

PLAN CHANGE REQUEST AT 70A AND 70B LISLE FARM DRIVE, PUKEKOHE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared for S. R. and D. S. Smith

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By

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INTRODUCTION

Project Background

S.R. and D.S. Smith are applying for a Plan Change to rezone properties at Lisle Farm Drive, Pukekohe from Future Urban Zone (FUZ) to Residential- either mixed Housing Suburban Zone (under the Operative provisions of the Unitary Plan) or the Residential – Mixed Housing Urban Zone under Proposed Plan Change 78 – Intensification.

The Plan Change Area comprises the properties at 70A Lisle Farm Drive (Lot 1 DP 143272) covering 10.1HA and 70B Lisle Farm Drive (Lot 2 DP 143272) covering 8.5HA (shown in Figure 1).

An archaeological Assessment was commissioned by Scott Wilkinson Planning on behalf of S. R. and D. S. Smith to establish whether future development enabled by the proposed plan change is likely to impact on archaeological values. This report has been prepared as part of the required assessment of effects accompanying a plan change application under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and to identify any requirements under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA). Recommendations are made in accordance with statutory requirements.

Methodology

The New Zealand Archaeological Association's (NZAA) site record database (ArchSite), Auckland Council's Cultural Heritage Inventory (CHI), Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part (AUP OP) schedules and the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage NZ) New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero were searched to determine whether any archaeological sites had been recorded on or in the immediate vicinity of the properties. Literature and archaeological reports relevant to the area were consulted (see Bibliography). Early survey plans and aerial photographs were checked for information relating to past use of the properties. Archival research was undertaken to establish the history of ownership.

A site visit was undertaken on 26 October 2021 to visually inspect the Plan Change Area. The ground surface was examined for evidence of former occupation (in the form of shell midden, depressions, terracing or other unusual formations within the landscape, or indications of 19th century European settlement remains). Exposed and disturbed soils were examined where encountered for evidence of earlier modification, and an understanding of the local stratigraphy. Subsurface testing with a probe and spade was carried out along the ridge to determine whether buried archaeological deposits could be identified or establish the nature of possible archaeological features and to examine the soil profile. Particular attention was paid to the spur and ridge lines and stream banks (topographical features where archaeological sites are often found to be located). Photographs were taken to record the area and its immediate surrounds.

