



NEW ZEALAND
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NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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THE SITE RECORDING SCHEME 1971-1981

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The number of Site Record Forms held in the Central File has been used since 1960 as a means of indicating the general state of health of the Site Recording Scheme. In the 1960s and 1970s a major limitation on the usefulness of the records for research was the sheer lack of coverage of most parts of the country. With the coming of legislation protecting archaeological sites however, considerable sums were spent on site recording and the number of sites recorded grew rapidly. Hidden in the figures was a high level of re-recording of sites for which there was only a minimal amount of information.

The number of sites lodged in the Central File at the 'census' date (31 March) for the years 1971-1981 is given in Table 1. The counts were by J. Daniels (1971-1977), A. Challis (1978-1979), and the author (1980-1981). I have corrected the 1972 Bay of Plenty figure (Daniels 1972:144). The figures for earlier years in Figure 1 are from Daniels (1970, 1972).

In terms of sheer numbers the growth has been mainly in Auckland and Northland, with a second tier of Bay of Plenty, Waikato, and Otago-Central Otago. The figures however can largely be left to speak for themselves.

References

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|-------------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Daniels, J. | 1970 | The site recording scheme. <u>N.Z.A.A. Newsletter</u> , 13:120-121. |
| | 1972 | The site recording scheme. <u>N.Z.A.A. Newsletter</u> , 15:144-147. |

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Northland	531	923	1035	1111	1187	1785	1895	2597	2863	4089	4583
Auckland	924	992	1067	1448	1608	2585	3527	4750	5284	5623	6566
Waikato	192	252	252	257	308	430	579	1157	1561	1647	1735
Bay of Plenty	716	819	923	1187	1303	1432	1484	1666	1957	2235	2405
East Coast	27	69	114	114	114	114	214	232	617	798	929
Taranaki	505	602	602	612	663	721	724	730	1078	1133	1195
Inland Patea	15	15	15	15	19	19	19	19	228	255	261
Hawkes Bay	59	59	59	59	71	106	157	392	448	498	528
Wanganui	98	94	94	94	94	94	94	94	91	197	267
Wellington	364	506	611	615	625	647	666	684	693	739	745
Nelson	249	154	242	433	488	513	867	875	883	887	901
Marlborough		115	116	130	130	160	206	264	264	305	321
West Coast								110	111	180	217
Canterbury	864	815	828	926	926	937	907	933	996	999	1024
Otago	420	523	523	520	535	565	631	854	1192	2334	1904
Central Otago											1227
Southland							259	662	756	791	859
Offshore							144	2	0	100	730
	4964	5938	6490	7521	8101	10108	12458	16021	19022	22810	26395

TABLE 1. Sites recorded by filing district 1971-1981.

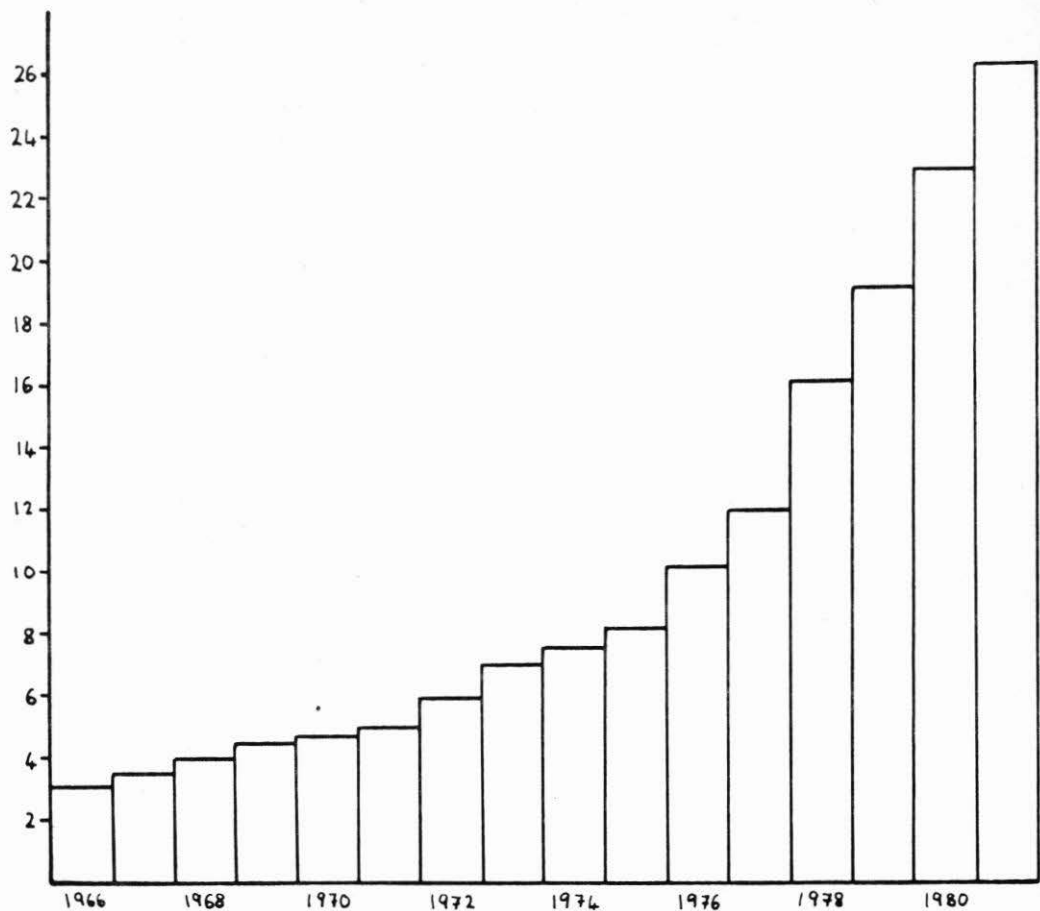


FIGURE 1. Growth in size of the central file - site records in thousands.