

Report of the Skinner Fund Representative

In 1966, in honour of Henry Devenish Skinner, the New Zealand Archaeological Association jointly with the Royal Society of New Zealand and the Polynesian Society established the Skinner Fund from public subscription. Following the death of Dr Skinner in 1978, donations from the Friends of the Otago Museum and the Otago Museum Trust Board substantially increased the fund as a token to his memory. The Royal Society of New Zealand administers the fund.

The purpose of the fund is to promote the study of the history, art, culture, physical and social anthropology of the Maori and other Polynesian peoples, particularly through the recording, survey, excavation and scientific study of prehistoric and historic sites in New Zealand and the islands of the South-west Pacific. This includes the detailed analysis of all cultural, artistic, or physical remains recovered as the result of such investigations. To this end, the Skinner Fund committee deems research projects that have survey, recording, and excavation as their goal, to have equal weight with those which propose to treat analytically and comparatively materials already so recovered. The committee gives preference to well-documented research plans that specify methodology and anticipated outcomes of the proposed research.

The amount available for distribution from the fund is not large, and grant allocations are up to about \$1000.

2007.

At time of writing this report, the Skinner Fund has made no grants for the 2007 year, although applications are under consideration.

Bruce McFadgen,
Skinner Fund Representative.