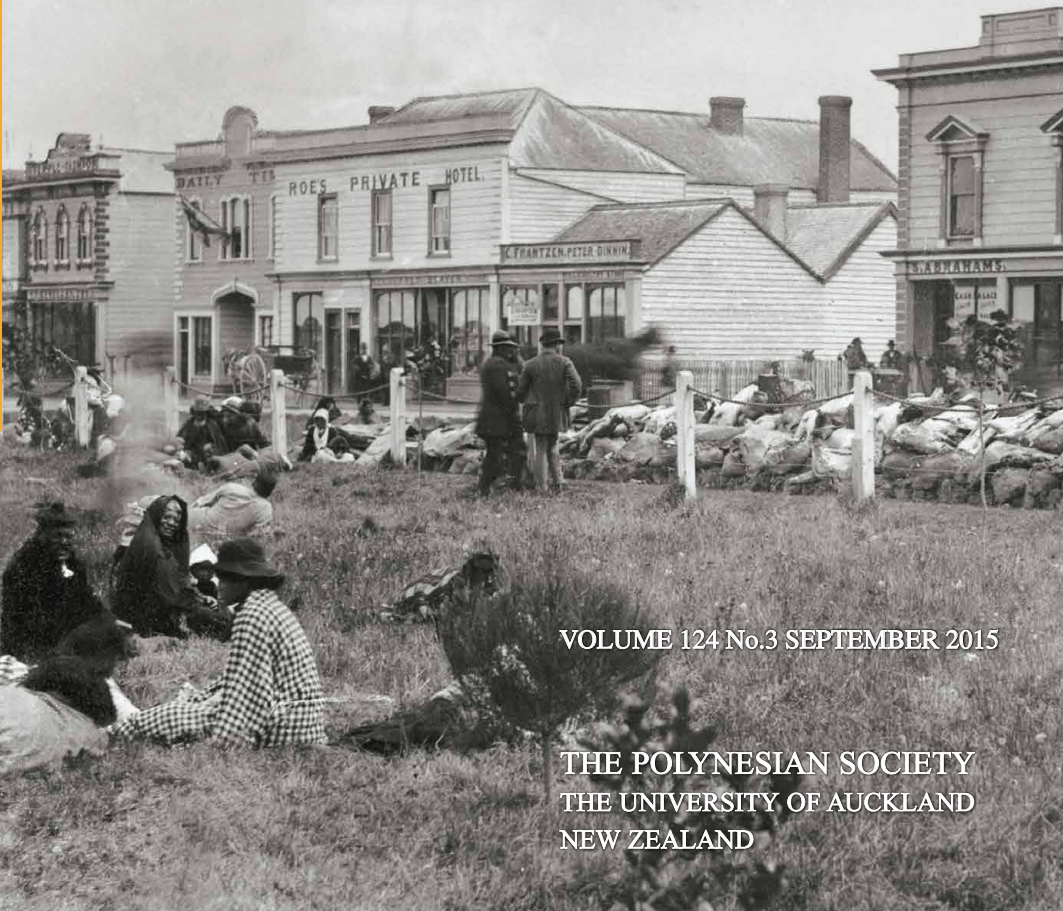


JPS

The Journal
of the
Polynesian Society



VOLUME 124 No.3 SEPTEMBER 2015

THE POLYNESIAN SOCIETY
THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND

THE JOURNAL OF THE POLYNESIAN SOCIETY

Volume 124

SEPTEMBER 2015

Number 3

Editors

MELINDA S. ALLEN
JUDITH HUNTSMAN

Review Editors

LYN CARTER
ETHAN COCHRANE

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DOROTHY BROWN

Published quarterly
by the
Polynesian Society (Inc.), Auckland, New Zealand

Cover image: Land court meeting, Palmerston North.
Groups of Māori gather for a Native Land Court hearing around 1881.
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Published in New Zealand by the Polynesian Society (Inc.)

