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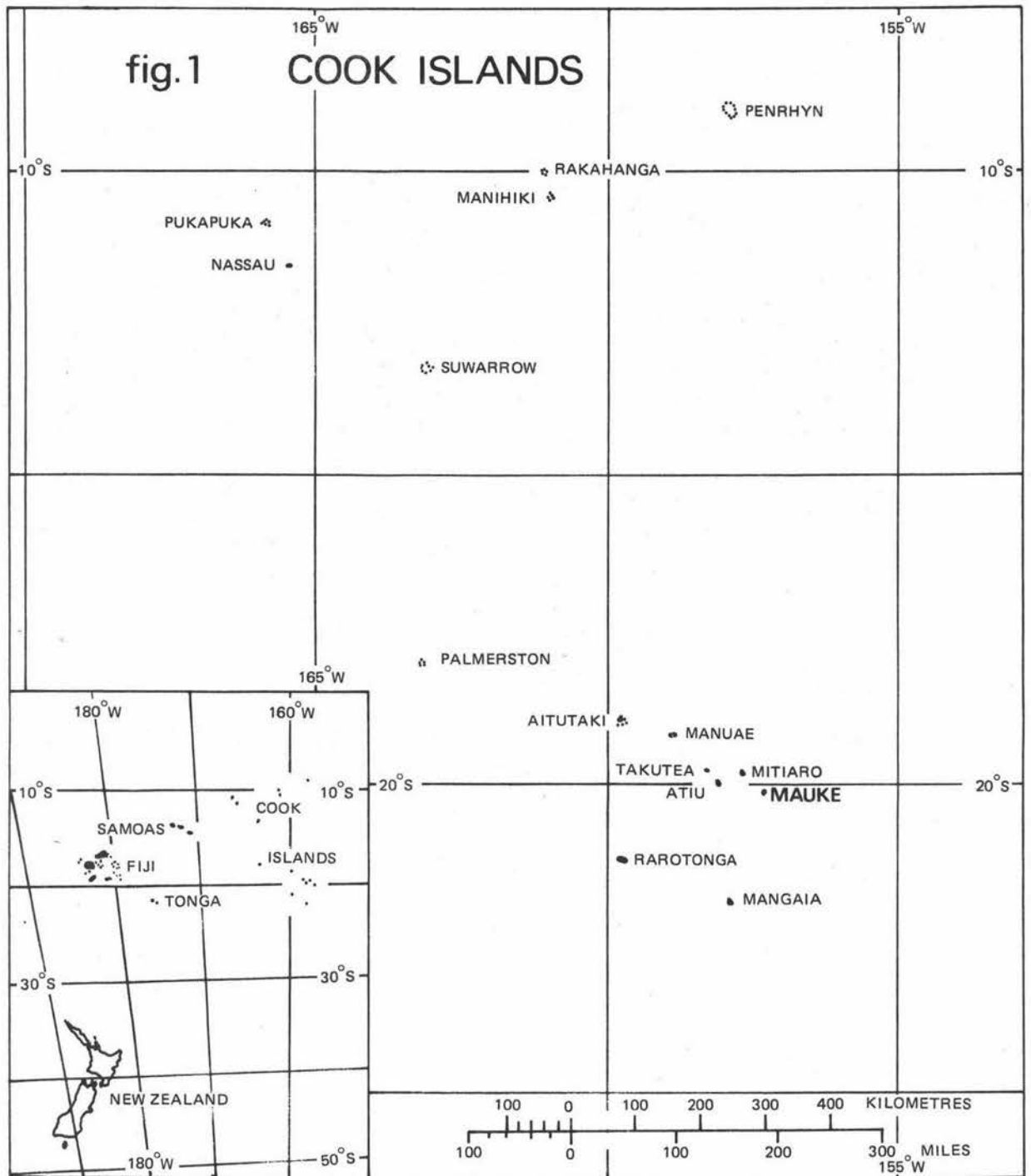
ASPECTS OF MAUKEAN POPULATION
MIGRATION

A Thesis Presented in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements
for the Degree of Master of Arts in Geography
at Massey University

By

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PREFACE

The increasing dissatisfaction and rising aspirations of many Pacific peoples has prompted an increased amount of outmigration to larger metropolitan countries where it is perceived that these desires can be fulfilled. Migration of Cook Islanders to New Zealand is no new phenomenon. In recent years, however, for a great diversity of reasons, the flow has reached alarming proportions. The repercussions of such a displacement of population are significant both for donor and recipient areas.