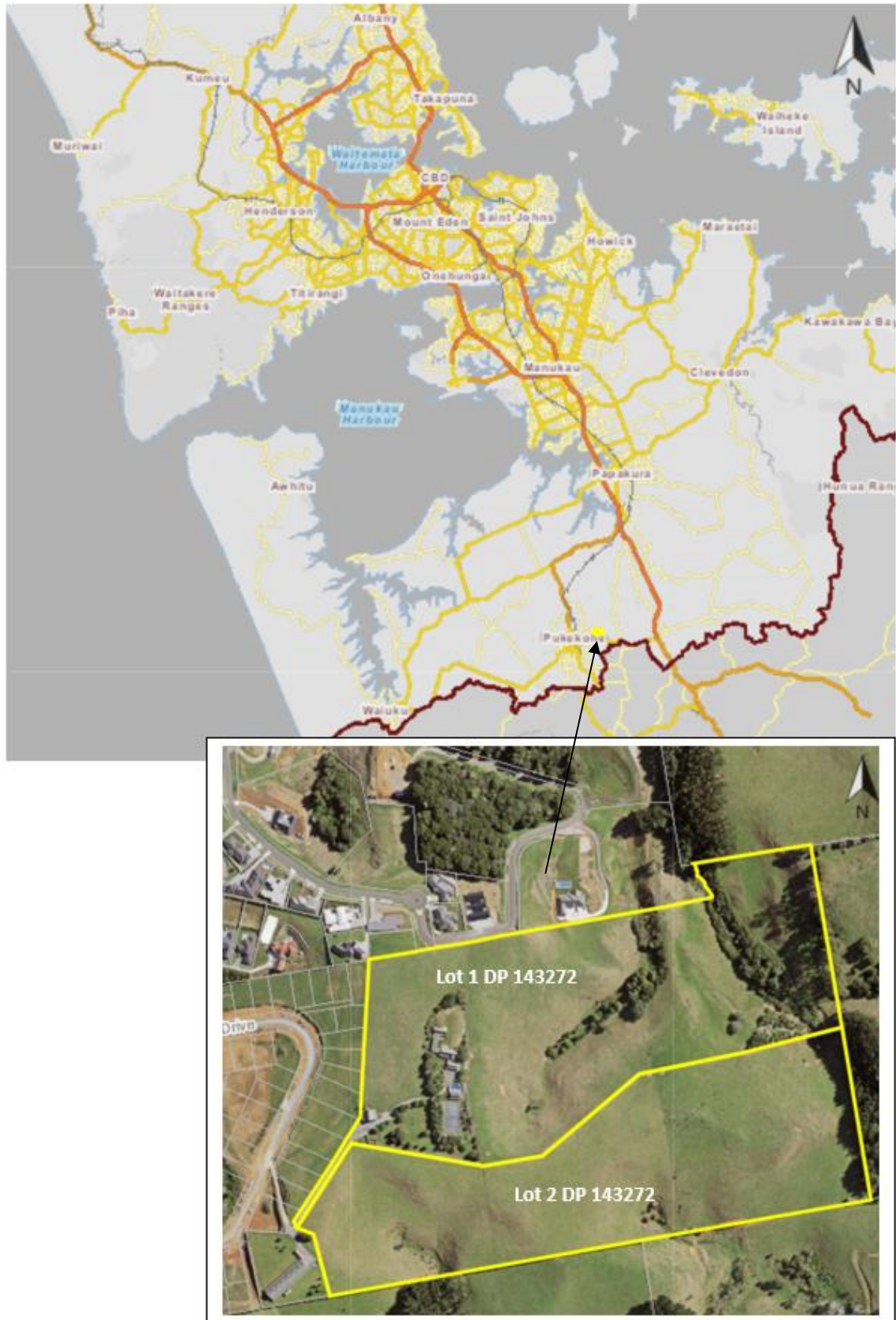


Figure 1. Upper map showing the location of the Plan Change Area in the Greater Auckland Region indicated by arrow and lower inset showing detail of the properties in the Plan Change Area (source: Auckland Council Geomaps)

