

in a supportive, loving, and stimulating home. Al and Thelma devoted themselves to their three children and eight grandchildren.

In 1950, while the children were all at camp, Al and Thelma bought their home on Stone Barn Road. The kids were told about the purchase during a picnic on the big hill. Many years of happiness followed, and The Farm became home. Every Friday evening in Chicago the family would pack the car with food, clothes, dog, etc. and set off to spend the weekend at The Farm to hike, feed horses, mow the lawn, fix fences, and do the things that continually needed to be done. Summers were spent at The Farm. As soon as the kids' school ended, Al would commute into Chicago to work at his dental practice and at the University.

When the pace of life slowed a bit, Al and Thelma were able to spend more and more time at the farm. But even in retirement, Al did not lose his interest in dental anthropology. He continued his association with the University of Chicago as a professor emeritus and set up a laboratory in a newly constructed garage on the farm. Al spent many happy hours working there, analyzing some of the thousands of teeth of individuals that he had immortalized as plaster casts and writing scientific articles. Al's most recent article was published just a few months ago.

During their almost 60 years of marriage, Al and Thelma were fortunate to become close friends with many wonderful people who lived around the world, in Chicago, and near The Farm. Al valued these friendships very much and Thelma still does. The support of family and friends at this time of transition has been great and is very much appreciated.

Richard M.S. Taylor (1903-1992)

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The association's only New Zealand member, Richard M.S. Taylor, died in his 89th year, on August 30, 1992. His major contributions to dental anthropology spanned a period of more than 50 years. His last work, published in Auckland, was completed at the age of 87. It earned his second degree of Doctor of Science, conferred just a few months before his death.

Richard Morris Stovin Taylor was born in 1903 Wanganui, 100 miles north of Wellington, New Zealand. He was the great-great grandson of Reverend R.M.S. Taylor, the C.M.S. missionary who transcribed the principal copy of New Zealand's Treaty of Waitangi in 1840. Educated at Wanganui Collegiate School and then at the University of Otago, he graduated B.D.S. in 1926. He was awarded a research scholarship which he took up in 1928 in the Department of Anatomy at Otago University. He commenced a study of the human palate using both conventional, point-to-point measurements and the more sophisticated coordinate geometry possible with the newly developed Reserve Craniostat which W.P. Gowland, the Professor of Anatomy, had purchased from Western Reserve University while on leave. This study took six years part-time, and in 1934 Richard Taylor received the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery.

As part of his research, he studied casts of the fragments and reconstruction of the Piltown find. He became doubtful of the details of the reconstruction and at the January, 1937, meeting of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS) in Auckland, he presented a paper demonstrating clearly on morphological grounds that the canine was an upper left and not a lower right as in the reconstruction. More importantly, he showed that the setting of the teeth was incompatible with the wear patterns, and that no plausible antecedent occlusion could have existed in the individual. He was one of the first to seriously challenge the status of Piltown with verifiable evidence. It was a regret to many that the intervention of World War II prevented due recognition of his work. His D.D.S. thesis on the palate was critically re-evaluated and published in 1962 as a supplement to *Acta Anatomica*.

The demands of earning a living, marriage to Irene (Rene) Rhodes in 1935, and family (Diana and Michael) saw Richard employed first in the School of Dental Service in Wellington, Hamilton, and Auckland (1930-1948), and then in private practice in Auckland. There was little time for research but foundations were laid. Throughout his practice Richard collected extracted teeth. In 1946 and again in 1969, as a member of anthropological groups, he studied the dentition of native Australians, traveling extensively through central Australia and Queensland. In 1964 at the age of 69, Richard chose to retire from full-time employment and turn to full-time research. He established associations first with the department of Zoology

and then with the Department of Anatomy at University of Auckland. He worked at his researches essentially on his own with some financial support, especially from the New Zealand Dental Research Foundation, for almost 30 years. Along with a variety of smaller studies, he concentrated on two topics: morphological variation in teeth and tooth dislocation.

In his study of the palate Richard wrote: "expressing results by the maximum, minimum, and mean values cannot alone convey a true idea of variations." He took up this issue in detail as a first cause. Using his vast collection of teeth, he meticulously recorded tooth shapes by *camera lucida*. His findings were brought together in a monograph, *Variation in Morphology of Teeth*, published in 1978 by Charles Thomas. This work was submitted for the degree of Doctor of Science at the University of Auckland. The degree was conferred in 1980. In 1986, a similar account of deciduous molar variation was published in *Human Biology*: 58.

Richard Taylor then took up again a longtime interest in the dislocation of first molar teeth. His meticulous study on dislocation in Maoris had been published in 1963. He now extended this and completed a similar study of first molar dislocation in Australian Aborigines. The publication of this work was hindered by concerns about publication in Australia of photographs of aboriginal skeletal remains. The work was finally published by the department of Anatomy and the New Zealand Dental Research Foundation. In the meantime, the work had been submitted for the degree of Doctor of Science at the University of Otago. The degree was conferred in 1992.

In addition to these major studies, Richard Taylor participated in numerous carefully argued discussions on a wide variety of dental issues. These embodied a breadth of interest and a determination to use direct observation followed by careful argument. These qualities were the hallmarks of Richard Taylor, and they expressed his total devotion to meticulous research. In a time, after his retirement, when experimental biology had loomed large, his painstaking observation and recording of detail and its considered use to develop an hypothesis—or to show good cause to doubt one—was an inspiration to many of us in the Anatomy Department and to many others. We do have his outstanding skeletal collections, which were left to us in trust, and many of his personal papers as a constant reminder of a quietly determined and gifted researcher. His membership in the Dental Anthropology Association was a very tangible expression of the universality of his life-interest in dental anthropology.

Etruscan Teeth and Odontology

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ABSTRACT The results of a paleopathological examination of the teeth and supporting structures of a 4th through 2nd century BC Etruscan sample of 119 crania from central Italy reveals a relatively low incidence of caries (27.7%) and high frequencies of ante-mortem tooth loss (49.6%) and alveolar bone infection (27.7%). The mandibular anterior teeth of one individual were partially covered with a gold strip. The function of this strip may have been ornamental or possibly odontotechnical to cover a diastema which resulted from ante-mortem loss. Previous studies have shown that the Etruscans were renowned for their skill in odontotherapy.

INTRODUCTION

The Etruscans lived in central Italy, especially in Tuscany, between the 9th and 2nd centuries BC. They developed a major civilization which attained very high levels of artistic and technological achievement. The cultural aspects of this pre-Roman population are well known. Unfortunately, the paleobiological aspects of these peoples have been less studied.

We believe that the Etruscans were a biologically homogeneous population. According to Barnicot and Brothwell (1959) Etruscans may have been "a clearly differentiated physical group." For example, anthropometric studies of skeletal samples have demonstrated a substantial and significant uniformity in the distribution of the cranial index (Pardini and Bassi, 1975). Only a few anthropometric differences were found in comparisons of Etruscan groups of different geographic origin. For example, coastal region Etruscans (Tarquinia, Luni, Orbetello, Populonia) exhibit a higher skull than inland Etruscans (Chiusi, Chianciano, Volterra) (Pardini and Bassi, 1975). However, from a paleopathological perspective, we lack a detailed study of individual Etruscan diseases and their epidemiology.