Although several studies have focussed attention on migrant groups in New Zealand, literature linking the whole migratory process from the island of origin is not quite so readily available. It is becoming apparent that more attention must be directed at the causal factors which induce would-be migrants to forfeit a familiar way of life for one which can be initially bewildering.

The opportunity for attempting such a study arose in 1972 largely as a result of the availability of financial assistance from the Cook Island Research Fund established at Massey University. This enabled the writer to travel to the Cook Islands for a period of six months. Four of those months were spent on the outlying island of Mauke and the remaining two in Rarotonga (see Figure I). The visit to Mauke had two objectives; firstly to complete an agricultural land use survey as part of a Massey University Geography Department project, and secondly to undertake a study on

population movement and its repercussions from the island. This latter research fell into three distinct parts, all of which revolved around extensive questionnaire surveys as the primary data collecting medium. All aspects of the Maukean life style were examined in an endeavour to isolate migration inducing variables. Minor studies of Maukean migrant groups were also conducted in both Rarotonga and in Cannons Creek in New Zealand in an attempt to establish patterns of movement and migrant characteristics.

The almost total lack of available data necessitated a heavy weighting on questionnaire results. As a consequence, this thesis is not intended to be a definitive commentary on all facets of Maukean population movement but rather a study of aspects of migration which are discernible and to some extent measurable.

The scope and nature of the study brought me into contact with many people without whose assistance and friendship this thesis would not have been possible.

Firstly at Massey University I would like to express my gratitude to Professor K.W. Thomson for making funds available for the project and to Mr.A.C.Walsh, currently at the University of the South Pacific, for his assistance in the initial stages. Special thanks go to Dr. P.H. Phillips who supervised the study through the final phases and who so willingly offered his time and thoughts. Also in the Geography Department, Mr.R.G. Heerdegen for his assistance with computations of data.

At the Department of Maori and Island Affairs in Wellington, Mr.J. Horn for assistance with transport arrangements and the provision of census data.

The Maukean people of Cannons Creek for their cooperation and overwhelming hospitality. In particular my good friend Ratia Ratia for his help as an interpreter throughout the course of the questionnaire survey.

In Rarotonga I would also express gratitude to Premier of the Cook Islands, Sir Albert Henry, and his son the Minister for Mauke, Mr. Tupui Henry for their valuable assistance and the provision of transport and accommodation.

To Rangi Moekaa, the Director of Education, Bill Hosking, Director of Agriculture, Tony Utanga and the staff of the Survey Department, and Don Hunter, formerly of the Statistics Department gratitude is also extended.

To Rob and Barb Whyte who so generously provided accommodation for the duration of my stay.

Finally in Rarotonga my interpreter Dyer Tomaka and the people from Mauke for their cooperation.

On Mauke itself I am indebted to a great many people all of whom it is not possible to personally identify. Special mention must however be made of the following. The former Resident Agent Mr. Tupuna Ngacire and his wife Ngairi for their tremendous friendship and hospitality during my entire stay on the island. Mr. Tautara Purea, former headmaster of Mauke School, Mr. Tangi Purea, Chairman of the Island Council, Dr. Rangi Fariu and Mr. Julian Dashwood, Agricultural Extension Officer.