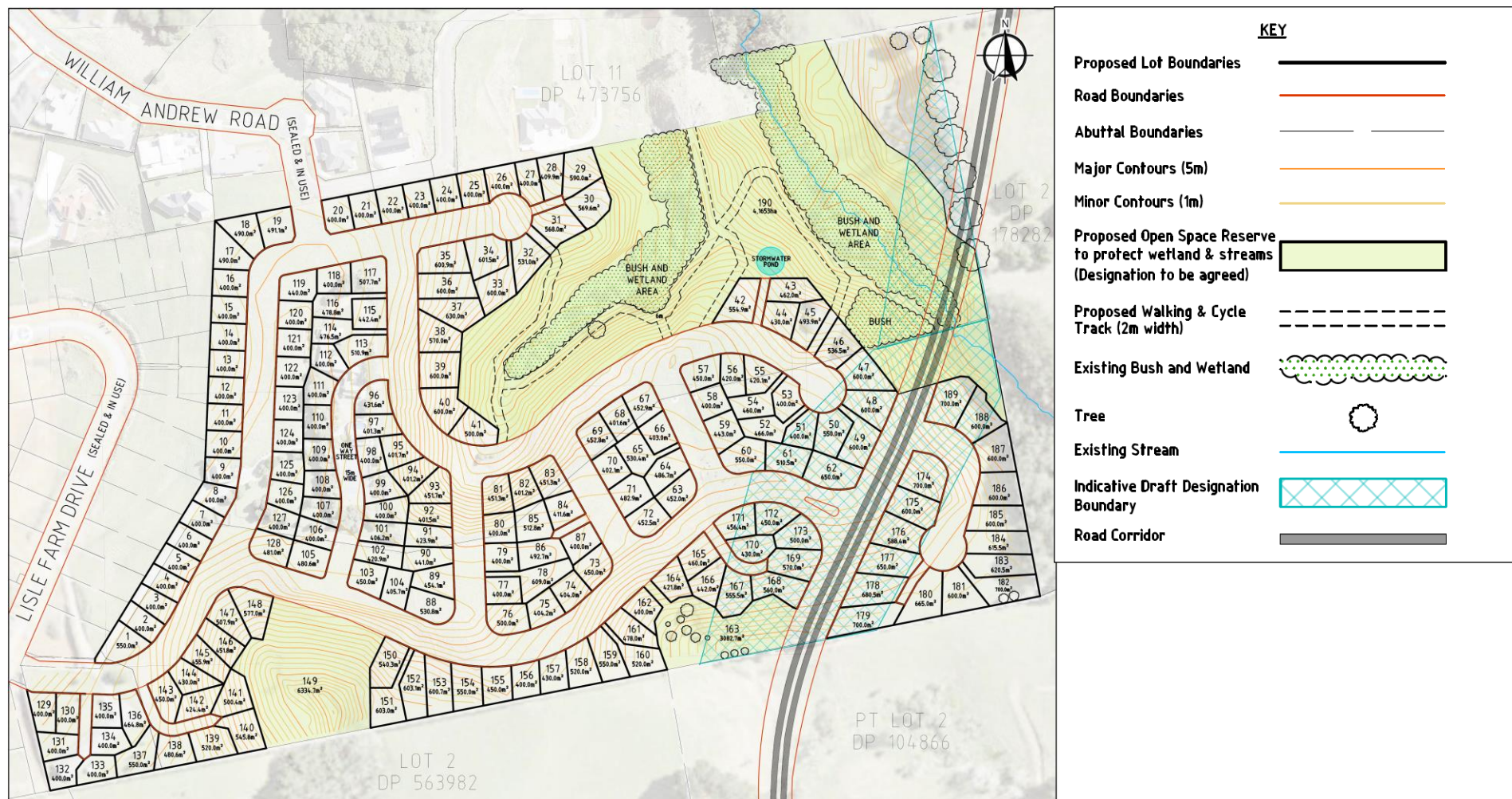


Figure 2. Concept plan for Lots 1 & 2 DP 143272 (source: Birch Land Development Consultants)

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Maori Settlement

The general area has seen many changes over time. The shifts in the cultural landscape are closely tied to the abundant natural resources and fertile soils which were attractive for Maori settlement. The Waikato River, which empties into the Tasman Sea to the west of the Plan Change Area, was an immensely important feature of the landscape to the Tainui people. The river served as an important communication route through the extensive lands of the centre of the North Island. The river also provided rich resources to support Maori settlement, such as whitebait, mullet, flounder, eel, shellfish, waterfowl, wild vegetables as well as flax (Murdoch 1988:96). Numerous kainga (settlements) were located along the banks of the river, one of which, at Tuakau, is located to the southwest of the Plan Change Area. Kainga were also located at Pukekohe, Patumahoe, Whatapaka, Te Karaka and Te Aparangi near Papakura (the heartland of Ngati Tamaoho and Te Akitai) (Murdoch 1988:101). The Ngapuhi raids of the 1820s saw the area largely abandoned and it was not until 1835, under the influence of Te Whero Whero, that the tangata whenua returned to reoccupy their kainga.

European Settlement

In the 1840s, after the establishment of Auckland as New Zealand's capital, there began to be pressure on the area from European settlers. Land speculation was a major industry in Auckland from the outset and land values within the town were greatly inflated. Settlers, in a search of cheaper agricultural land, gradually began to expand north and south of Auckland and the Crown began to purchase large blocks of land during the 1840s and 1850s, with the Pukekohe No. 1 Block, which consisted of Karaka Parish, present day Pukekohe East and Harrisville purchased in 1842. The purchase was opposed by iwi and was renegotiated in 1853, although poor surveying and the sale of the second Pukekohe Block added to the amount of land lost to iwi.

European settlement in the 1850s saw increasing pressure on Maori from the government to sell more of their land. However, by 1855 the tribes had sold all that they wished to sell in the area (Murdoch 1988:103-4). European settlement in Pukekohe East began after 1853 by people mainly from Scotland and Cornwall – including the families of McDonald, Comrie, Scott, Roose, Robinson, Hawke, Easton, and others. The disputes over land claims continued without resolution until the New Zealand Wars of the 1860s, when the general area was affected by the Waikato invasion of 1863-64. During this period many settlers left the area, some permanently. There are no known New Zealand War sites within the Plan Change Area, but the area to the north and northeast saw a number of conflicts during these years, including the battle at the Pukekohe East Church in 1863 (Morris 1963).

After the cessation of hostilities in the Waikato region in 1864, the government confiscated large tracts of land and European settlement of the area increased significantly. In 1865, the Waikato Immigration Scheme saw the arrival of immigrant families brought to the area through a system of government sponsored land grants for those who could pay their passage and meet a three-years' residency requirement, during which time it was planned they would support themselves through public works such as road building (*New Zealand*

Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian 29 April 1865). Thirteen ships brought settlers to Franklin at this time. One of these ships, *The Ganges*, carried many families who settled in Pukekohe (there were 422 passengers, but 54 children and two adults were lost on the voyage), as did passengers from the *Dauntless* and the *Lancashire Witch* (Morris 1965).

The name Pukekohe was derived from the Kohekohe (or native mahogany) trees that were known to grow in the area. Soon after their arrival, many of the new settlers began clearing the land and establishing farms. The area became well known for its fertile soils with market gardening, horticulture and dairying all becoming well established. Photographs from c.1885 and 1905 in Figure 3 show the evidence of bush clearance and the town of Pukekohe is described as a dairying centre in the 1905 photograph reference.



