



NEW ZEALAND
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NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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RADIOCARBON DATES FOR NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES: ERRATA AND ADDENDA

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Since we published our maps showing the location of C14 - dated archaeological sites, and the range of dates from those sites (see NZAA Newsletter, Vol. 18, No.3), a number of errors have been pointed out to us. Although quite a number of these errors arose during drafting of the maps and escaped subsequent checking, some result from differences between the Radiocarbon Laboratory files and the collectors' records. (Our original maps were based largely on Laboratory files.) In mentioning this fact we are not trying to justify our own (or the Laboratory's) mistakes, but merely pointing out that inadequate or inconsistent data supplied by the collector (or submitter) of a sample can lead to the persistence of errors throughout the system. Hopefully, use of the new radiocarbon forms (Grant-Taylor, Newsletter 17, No. 3) will result in fewer anomalies in reported C14 dates.

In the following list of errata and addenda, all C14 dates are calculated w.r.t. the 'old' (or "Libby") half life of 5570 ± 30 years.

ERRATA

North Island (Fig. 1)

- No. 20 site N40/9: Delete date of 640 (charcoal); this belongs to No. 23, site N40/3 (as shown).
- No. 21 site N40/10: Date of 260; material was shell not wood.
- No. 27: Date of 470 (NZ1897) belongs to site N53-54/6, Kauri Point Undefended, not Kauri Point Swamp, site N53-54/5.
- Nos 37 and 38: Date of 692 (charcoal) belongs to No. 38 site N129/77 (Ohawe Beach) not No. 37, and date of 735 (charcoal) belongs to No. 37, site N129/78 (Te Rangatapu) not No. 38. In Table 1 Ohawe Beach is incorrectly listed as site N128/77. This should be N129/77.

- Nos. 41 and 42: The dates shown as being from No. 41 Tangimoana, in fact all belong to No. 42 site N148/1, Foxton.
- No. 45 site N161/1: Maymorn Ridge; the date of 723 (charcoal) is incorrect and should be 741 ± 54 (NZ1057).
- No. 50 site N168/22: Date of 388 (charcoal) belongs to No. 48 site N168/20.
- No. 57: Delete the date of 2390 as this is not archaeological.
- No. 59 site N165/9: The line indicating location should be extended further west, nearer Palliser Bay.

South Island (Fig. 2)

- No. 1 site S7/1: There is only one date for this site, 550 ± 70 (NZ509), calculated w.r.t. the normal standard. The date of 432 ± 70 was obtained by calculation w.r.t. the ocean water standard.
- No. 13: This site, Pari Whakatau, was incorrectly listed (Table 2) as site S49/-; the correct site number is S55/7.
- No. 18 site S61/24: Delete the date of 919 (charcoal). This date (919 ± 42 NZ1286) belongs to site S61/31, Weka Pass.
- No. 21 site S68/9: Incorrectly listed (Table 2) as Motunau Island - should be Motunau Beach.
- No. 37 site S136/1: The dates of 393 and 503 should be suffixed "b" not "bc".
- No. 40 site S140/2: The date of 830 should be suffixed "bark" rather than "wood".
- No. 60: Delete; the dates obtained from Glen Dhu are not archaeological but from a natural moa deposit.

Nos 61 and 62: Detailed information about these dates was received from Dr P. Coutts after our paper had been submitted for publication. The dates in fact belong to several different sites in Dusky Sound, Chalky Inlet, and at Sandhill Point, as listed below. Site numbers are those supplied by Dr Coutts.

Dusky Sound

Site CC/1: 256 ± 80c (NZ1235); 610 ± 56 hb (NZ 787);
838 ± 43 hb (NZ 785); 755 ± 45 hb (NZ 786).
Site LI/1: 455 ± 78c (NZ 1236).
Site CI/1: 515 ± 77c (NZ 1240).

Chalky Inlet

Site SP/4: 688 ± 40s (NZ 1173); 773 ± 81c (NZ 1237).
Site SP/5: 706 ± 30s (NZ 1172); 615 ± 61c (NZ 3902).
Site SP/9: 130 ± 76c (NZ 1234).
Site SP/10: 263 ± 30 bark (NZ 1175); 379 ± 78c (NZ 1233).
Site CH/1: 345 ± 40s (NZ 1174); 455 ± 79c (NZ 1239).

Sandhill Point

Site SHP/1: 416 ± 70c (NZ 1232).
Site SHP/3: 114 ± 75c (NZ 1238).

We wish to record here our apology to those collectors whose dates were erroneously quoted in our original paper.

ADDENDA

North Island

- Site N43/59: Kawakawa Bay pa; human bone collagen 350 ± 80 (NZ 3903). Ref: Fox, A., 1974. Rec. Auck. Inst. Mus. 11.
- Site N119/22: Mt Egmont oven; charcoal 453 ± 55 (NZ 1561) (or 470 ± 55 if calculated w.r.t. the new half life).
Ref: Topping, W. W., 1974. N.Z. Jour. Science 17: 119-122.
- Site N148/1: Foxton; 654 ± 56 (NZ 1479).
- Site N160/28: Titahi Bay - Whitireia Peninsula; bracken fern charcoal 70 ± 40 (NZ 2696).
- Site N160/106: Fishermans Bay, Makara; 560 ± 60 shell (NZ 1877).
- Site N166/55: Okoropunga (Te Awaite): 340 ± 60 charcoal (NZ 3114); 530 ± 60 charcoal (NZ 3115); 750 ± 40 charcoal (NZ 3116).

Dates from the above four sites are presented with the permission of B. G. McFadgen.

South Island

- Site S14/16: Motueka; cultivated soil. 830 ± 60 (NZ 3307) charcoal.
- Site S42-43/11: Clarence; charcoal 390 ± 50 (NZ 3113).
- Site S42-43/13: Clarence; charcoal 430 ± 40 (NZ 3397).

The above three dates are presented with the permission of B. G. McFadgen.

- Site S61/31: Weka Pass; charcoal 919 ± 42 (NZ 1286).

- Site S68/5: Teviotdale; marine shell 469 ± 55 (NZ 1536).
Ref: Trotter, M. M., 1975. Rec. Cant. Mus.
9 (3).
- Site SP/9: Chalky Inlet; charcoal 130 ± 76 (NZ 1234).

In our original paper results that indicated exchange with atmospheric carbon were deliberately excluded, and not left off the maps by mistake.

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