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GLOSSARY OF MAUKEAN TERMS

'are	house
ariki	highest ranking ascribed title
kikau	the frond of the coconut palm used in the construction of traditional houses
kopu tangata	family
mapu	youths, adolescents
pandanas	Tree in which the aerial roots are used for wall of traditional houses
papa'a	European
pia	arrowroot
Tamariki ia koe	you are just a child (too young)
Umu kai	feast with food cooked in a ground oven

fig. 2 MAUKE ISLAND LOCATIONS

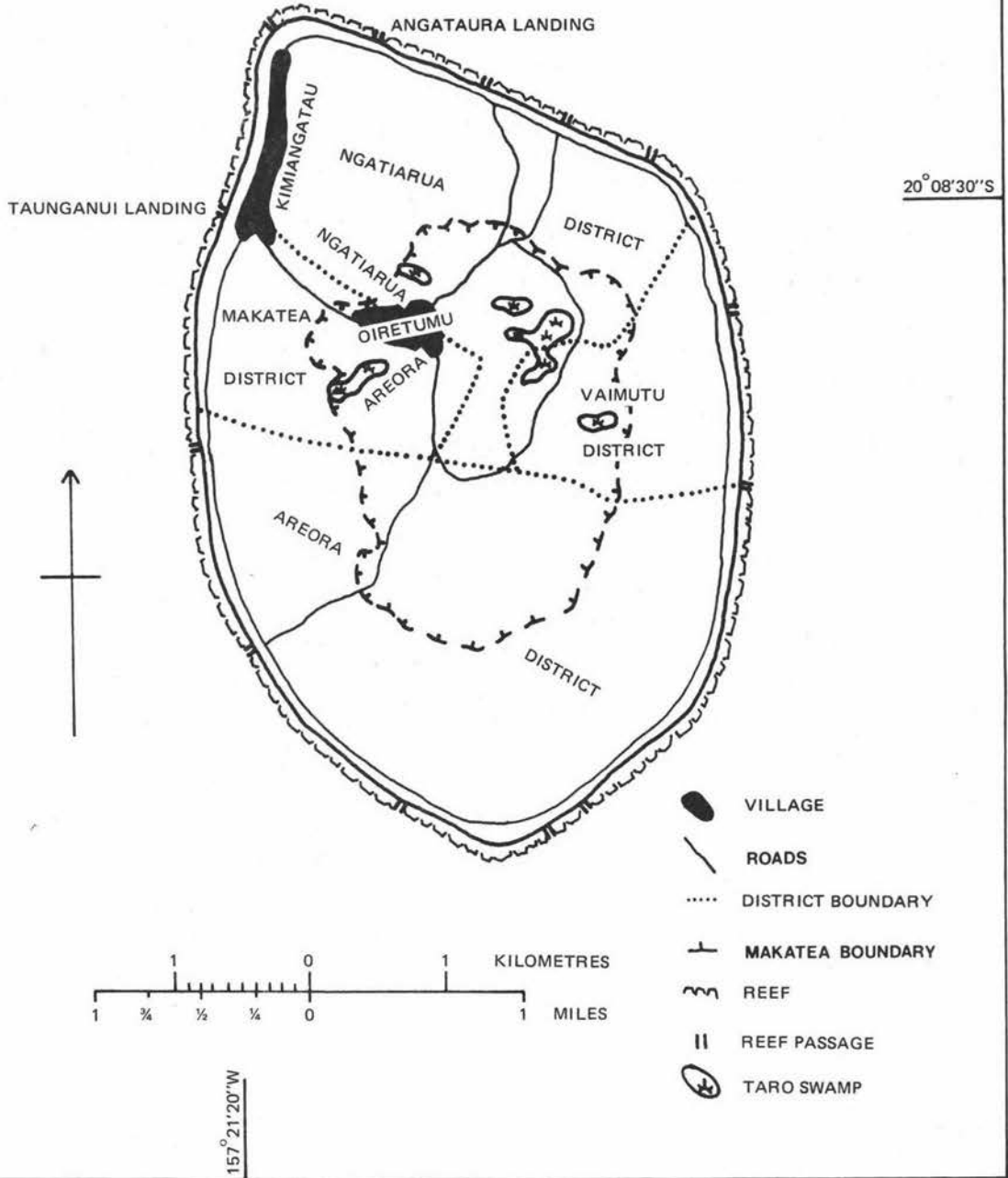


PLATE I

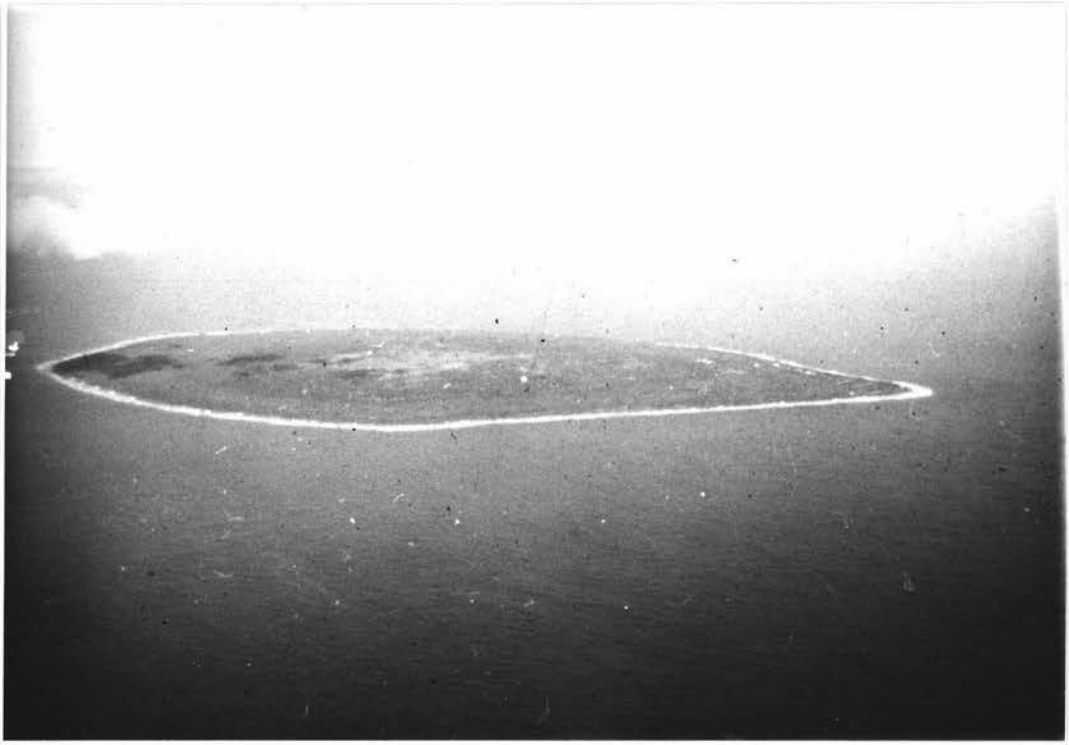
Aerial view of Mauke.

(Photo: Johnson's Studios, Rarotonga)

PLATE 2

Aerial view of Oiretumu Village showing the Cook Island Christian Church in the central foreground and scattered dwellings.

(Photo: Johnson's Studios, Rarotonga)