Figure 3. Upper photograph showing an area of bush clearance with buildings in Pukekohe in the background, dated c.1885 (Auckland Libraries. Manukau Research Library FRA: I, 5 Footprints 02371). Lower photograph of the main street of Pukekohe, dating from 1905 (source: Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections AWNS-19050427-12-1)

HISTORICAL SURVEY

Information from Early Maps and Plans

Early maps and plans were reviewed to provide detailed information on past ownership and land use in the Plan Change Area. The plan in Figure 4 (with a date of 1855 annotated in pencil) shows the original allotments in Pukekohe Parish. The Plan Change Area is located in Allotment 14. As can be seen on the plan, Allotment 14 has the name S. Hawke annotated. Samuel Hawke was one of the early settlers in Pukekohe, who along with his son Thomas, bought parcels of land from the Crown in the 1850s with two parcels purchased, one of 110 hectares near Belgium Road and also 249 hectares to the east of the present Pukekohe Showgrounds (Auckland Council Heritage Unit: 85). Newspaper articles reporting on compensation after the New Zealand Wars noted that Samuel Hawke received 173 pounds for damage to his house and loss of his cattle (*Daily Southern Cross* 17 August 1865 and 18 October 1866). An article in the *New Zealand Herald* dated 28 November 1868 described the inquest into the death of Samuel Hawke by drowning on 16 November 1868. His body was found by his son Thomas after his father did not return from a canoe trip transporting goods from Onewhero to Point Russel.

The plan dated 1906 in Figure 5 shows Allotment 14 with the name Elijah Roose (occupier) annotated. The Roose family arrived in New Zealand in 1859 from Cornwall on the ship *Excelsior* and settled in Pukekohe East. The Roose family homestead still exists and is located to the northeast of the Plan Change Area. A third plan shown in Figure 6 and dated 1924 shows the subdivision of land to the east of the Plan Change Area now with the name Richardson annotated on Allotment 14. Finally, the plan in Figure 7 dated 1990 shows the subdivision that created Lots 1 and 2 that comprise the current Plan Change Area. The owners' names on this plan are Lisle.

In general, the early plans reviewed show that the Plan Change Area was granted to a European settler, Samuel Hawke, in the 1850s as Allotment 14. It is noted that this allotment faced onto a road from the 19th century and that the Plan Change Area is not located along this road frontage. The plans reviewed showed no evidence that the Plan Change Area contained a homestead and it is considered most likely that it was in use for general agricultural purposes over the years.

