



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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Ngati Awa had a hamlet at this stream behind a little knoll which stands at the mouth of the stream gully. These people left the coast in 1860 returning to their former homes to take part in the wars.

A large and interesting midden existed on the western bank of the Oterongo Stream. The coast round Cape Terawhiti is impassable. The writer with a party attempting to make this journey was prevented from doing so by the high cliffs rising sheer from the sea. Thus ended the writer's exploration of the Cook Strait coast.

KARAKA TREES:

Doubtless owing to their food value to the Maori, these trees were grown at any suitable spots along the coast. By 1890 only two groves remained. In Red Rocks bay, west of the stream, there was a bush covering about a quarter of an acre. These trees were of large size and were past their full vigour. Many were dying. Some of the trunks were about twenty four inches in diameter, their smooth bark bearing many names and dates back to the late fifties and sixties. Talus from the cliff was slowly building up round their trunks. Another bush west of Sinclair Head was being overwhelmed by running stone, and all the trunks were battered by rocks falling from the cliff above. A few trees also grew on the razor-backed hill within the site of the Ngati Mamoe pa at Long Beach. The largest bush grew about half a mile along the ridge north of Red Rocks. There, in a basin at the head of a gully falling westward to the Red Rocks stream, was an area of about fifteen acres of dense growth of trees. They were a mass of gold fruit - a sight never to be forgotten.

THE SITE RECORDING SCHEME

J.R.S. Daniels

This article has been written as a result of the Association's Annual General Meeting at Queen's Birthday weekend when site recording figured prominently in the discussions. A number of questions were asked about the scheme and I hope to answer most of them here.

It is now four years since Win Mumford's article, "Field Recording Scheme" was published. (Newsletter v.2 no.4 pp.7-12). In this article she gave an historical survey of the scheme and an outline of its organisation. Since that time the organisation has not changed and appears to work satisfactorily. In 1960 the Association adopted a new set of forms and a different filing system. The old foolscap forms were replaced by the present quarto type which are now so well known to field workers. They allow more flexibility in recording and more space for site description and other information not provided for in the specific categories of the Site Reference form. All the recorded material from each site - forms, maps and photographs - is now filed in an envelope instead of loose as previously. This preserves the forms much better, whereas deterioration in the old

was most noticeable, even by the time that system was dropped.

When the scheme was inaugurated in 1958 the country was divided into eleven regions for site recording, the boundaries following the lines of the N.Z.M.S.1, inch-to-the-mile series maps. Each region was allotted a local file keeper, whose job it is to process and file all site records and supply duplicates to central files in Wellington.

The following are the definitions of the filing areas, with names and addresses of file keepers and the number of sites recorded as at 1 J1 1963.

AUCKLAND: N1-49, 53, 54

Filekeeper: Mrs W. Spring-Rice
Waima Crescent
Titirangi R.D.1
Auckland

No. of sites recorded: 300

WAIKATO: N51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 64, 65, 66, 73, 74, 75, 82, 83, 84

Filekeeper: Mr H.G. Pos
C/- Ruakura Animal Research Station
Private Bag
Hamilton

No. of sites recorded: 21

ROTORUA: N58, 59, 60, 67, 68, 69, 76, 77, 78, 85, 86, 87, 93, 94, 95,
102, 103, 104

Filekeeper: Mr D.M. Stafford shortly to be replaced by K.W. Moore
P.O. Box 627
Rotorua
13 McKenzie St
Kawerau

No. of sites recorded: 53

GISBORNE: N61-3, 70-2, 79-81, 88-90, 96-8, 105-7, 116, 117, 126, 127

Filekeeper: Mr A.T. Simpson
163 Clifford St
Gisborne

No. of sites recorded: 7

TARANAKI: N91, 92, 99, 100, 108, 109, 110, 118, 119, 120, 128, 129

Filekeeper: Dr A.G. Buist
P.O. Box 147
Hawera

No. of sites recorded: 327

WANGANUI: N101, 111, 121, 130, 131, 137, 138, 143, 144, 148, 149

Filekeeper: Mr M.J.G. Smart
2 Oakland Ave
Wanganui

No. of sites recorded: 57

INLAND PATEA: (created June 1962) N112, 113, 122, 123, 132, 133, 139

Filekeeper: Mr H. Treadwell
Ngaurukehu
Mataroa
via Taihape

No. of sites recorded: nil

HAWKES BAY: N114, 115, 124, 125, 134, 135, 140-2, 145, 146, 150, 151

Filekeeper: Mr N.H. Elder
43 McHardy St
Havelock North

No. of sites recorded: 12

WELLINGTON: N152-169

Filekeeper: Mr M.G. Hitchings
C/- Alexander Turnbull Library
P.O. Box 8016
Wellington