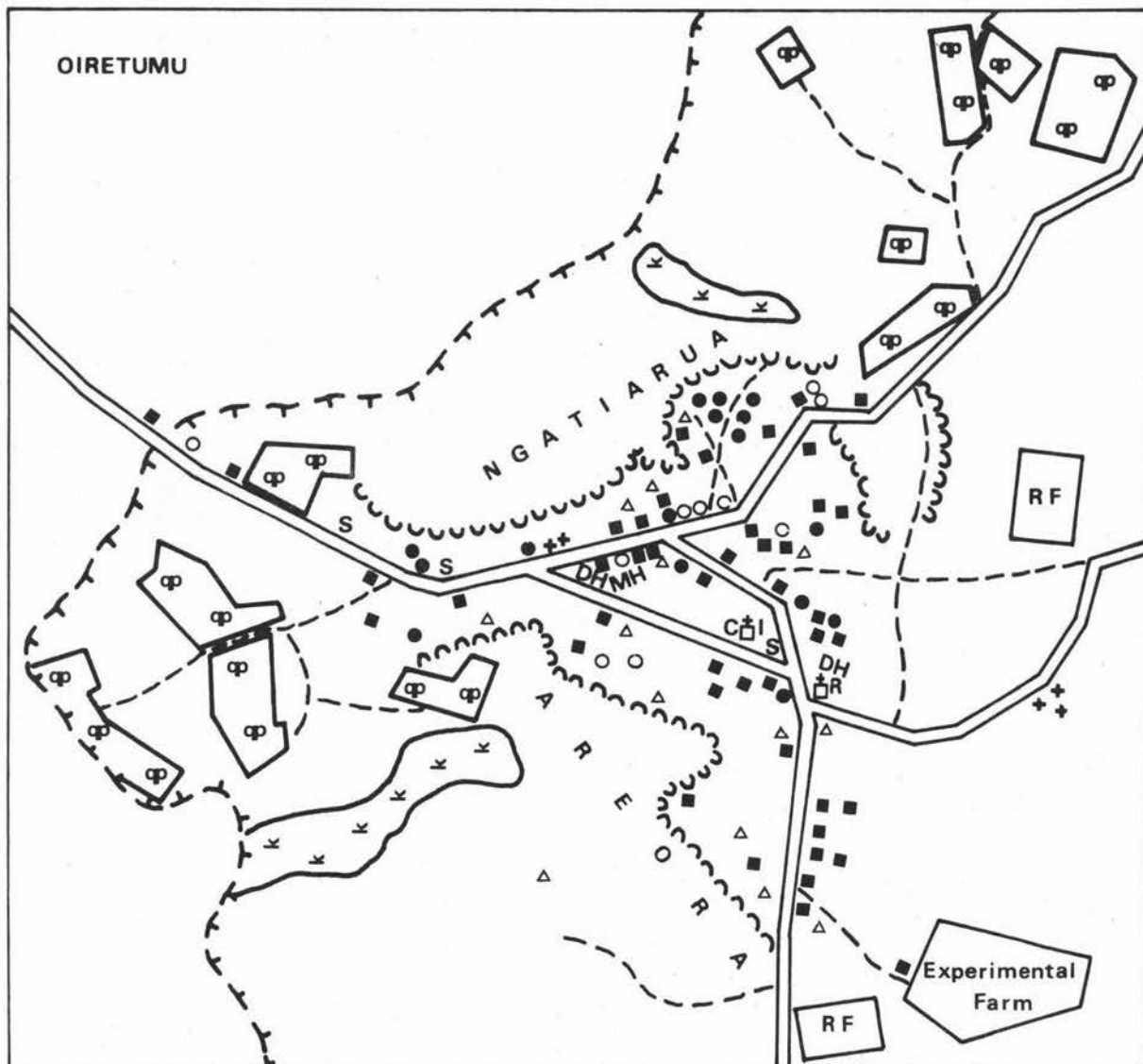


THE COOK ISLANDS: AREA AND POPULATION, 1972

<u>ISLAND</u>	<u>AREA (Acres)</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>		<u>PERCENTAGE TOTAL</u>	
		<u>1966</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1972</u>
<u>SOUTHERN GROUP</u>					
Rarotonga	16,602	9,971	11,437	51.80	53.65
Mangaia	12,828	2,002	2,074	10.40	9.72
Atiu	6,654	1,327	1,455	6.89	6.82
Mitiaro	5,500	293	331	1.52	1.55
Mauke	4,546	671	763	3.48	3.57
Aitutaki	4,461	2,579	2,855	13.39	13.39
Manuae	1,524	15	2	.07	.009
Takutea	302	-	-	-	-
	52,423	16,859	18,917	87.58	88.74
<u>NORTHERN GROUP</u>					
Penrhyn	2,432	545	612	2.83	2.87
Manihiki	1,344	584	452	3.03	2.12
Pukapuka	1,250	684	756	3.55	3.54
Rakahanga	1,000	323	339	1.67	1.59
Palmerston	500	86	72	.44	.33
Nassau	300	167	168	.86	.78
Suvarrow	100	-	1		.004
	6,926	2,389	2,400	12.41	11.25
	59,349	19,247	21,317		