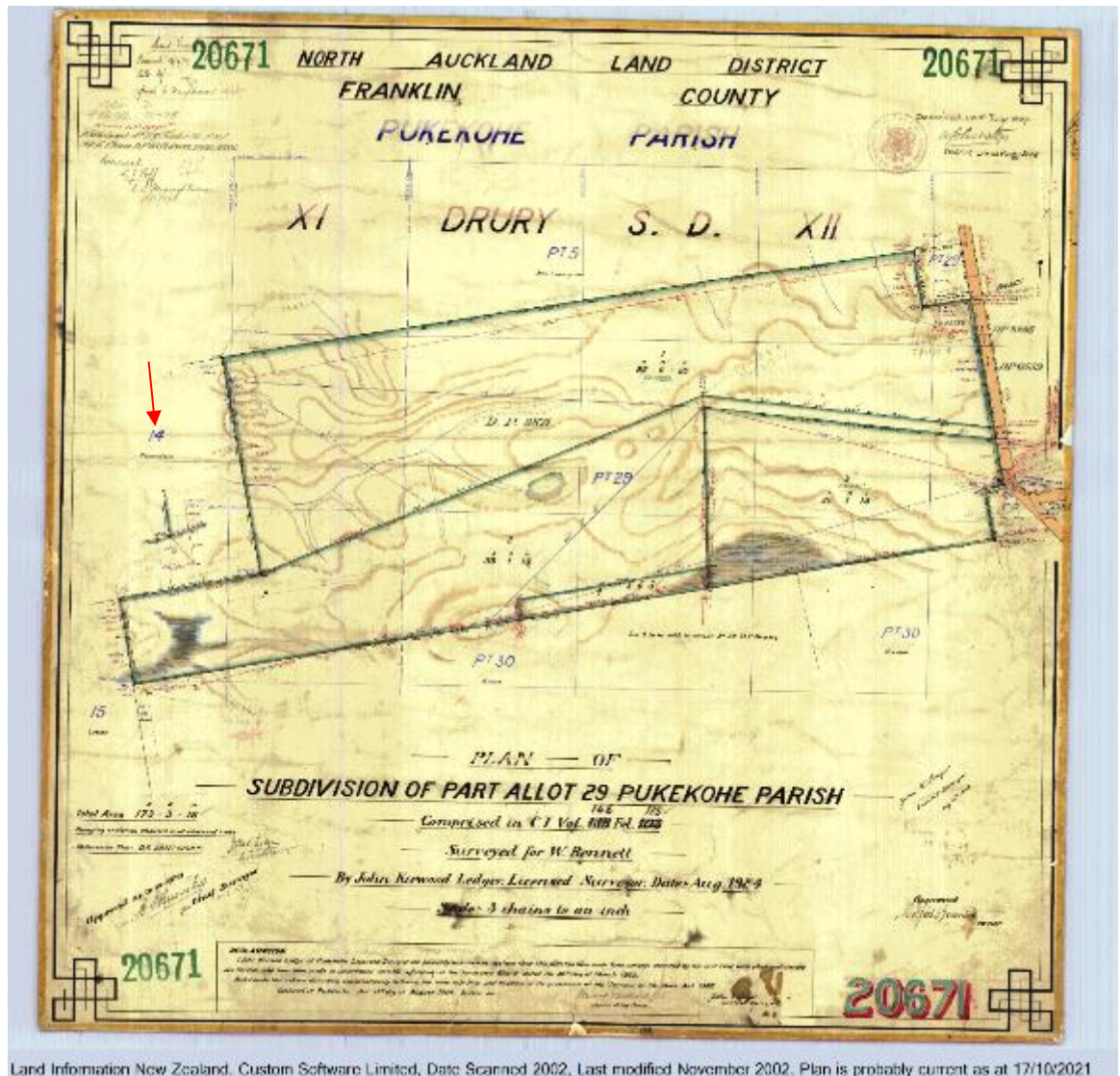
Information from Early Aerials

Aerial photographs dating from 1942, 1963 and 1988 are shown in Figure 8. As can be seen in the aerial photograph dated 1942, much of the eastern part of the Plan Change Area, along with the central stream gulley and a gulley near the southwest corner, were covered by bush. The later two aerial photographs show clearance of most of the bush, leaving almost all of the Plan Change Area now covered by grassed paddocks.

The only structure visible on the aerial photographs shown in Figure 8 is a small outbuilding only present in the 1963 and 1988 aerials. It is noted that a modern house was constructed on the property after 1988 in the north-western part of the Plan Change Area (compare Figure 1).

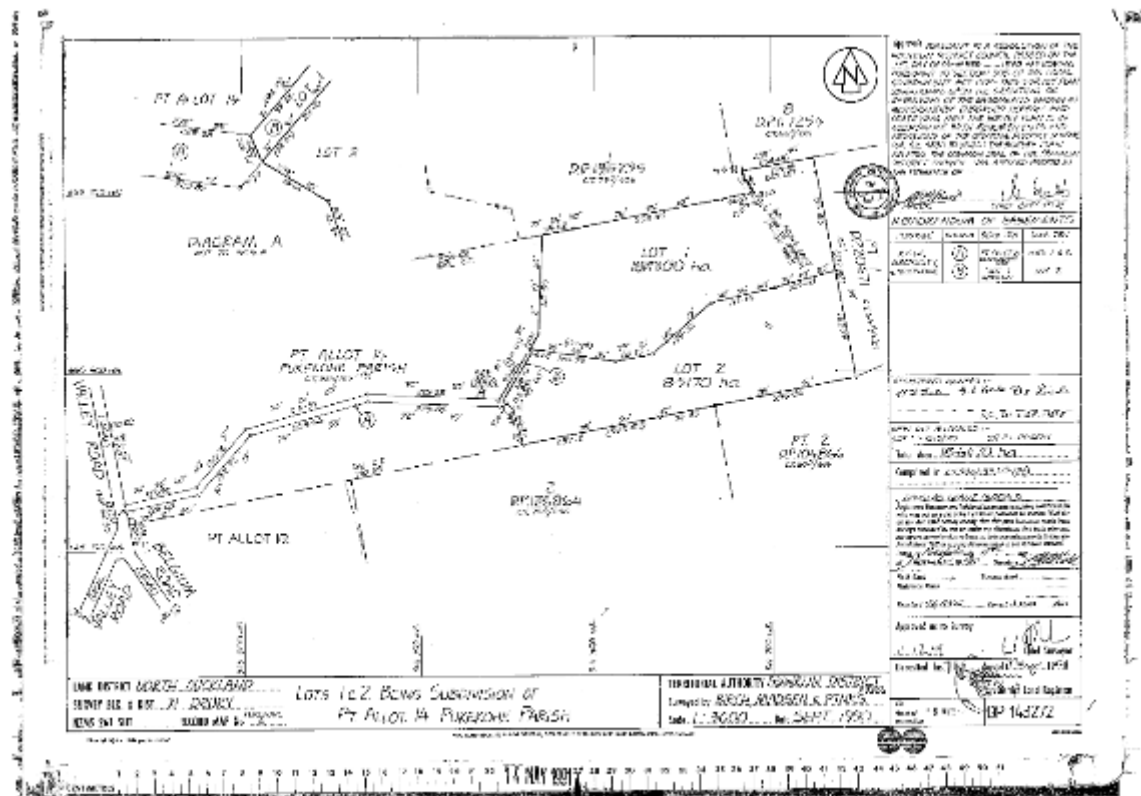
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Figure 5. AK DP 3871 survey plan dated 1906 of the lots to the east of the Plan Change Area with Allotment 14 which contains the Plan Change Area having the name Elijah Roose occupier annotated (indicated by arrow) (source: Quickmap)