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Inquiries should be made to:

Hon. Secretary
af-jps@auckland.ac.nz.
The Polynesian Society
c/- Māori Studies
The University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019, Auckland

ISSN 0032-4000 (print)
ISSN 2230-5955 (online)

Indexed in SCOPUS, WEB OF SCIENCE, INFORMIT NEW ZEALAND COLLECTION,
INDEX NEW ZEALAND, ANTHROPOLOGY PLUS, ACADEMIC SEARCH PREMIER,
HISTORICAL ABSTRACTS, EBSCO*host*, MLA INTERNATIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY,
JSTOR, CURRENT CONTENTS (Social & Behavioural Sciences).

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NOTES AND NEWS

Contributors to This Issue

Alexander Baer received his PhD at the University of California, Berkeley, and is currently a lecturer at Stanford University in their Undergraduate “Thinking Matters” Program. His research explores how environmental factors influence social and political organization, with an emphasis on the emergence of archaic states in pre-contact Hawai‘i.

Jeremy Coote is Curator and Joint Head of Collections at the University of Oxford’s Pitt Rivers Museum where he has worked since 1994. Since joining the Museum his research has focused on the history of its early collections, particularly those from Africa and the Pacific.

Timothy Gill is Visiting Scholar at the Archaeological Research Facility at the University of California, Berkeley, and a lecturer in the Department of Anthropology. His research focuses on the archaeological evidence for the origins and development of modern human cognition.

Patrick V. Kirch is Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley. A member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, he has carried out archaeological and ethnographic research throughout Polynesia for more than 40 years. His recent book, *A Shark Going Inland Is My Chief: The Island Civilization of Ancient Hawai‘i*, won the Society for American Archaeology 2013 book award.

Isaac H. McIvor completed his BA Honours in 2013 and MA in 2015 at the University of Auckland. His article in this issue is based on his BAHons dissertation, while his MA research investigated the landscape archaeology of Ahuahu (Great Mercury Island) using LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) and pedestrian survey. He has been involved with cultural resource management in the North Island of New Zealand. His research interests include novel applications of Geographic Information Systems methodologies to understanding past spatial semiotics and analysis of archaeological landscape records, as well as indigenous archaeology and lithic analysis.

Clive Ruggles is Emeritus Professor of Archaeoastronomy in the School of Archaeology and Ancient History at the University of Leicester, U.K. His research focuses upon people’s perceptions and uses of the sky and celestial objects in various social contexts. He is a past President of the Prehistoric Society and is a leading figure in a joint initiative by UNESCO and the International Astronomical Union working to promote, preserve, and protect the world’s most important astronomical heritage sites. He has recently published, together with Rubellite Johnson and John Mahelona, a revised version of *Nā Inoa Hōkū: Hawaiian and Pacific Star Names* (Ocarina Books/University of Hawai‘i Press 2015), and is Editor-in-Chief of the three-volume *Springer Handbook of Archaeoastronomy and Ethnoastronomy*, published in 2014.

M.P.K. (Keith) Sorrenson, one of New Zealand’s leading historians, is the Polynesian Society’s 2015 recipient of the Elsdon Best Memorial Medal. His article in this issue is an expanded version of his presentation to the Society membership

following his award. Currently Professor Emeritus, he taught for many years in the History Department at the University of Auckland. He was a long-serving member of the Waitangi Tribunal. He published his first essay—on the social and demographic effects of transactions in Māori land—in the *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 59 years ago. That essay is included in a collection of essays on Māori history, land and politics, *Ko Te Whenua Te Utu: Land Is the Price: Essays on Māori History*, which was recently published by Auckland University Press (2015). He also wrote *Manifest Duty: The Polynesian Society over 100 Years* (1992), a history of the Polynesian Society and the Journal, which was published as a Memoir 49 of the Polynesian Society.



Professor Emeritus Keith Sorrenson (left) being awarded the Elsdon Best Memorial Medal by President of the Polynesian Society, Richard Benton, before the presentation of his paper on the evening of 29 July 2015.