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Whimbrel: p 139.

**Asiatic Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus variegatus* (Scopoli 1786), Migrant  
June 1879 New Brighton, Canterbury  
November 1908 Norfolk Island

The first mainland record was one collected at New Brighton, Christchurch in June 1879 (Buller 1882). They were possibly recorded at Norfolk Island in September 1838 by Best, who shot "curlew". They were definitely recorded in October or November 1908 (Bassett-Hull 1910).

**American Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus* Latham 1790, Migrant  
July 1874 Wairau Rivermouth, Marlborough  
7/11/1981 Norfolk Island

The first record of Whimbrel in New Zealand was actually of the American species, the rarer of the two species in New Zealand (95% Asiatic, 5% Hudsonian), shot by S. C. Liardet some time before July 25, 1874 at the mouth of the Wairau River, Blenheim (Buller 1874d). The specimen was purchased on this date, according to the museum label. It was not identified as belonging to this form until 1950 by Oliver. Ross McKenzie (1950) found the second one in June 1949, in Ohiwa Harbour. Hudsonian Whimbrel has recently been recognized as a good species (Zink et al. 1995; Sangster et al 2011). Confirmation relies on underwing colour (uniform cinnamon-brown), so many supposed sight records may be variegates, which also shows a dark rump. Of the three records noted in Notornis, only the March-May 1964 bird in the Firth of Thames may have been one ("tawny flanks"). Birds recorded in June 1949 (Ohiwa) and September 1968 (Clevedon) both by Ross McKenzie, did not have the underwing colour recorded