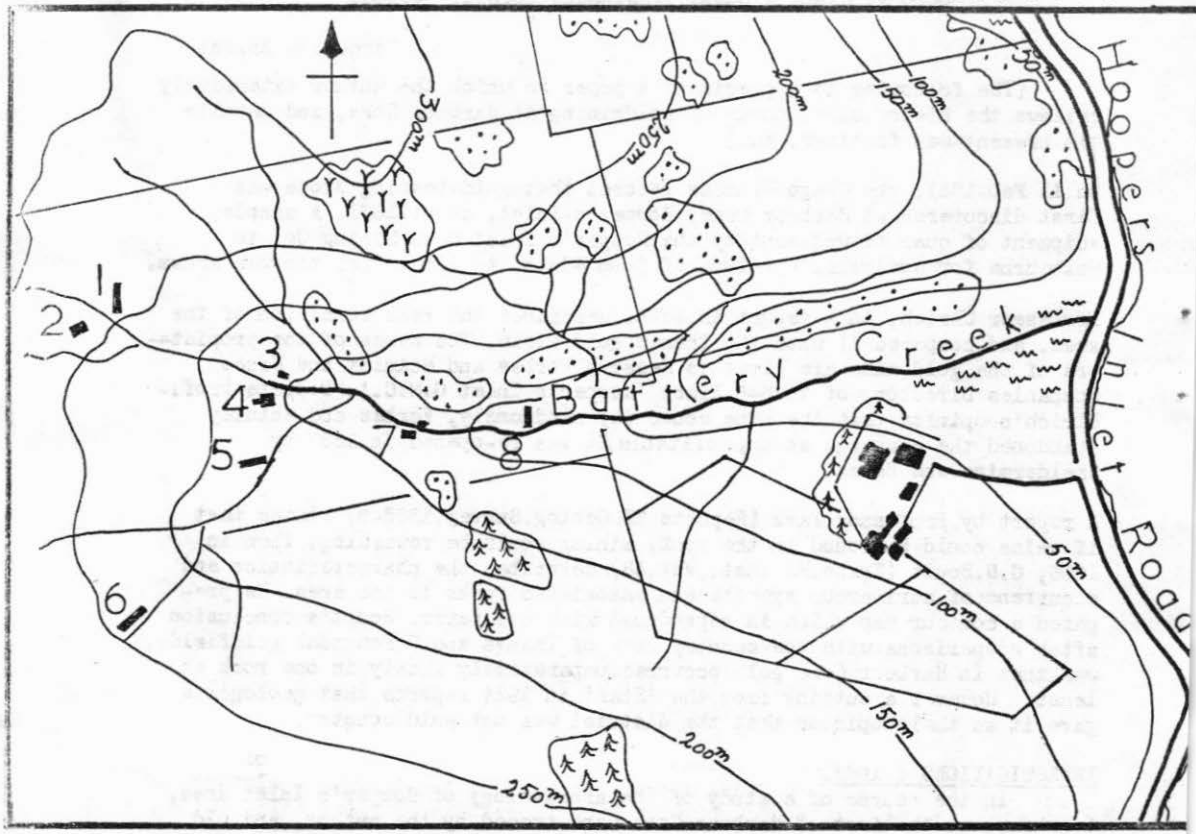

**NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

# HARBOUR CONE GOLD COUNTRY




REVIEW :

"SCIENCE IN ARCHAEOLOGY". Ed.by Don Brothwell and Eric Higgs. 'A Comprehensive Survey of Progress and Research'. 595pp. 95 photos, 92 line drawings, 66 tables. Basic Books Inc., New York. 1963.

All those who closely follow the ever increasing contributuion that all branches of modern science are making towards the unravelling of world prehistory, will find "Science in Archaeology" an excellent and enlightening work. A series of 54 well-written, lucid, illustrated articles by international specialists in their respective fields provide the reader with a modern basic textbook on the techniques and workings of the many varied scientific disciplines that are contributing in a practical way to all aspects of archaeology. With a reading of this work, one is almost forced to realise that today the modern archaeologist is rapidly losing the right to claim that his discipline remains a "pure science", for he has now become a collator of results contributed by a vast array of other branches of science, and upon their testimony his conclusions and hypotheses must rest.

Although this book is designed for readers familiar with northern hemisphere archaeology, there is nevertheless much of value to Pacific archaeologists. Of particular interest to New Zealanders however, is article no.29, 'Bird Remains in Archaeology'. Contributed by Elliot Dawson of the N.Z.Oceanographic Institute, it devotes a section to the consideration of the importance that the extinct moa has played in N.Z. prehistory as a contemporary of man. It is undoubtedly the most important avian association in world prehistory, and has been the very focal point of New Zealand archaeology around which much of N.Z. prehistory has been reconstructed.

The contributions are grouped under five main headings covering both physical and biological aspects of ancient man and that of his environment. Listed below are the articles, in order to convey the comprehensiveness of the field that this book covers, to indicate its value as a standard work on modern scientific archaeological technique. Bibliographies are included with each paper for additional specialised reading.

Dating : Archaeology and dating. Analytical Methods of Dating Bones . Radiocarbon Dating. Obsidian Dating. Archaeomagnetism. The Potassium-Argon Dating of Upper Tertiary and Pleistocene Deposits. Dating Basalts. Dating Pottery by Thermluminescence.

Environment : Environmental Studies and Archaeology.

Climate : The Significance of Deep-Sea Cores.

Soils : Soil Silhouettes. Soil Stratification and Environment. Cave Sediments and Prehistory.

Plants : Pollen Analysis. Wood and Charcoal in Archaeology. The Condition of 'Wood' from Archaeological Sites. Dendrochronology. Palaeoethnobotany. Diet as Revealed by Coprolites.

Animals : Fauna. A Scrap of Bone. Osteo-archaeology. The Rate of Evolution. The Cave Hyena, an Essay on Statistical Analysis. The Science and History of Domestic Animals. The Ageing of Domestic Animals. The Origins of the Dog. The Palaeopathology of Pleistocene and More Recent Mammals. Bird Remains in Archaeology. Remains of Fishes and Other Aquatic Animals. Non-Marine Mollusca and Archaeology.

Man : The Biology of Earlier Human Populations. Microscopy and Prehistoric Bone. Sex Determination in Earier Man. Estimation of Age and Mortality. Stature in Earlier Races of Mankind. Cremations. The Palaeopathology of Human Skelatal Remains. The Study of Mumified and Dried Human Tissues. The Hair of Earlier Peoples. Palaeoserology. Blood Groups and Prehistory.

Artifacts : Artifacts. A Statistical Analysis of Flint Artifacts. Petrological Examination. Some Aspects of Ceramic Technology . Optical Emission Spectroscopy and the Study of Metallurgy in the European Bronze Age. Microscopic Studies of Ancient Metals. The Analytical Study of Glass in Archaeology. Remains Derived from Skin. Fibres of Archaeological Interest.

Prospecting : Magnetic Location. Resistivity Surveying.

I.W.Keyes.