland region is currently underway: Rodney, Franklin and Waitakere City. All going well, fieldwork is scheduled to commence in these areas from late May 2006.

John Coster continues to drown in a sea of site record forms in the Waikato region, but has completed some excellent work in the Hauraki district. Fieldwork in the Waikato region will be on-going over the next 18 months.

Fieldwork in the Bay of Plenty is finally completed. Work over the next few months will be concentrated on getting all the upgraded information into the electronic database and the district file. A workshop will be held with the local authorities in the region in early March to assess progress with their trial use of the Upgrade Project database service.

In Hawkes Bay the initial paper-based review for the region has been completed and I am currently making arrangements to appoint a primary contractor to oversee iwi consultation and fieldwork in the Napier City Council and Hastings District Council areas.

In the Taranaki region fieldwork in the South Taranaki district is progressing well. This is the last district in the region requiring completion. Fieldwork has just started in the Wanganui district. The paper-based reviews for Ruapehu, Rangitikei, Horowhenua and Tararua districts have been completed. Iwi consultation in Tararua and Horowhenua is about to commence and fieldwork should be underway in those districts over the next few months.

Fieldwork in the Wellington region is on-going and the project has received some good media coverage. A solid block of fieldwork has been completed in the Marlborough district within the last few months. Phil Latham had some great adventures in Queen Charlotte Sound as part of this work, and photographed an impressive private collection of hand axes from Olduvai Gorge along the way.

Richard Walter and Chris Jacomb are about to begin fieldwork in the Southland region which will flow on to work in the Clutha district later in the year. Dunedin City Council has recently confirmed funding for fieldwork so, after a considerable delay since the completion of the paper-based review, we will be able to complete the next stage of the project in that district.

If you would like to know more about what is happening with the Upgrade Project in your region or district, please contact me.

Lynda Walter

Project Manager

Telephone tollfree 0508 272 423

Obituary

Aileen Fox, 29 July 1907–21 November 2005

Aileen Mary Fox (née Henderson) made notable contributions to New Zealand archaeology and to the New Zealand Archaeological Association during the ten years she spent here after her retirement from Exeter University in 1972.

Aileen spent her early years in London and then in Surrey. She was educated at Downe House School, presented at court in 1926 and read English

at Newnham College, Cambridge 1926–1929. She worked as a volunteer at the Roman site of Richborough during the summer of 1929, and thus began her long career in archaeology. She went to the British school in Rome during the winter of 1929–30, and returned to Richborough as a paid worker in the summer of 1930. She was already established in the British archaeological community when, in 1933, she married Cyril Fox, who was 25 years her senior. She became Lady Fox when her husband received a knighthood for his work as Director of the National Museum of Wales. With Cyril and on her own, while raising three young sons, she carried out surveys and excavations on a wide range of sites and developed her life-long interest in Iron Age and Roman Britain. From 1940 to 1945, when the wartime manpower shortage affected universities, she lectured at University College, Cardiff. In 1945, she undertook pioneering rescue excavations of Roman levels in war-damaged Exeter. This led to a lectureship in 1947 at what would become Exeter University. After Cyril retired in 1948, the family moved permanently to Exeter, where Aileen continued to teach, do fieldwork, and contribute to local and national archaeological organizations.

Aileen brought a number of valuable skills to New Zealand. She was a highly experienced fieldworker with an excellent track record of prompt and full publication of her work. She was a stimulating lecturer and had both the desire and the ability to write for a wide general audience as well as for her colleagues. She had been involved in public archaeology and in amateur as well as professional associations. She fitted easily into the small New Zealand archaeological community, which in some ways was more like that in the Britain of her youth than like the rapidly expanding and changing field she left to come here.

Raymond Firth's article on Maori hill forts in the first issue of *Antiquity* prompted a long-standing desire in Aileen to see them for herself. She had interests in Celtic society and Celtic art as well British Iron Age hill forts. The careful use of historical texts in the interpretation of archaeological sites was something she took for granted. She was untrammelled by the baggage of New Zealand archaeological disputes of the previous 15 years and saw the obvious more clearly than those of us here who had become bogged down in pit problems, for example. Her paper on pits, published in the *Journal of the Polynesian Society* in 1974, so soon after her arrival in New Zealand, said nothing startlingly new, but provided a clear and incisive view of the evidence at that time.