Sources: Annual Report on Cook, Niue and Tokelau Islands, 1961.
Cook Island Population Census, 1966.
Cook Islands Statistical Bulletin, Feb.5th, 1973, Rarotonga.

VILLAGES



REFERENCE



Bush



Coconuts

Houses



Traditional



Burnt Lime



Mission Style



Modern



Church Buildings



Roman Catholic



Seventh Day Adventist



Cook Islands Christian Church



Cemeteries



Primary School



Reef



Food Swamps



Roads



Makatea Boundary



Citrus



Tracks



Administration and Post Office



Arikiki's House



Cinema



Cargo Boat Shed



Copra Drier



Dance Hall



Electric Power Supply



Hospital



Meeting House



Police Station and Gaol



Public Works



Radio Transmitter



Resident Agent's House



Rugby Field



Store



Sports Area

0 10 20 30 40 50 Metres

0 10 20 30 40 50 Yards

PLATE 3

Kimiangatau Village: Situated on the northwest coast, the village extends in ribbon like fashion for approximately two kilometres. Founded in 1904 Kimiangatau in contrast to Oiretumu lacks the diversity of house types found inland. Following the 1967 hurricane extensive use has been made of the government housing loan. Additional Government benevolence and communal village labour has resulted in the two villages having a reticulated water supply and electric power at night.

(Photo: G.D.J. Gordon)

PLATE 4

As an attempt to upgrade housing standards throughout the group, the Cook Island Government have initiated a loan scheme through which necessary building materials may be procured. The above dwellings in Kimiangatau Village are typical Housing Loan structures.

(Photo: G.D.J. Gordon)

