

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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References

- (1) Otaihape is the name of a tributary of the Hautapu River from which the town of Taihape takes its name.
- (2) Batley in Journal of the Polynesian Society, September, 1956, Vol. 65, No. 3, pp. 232-244.

THE WELLINGTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY by J.R.S. Daniels

Archaeological work in Wellington took a step forward last year with the foundation of the Wellington Archaeological Society. The inaugural meeting was held in the Dominion Museum on 21st July, 1960. We were very fortunate in having Mr Jack Golson to deliver an address, and his resume of New Zealand archaeology, given in the best Golson manner, must have done more than anything else to create enthusiasm for the Society. A committee was set up at the same meeting, with Dr G. Blake-Palmer as Chairman, and Mr C. D. Smart as Secretary.

The Society has held two full-scale field trips, one to Paekakariki and the other to Palliser Bay. The second was guided by Mr G. L. Adkin. Both of these trips were very well attended. During the winter of 1961 the Society also held two evening sessions to outline the N.Z.A.A. Site Recording Scheme to members, and to familiarise them with recording techniques. These were followed by a day's practical recording in the field at Paekakariki, a project which, despite the deplorable weather, was almost embarrassingly popular for the organisers. One of the Society's best evenings was held in September, when Dr Blake-Palmer spoke on "The Uses of Air Photography in Archaeology", a talk illustrated with material from England, France, the Mediterranean, and New Zealand.

In 1962, besides assisting at Colin Smart's Tarata Pa excavations, the Society proposes to hold training sessions in field surveying and excavation, and to hold a small dig near Wellington. Membership now stands at 46 - a promising base for future activities.