Aileen initially came to New Zealand for one year to take up a visiting lectureship at Auckland University. It was extended into a second year, and then she was appointed Acting Archaeologist at the Auckland Museum

for two years. She continued to live and work mainly in New Zealand, as Honorary Research Associate in Archaeology at the Museum, until she returned to England permanently in 1983.

Much of her New Zealand research concerned pā: surface studies of individual pā, such as Okuratope, Otatara, Pawhetau Point, and Maungakiekie; surface studies of groups of pā and their surrounding sites, such as those at Parua Bay and the Auckland volcanic cones; and her own excavation at Tiromoana in Hawkes Bay. Her three Macmillan Brown lectures on pā were published as her monograph *Prehistoric Maori Fortifications*.

In addition to excavating at Tiromoana for two summers, she carried out extensive site surveys in Hawkes Bay with Mary Jeal, and contributed the chapter on Hawkes Bay to *The First Thousand Years*. It says a great deal for Aileen's energy and enthusiasm that she found enough information at that time to write a chapter on Hawkes Bay, which until she arrived on the scene was a little known area. She was able to combine her field surveys and her studies of surface artefacts in the Hawke's Bay Museum with her own excavated data to good effect.

Aileen published her Tiromoana excavation report promptly and thoroughly, so that those who disagreed with her interpretations, particularly about dating, had the evidence in front of them. She then turned some of her attention to facilitating the publication of excavation reports that were unlikely to see the light of day without some assistance: Mt Roskill, Maioro (with Roger Green), and Aotea (with Richard Cassells). Although she did not direct any more excavations herself, she continued to visit and participate in those directed by others, such as the first season of the Pouerua Project.

During the latter part of her stay in New Zealand, Aileen developed her interest in Maori art, moving from "celtic ladies and their mirrors" to the waka tūpāpaku or carved wooden burial chests of the north, which provided the material for her third New Zealand monograph.

Aileen served on the Archaeology Committee of the Historic Places Trust during the important period immediately preceding and following the passing of the Historic Places Amendment Act 1976. She served the Association as Auckland file keeper from 1974–76 and Vice-President 1981–82. She took on the role of Sales Manager and greatly increased the Association's revenue from publications, particularly monographs. She donated her royalties from *Prehistoric Maori Fortifications* to the Association. And hers was an influential voice in the discussions that led to the establishment of the *New Zealand Journal of Archaeology*. Particularly during the two years when she was full time at the Auckland Museum she worked tirelessly to promote site surveys and the protection and management of sites.

After returning to Exeter, Aileen again involved herself in the archaeology of the south-west and continued writing papers into the 1990s. Her contributions in her homeland were recognized by the dedication of *Prehistoric Dartmoor in its Context*, a major conference organized by the Devon Archaeological Society in 1979; by an Honorary Doctorate from Exeter University in 1985, and by Honorary Membership of the Prehistoric Society in 1998. She maintained her interest in New Zealand and was always delighted to receive visits from New Zealand friends and colleagues.

Aileen was warmly regarded as a teacher by many of her former students in England, and admired by her colleagues there for her skills as a field-worker. Here she was formally involved in teaching only at the start of her stay. But those of us who had the pleasure of walking over sites with her can attest to the sharpness of her eye in detecting faint surface features and the sharpness of her mind in considering their place in the landscape.

Long before Aileen came to New Zealand and before a generation of New Zealand students were introduced to OGS Crawford and *Archaeology in the Field*, the founding father of pā studies, Elsdon Best, had read and pondered on A.H. Allcroft's *Earthwork of England*. Best quoted with approval Allcroft's comment about features in the field: "It needs a quick eye to see them where they are, common sense to avoid seeing them where they are not." Aileen had both capacities in abundance.

A fuller appreciation of Aileen's work in New Zealand can be found in the first two papers of her New Zealand Festschrift, *A Lot of Spadework to be Done* (Monograph 14). Her own view of her New Zealand experience is charmingly presented in her autobiography *Aileen – A Pioneering Archaeologist*, Gracewing, 2000). I am grateful to Henrietta Quinnell for information about Aileen's life before and after her time in New Zealand.

Janet Davidson

EMPLOYMENT AND FIELDWORK OPPORTUNITIES

The Auckland Regional Council are currently looking for someone to work for the Cultural Heritage team as a consultant for a minimum of 6 months. The work involves assessment of the affects of resource consent applications on cultural heritage, and usually involves 2–3 days work a week. Hours are flexible. For further information contact Ian Lawlor on 09 366 2000.