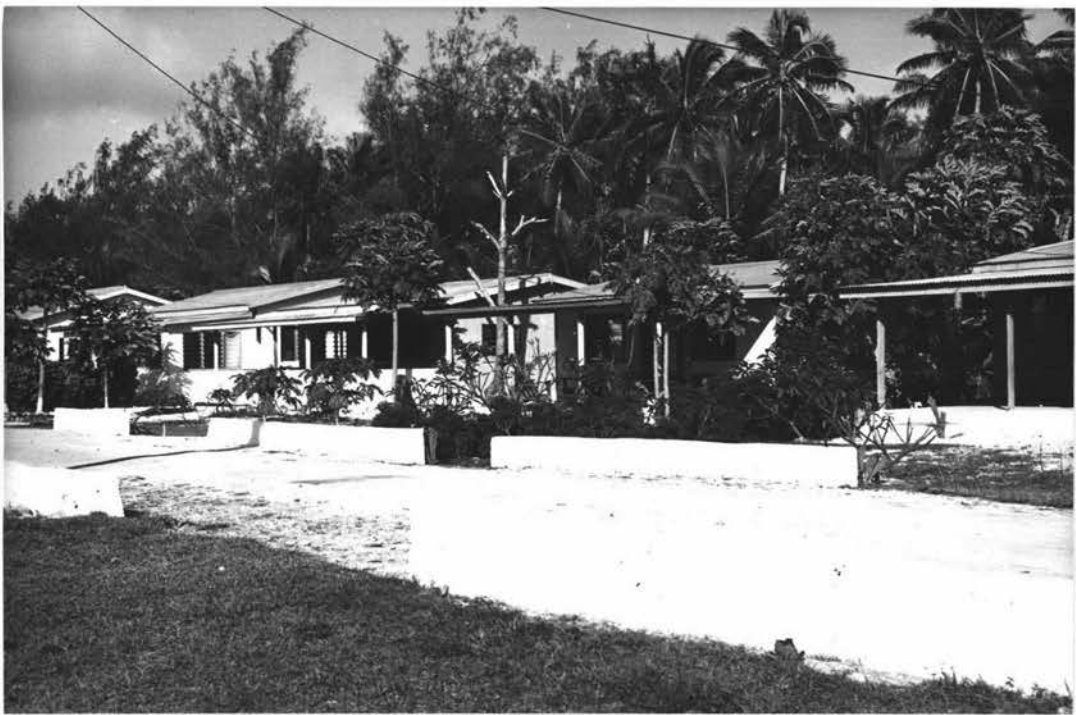
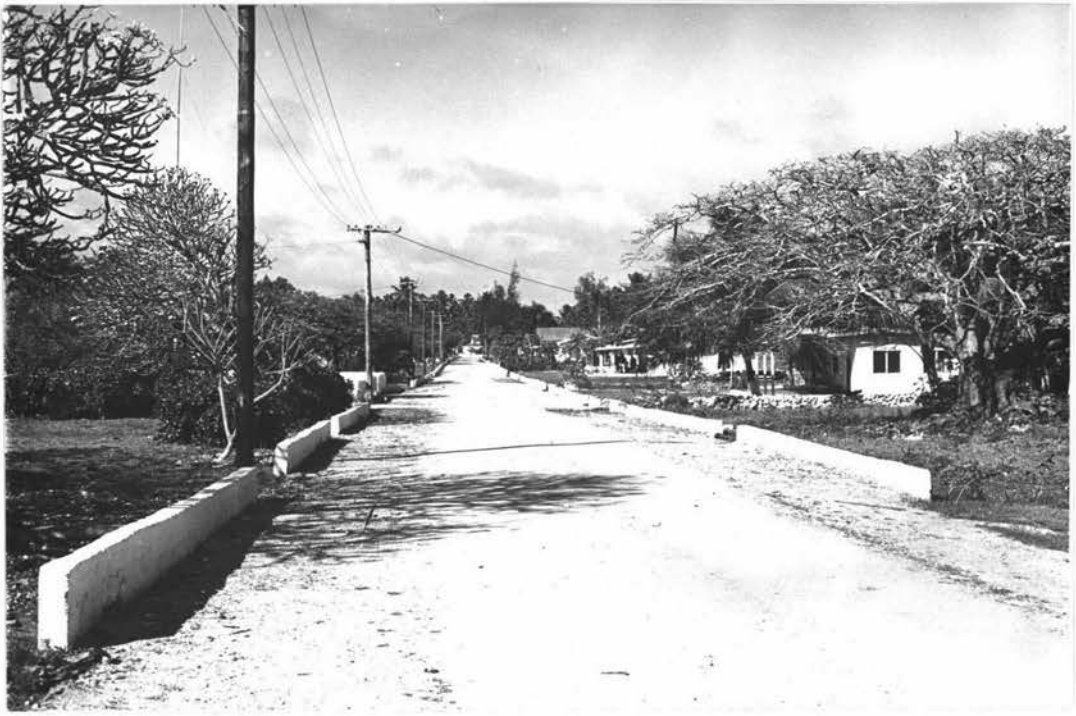


PLATE 5

Diversity of housing in Areora Village. This photo represents a cross section of Maukean house types, ranging from the traditional kikau hut on the left, two variations of Tahitian style wooden and burnt lime in the centre, through to the modern housing loan type in the background. The stakes in the foreground are the remnants of an ancient house.

(Photo: G.D.J. Gordon)

PLATE 6

Traditional and modern style dwellings stand side by side. The are on the right which is still used is constructed of pandanas and hardboard walls with a kikau roof. The newer fibrolite structure replacing it is the result of a housing loan.

(Photo: G.D.J. Gordon)

