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RADIOCARBON DATES FOR ARCHAIC SITES AT PURAKANUI  
AND HAWKSBURN, OTAGO

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The following radiocarbon dates have been determined by The Institute of Nuclear Sciences, Lower Hutt.

Purakanui (S164/18)

<u>R. Number</u>	<u>Provenance</u>	<u>Old T<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>(B.P.)</u>	<u>Uncalibrated New T<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>(B.P.)</u>	<u>Material</u>
5751/2	Square C, Layer 2B	1030 $\pm$ 60	1060 $\pm$ 65	Charcoal
5929/1	Square A, Layer 2	562 $\pm$ 30	579 $\pm$ 31	Marine shell
5929/2	Square B, Layer 3	637 $\pm$ 30	655 $\pm$ 31	Marine shell
5929/3	Square B, Layer 5	571 $\pm$ 34	588 $\pm$ 36	Marine shell
5929/4	Square C, Layer 3	690 $\pm$ 35	710 $\pm$ 36	Marine shell

TABLE 1. Purakanui (S164/18) radiocarbon dates.

The charcoal date was obtained on large pieces of Coprosma sp. (60%) and Podocarpus totara/hallii (40%) and this sample ought to have been discarded before processing. The result is probably too old by some 300 years.

The marine shell dates were obtained on unburnt Chione stutchburvi valves. Estimates R.5929/2 and R.5929/4 are suspect because substantial re-crystallisation had occurred. The remaining two dates provide an average estimate of 566  $\pm$  23 B.P. (Old T $\frac{1}{2}$ ) according to Law (pers.comm.). The Purakanui site is discussed in Anderson (n.d.).

Hawksburn (S133/5)

<u>R. Number</u>	<u>Provenance</u>	<u>Old T<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>(B.P.)</u>	<u>Uncalibrated New T<math>\frac{1}{2}</math>(B.P.)</u>	<u>Material</u>
9078/1	HB/H/14 Spit II	692 $\pm$ 34	712 $\pm$ 35	Charcoal
9078/2	HB/H/8 Spit III	718 $\pm$ 34	739 $\pm$ 35	Charcoal
9078/3	HB/I/23 Spit II	714 $\pm$ 34	735 $\pm$ 35	Charcoal
9078/4	HB/M/6 Spit II	611 $\pm$ 33	629 $\pm$ 34	Charcoal
9078/5	HB/FB/8 Spit II	691 $\pm$ 33	711 $\pm$ 35	Charcoal
9078/6	HB/L/5 Layer 3	652 $\pm$ 33	671 $\pm$ 35	Charcoal
9078/7	HB/M/14 Spit IV	720 $\pm$ 33	742 $\pm$ 34	Charcoal
9078/8	HB/FA/15 Spit III	668 $\pm$ 33	687 $\pm$ 34	Charcoal
9078/9	HB/L/10 Layer 3	663 $\pm$ 29	683 $\pm$ 30	Charcoal
9078/10	HB/E/2 Layer 1	546 $\pm$ 34	562 $\pm$ 35	(see below)

TABLE 2. Hawksburn (S133/5) radiocarbon dates.

Samples R.9078/1-9 comprised charcoal of Coprosma sp. and Olearia sp. with minor amounts of Hebe sp. and, in one case (R.9078/7), a few fragments of Phyllocladus sp. This was all relatively short lifespan stem material and the samples were collected from umu. Sample R.9078/10 contained no identifiable charcoal. It was a sample of burnt soil containing finely comminuted carbonaceous material from a stone hearth.

The umu dates can be averaged at  $680 \pm 11$  B.P. (Old  $T\frac{1}{2}$ ) and the whole series at  $667 \pm 19$  B.P. (Old  $T\frac{1}{2}$ ) according to Law (pers. comm.). Previous dates obtained at Hawksburn are summarised in Hamel (1978) and a preliminary report of my investigations is in Anderson (1979).

#### Acknowledgements

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#### References

- Anderson, A.J. 1979 Excavations at the Hawksburn moa-hunting site: an interim report. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter, 22:48-59.
- Anderson, A.J. n.d. A Fourteenth Century Fishing Camp at Purakanui Inlet, Otago. Unpublished ms.
- Hamel, Jill 1978 Hawksburn revisited: an ecological assessment. N.Z.A.A. Newsletter, 21:116-128.