No. of sites recorded: 204

MARLBOROUGH: S1-29, 33, 34, 35, 36, 41

Filekeeper: Mr J. Eyles
P.O. Box 225,
Blenheim

No. of sites recorded: 11

CANTERBURY: S30-32, 37-40, 42-85, 88-95, 100-103, 109-111, 118-9, 128

Filekeeper: Mr A.T. Fomison
C/- Canterbury Museum
Christchurch

No. of sites recorded: 95

OTAGO: 886, 87, 96-99, 104-108, 112-117, 120-127, 129-191

Filekeeper: Mr P. Gathercole
 Anthropology Dept
 University of Otago
 P.O. Box 56
 Dunedin

No. of sites recorded: 23

Any Association member may consult local files, and any other person may do so at the discretion of the local filekeeper.

A duplicate set of all site records is kept at the Dominion Museum, Wellington. These may be consulted only with the permission of Council.

Central File Keeper

Mr J.R.S. Daniels
 P.O. Box 3382
 Wellington

The Association's Handbook to Field Recording is still available, although numbers are now low. The cost is 5/- and copies may be obtained from the Central Filekeeper. I recommend this invaluable booklet to any member interested in site recording.

One point regarding site recording which should be clarified, is the use of N.Z.M.S.2 (1:25,000) series maps. These maps are invaluable for use in the field and for accurate location of sites. They are not to be used however, as a basis for site numbering. Sites are to be numbered according to N.Z.M.S.1 (1:63,360) series, without reference to the N.Z.M.S.2 series map on which they happen to occur.

Similarly, grid references are to be given from the N.Z.M.S.1 series maps. The N.Z.M.S. 2 series has a revised grid which is different from that in use when the N.Z.M.S.1 series was prepared. It is therefore most important that grid references should not be quoted from the N.Z.M.S.2 series as this will only cause confusion.

It is clear that with the increased amount of field recording, a heavy load is being placed on local filekeepers. They must, in many cases type out forms, copy maps, distribute forms to field workers and guide them along right lines. The whole site recording scheme depends on them, yet they all too often receive no help or consideration.

One of their biggest jobs is typing the site record forms. Luckily this is one job which individuals or groups doing the recording can help with. They should obtain a supply of all forms from the local filekeeper and type out final copies after each field day, leaving the site number blank for the file keeper to fill in. This system is practised to my knowledge in Auckland and Wellington, where each member of the field group

takes it in turn to do the typing. I would like to make a plea for the adoption of this practice throughout the country, as I am sure it will result in a much more even distribution of work.

One way in which local file keepers can help themselves is in making it easier to locate individual sites in the files. The envelopes contain only the site number and the site type on the outside, and searching the file for a particular site is often a time consuming job, unless one knows the site number. It is also hard to be sure that a site has not been double recorded without, again, searching all the sites already recorded on the map concerned.

The simplest way of overcoming these difficulties is to keep a list of grid references and site names. It is also useful to pencil this information on the envelopes. A more complete check is to combine this system with maps of the filing area with the numbers of all recorded sites noted on them.

INDEXING SITE RECORD FILES

M.G. Hitchings

A start has been made on indexing the Wellington file so that the information contained in this already valuable research tool may be made more easily accessible. The index also enables the file keeper to avoid allotting new numbers to sites already recorded, or to the same site reported by separate field workers at slightly different grid references.

The procedure laid down by the Association is for the reported material to be placed in envelopes and filed, first by map number (N.Z.M.S.1) then by site number. Without the aid of an index it is therefore necessary to know the number of a particular site if the records relating to it are required in the future.

When the index was being set up in Wellington, it was felt desirable to be able to approach the records not only by site number, but also by Grid Reference, Site Type, and Name (if known). Thus there are three sequences to the index which is on 5" x 3" cards. Ideally, each site should have at least three cards; one which leads the enquirer from the grid reference to the site number, another which leads him from the site type to the site number, and a third which leads him from the site name to its number. However, not all sites have names, and in practice this forms the smallest sequence of the index. On the other hand, not all sites are simple in type; there may be various features in association with one another, but which do not form an entity as defined in the Association's Handbook to Field Recording. A ditch and bank enclosing levelled areas situated on a headland, is simply defined as a headland pa. But karaka trees in association with a midden, or pits in association with terraces