Land Information New Zealand, Custom Software Limited, Date Scanned 2002, Last modified November 2002. Plan is probably current as at 17/10/2021

Figure 6. AK DP 20671 survey plan dated 1924 of the lots to the east of the Plan Change Area with Allotment 14 which contains the Plan Change Area having the name Richardson annotated (indicated by arrow) (source: Quickmap)



Land Information New Zealand, Custom Software Limited. Date Scanned 2002. Last modified November 2002. Plan is probably current as at 17/10/2021

Figure 7. AK DP 143272 plan dated 1990 showing the subdivision of Allotment 14 that created the properties in the Plan Change Area (Lots 1 and 2) (source: Quickmap)

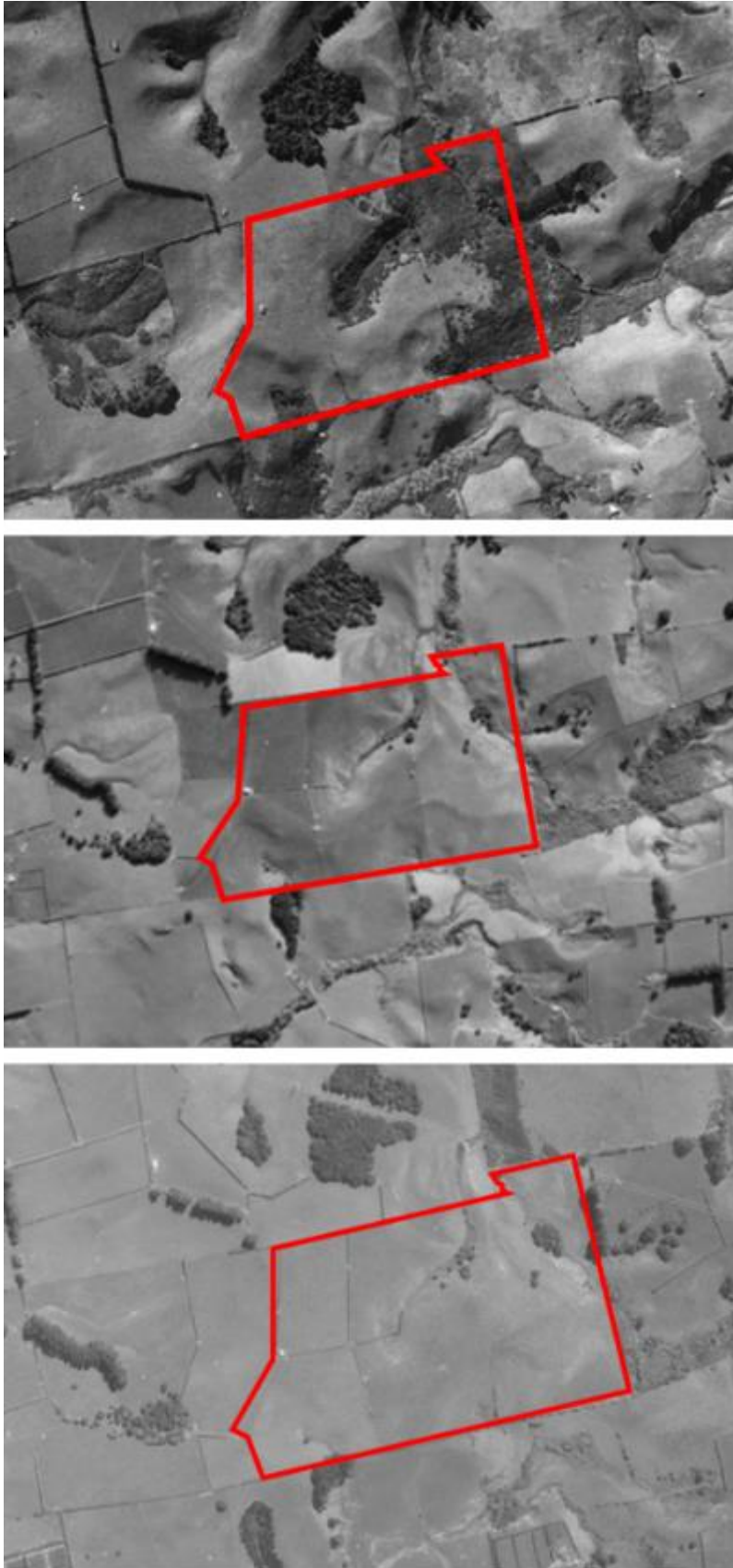


Figure 8. Aerial photographs showing the Plan Change Area in 1942 (upper- Crown 192 278 31), middle in 1963 (Crown 1397 3248 63) and lower in 1988 (Crown 8772 X 15) (sourced from: <http://retrolens.nz> and licensed by LINZ CC-BY 3.0)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

There are no recorded archaeological sites in the Plan Change Area or in close proximity and only three have been recorded in the general vicinity situated within c.1300-1500m from the Plan Change Area boundary (Figure 9). These are, firstly, R12/1178 (CHI:22332), a well that was originally constructed as part of a late 19th century house belonging to a local doctor, located c.1500m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area. The house has been demolished and the above ground elements of the well have been modernised, however, the below ground elements were left intact. The second site is located c.1300m to the east of the Plan Change Area. This is R12/741 (CHI:11387), the Pukekohe East Presbyterian Church which was constructed in 1863. The church was fortified with a stockade and ditch in 1863 during the New Zealand Wars and it was the scene of a battle on 14 September 1863. An addition to the church was constructed during the 1920s. There is also a graveyard that contains the graves of early European settlers and six Maori who died during the battle (NZAA Site Record). The third site R12/282 (CHI:7078) is an isolated find spot located c.1300m to the north of the Plan Change Area, where it was reported that an adze and a wooden paddle were found, although the artefacts have since been lost. A summary description of these and other recorded historic places is provided in TTable 1.

Other Historic Heritage Sites

There are no other historic heritage places within the boundaries of the Plan Change Area or in close proximity. A brief description of the places included in the Auckland Council CHI in the general vicinity of the Plan Change Area, within c.1000-1550m, is presented below to provide an overview of the historic heritage resources in the general area, including Pukekohe, with locations also shown in Figure 9 and summary description in Table 1.

The nearest place included in the Auckland Council CHI is the former Roose Residence – CHI:22224) which lies c.1000m to the northwest of the Plan Change Area. The house is an Edwardian villa that belonged to Leonard Roose, who was the son of Elijah Roose, an early settler in Pukekohe. There are also another five residential buildings included on the CHI. These are CHI:2793 and CHI:2794 (located c.1500m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area), CHI:2801 (located c.1550m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area), CHI:22221 (located c.1500m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area) and CHI:22335 (c.1500m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area). All of these buildings are believed to have been constructed between 1910 and 1920. There are also four pre-fabricated cottages constructed for railway workers in the 1920s situated c.1500m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area (CHI:22372, 22373, 22374 and 22375). Roosevelt Park (CHI:2815), located c.1300m to the southwest of the Plan Change Area, is a bush reserve created in the 1920s that was formerly part of the land owned by Elijah Roose. There is also a former WWII United States Military Camp site in the park (CHI:17027). A natural volcanic outcrop (Adam Rock) is also included as CHI:2813, which lies c.1200 to the west of the Plan Change Area.

The remaining historic heritage places are all located to the east of the Plan Change Area along Runciman Road in Pukekohe East. These consist of the Pukekohe East Church (CHI: 11387/ R12/741) which has been described in the previous section. Five memorial plaques located at the churchyard are also included (CHI:1806). The plaques note that the site was the first seat of local government in Franklin County; they also contain a memorial to the

early settlers and there is a plaque in the cemetery as a memorial to the Maori who were killed during the battle at the church/stockade in 1863. Two historic heritage places are also located to the north of the church, these are the Pukekohe East Primary School (CHI:14998) and plaques commemorating the founding of the school (CHI:14980). There are also two historic botanical sites near the school, an oak tree (CHI:19321) and a rimu tree (CHI:19343), both located along Runciman Road c.1300m to the east of the Plan Change Area. There are also four historic heritage places located to the south of the church at the junction of Runciman Road and Mill Road (c.1500m to the east of the Plan Change Area). These are the Pukekohe East Community Hall (CHI:19320) constructed in 1959 and tennis courts dating to the 1920s (CHI:22321). This area also contains the site of a former Boy Scouts Hall (CHI: 15875) and War Memorial and plaques commemorating soldiers who died in WWII (CHI:15848). Finally, there is a historic structure (CHI:22376) located c.1300m to the east of the Plan Change Area, a villa (the Former Sharp residence) that belonged to William and Helen Sharp who came to Pukekohe East in 1874. Mr Sharp was head teacher at Pukekohe East School from 1861 to 1891.

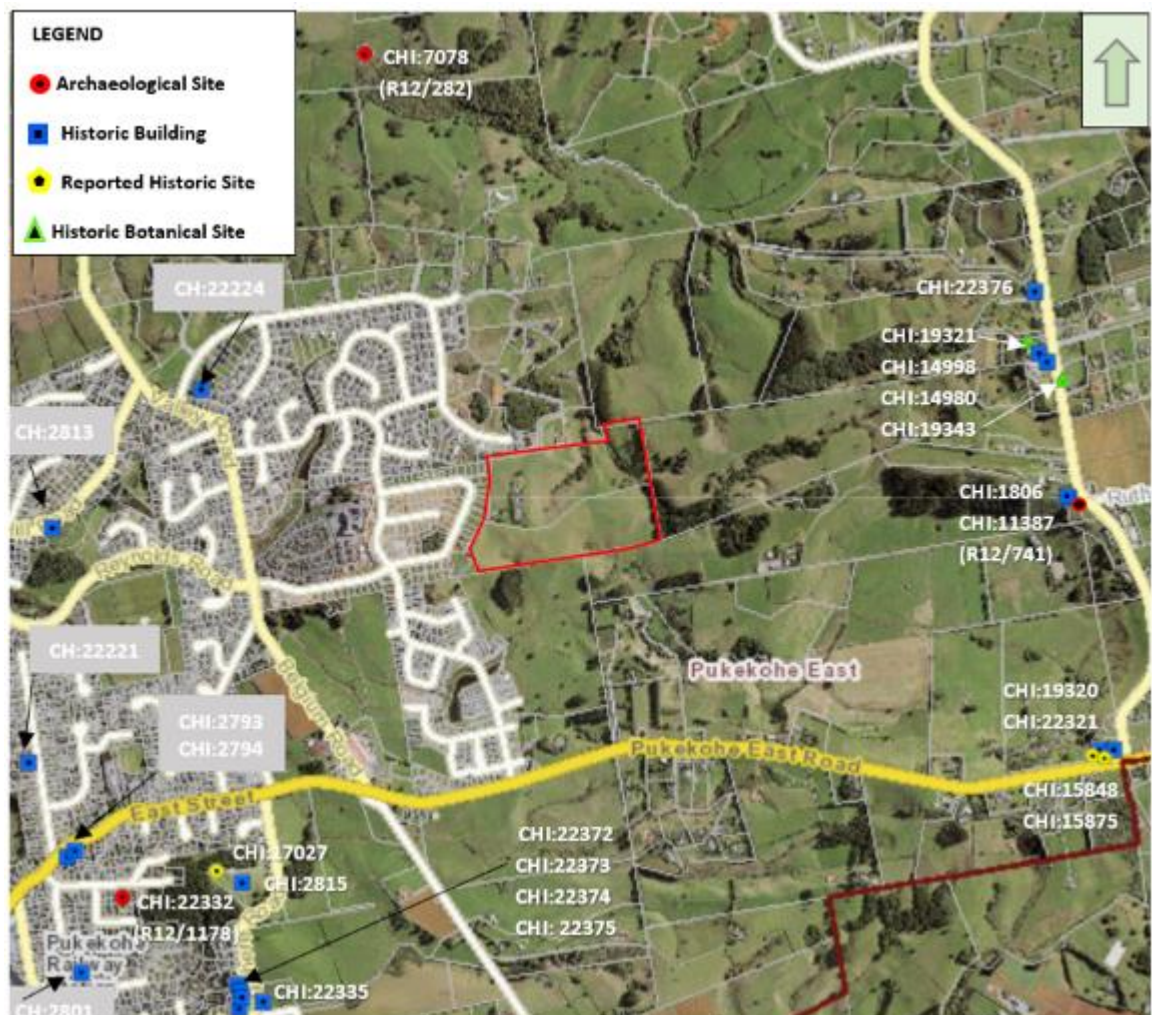


Figure 9. Map showing the archaeological sites and other historic heritage places in the general vicinity of the Plan Change Area (within c.1000-1500m), with the Plan Change Area outlined in red (source: Auckland Council Geomaps)

Table 1. Summary details of the archaeological and other historic heritage sites in the general vicinity of the Plan Change Area (within c.1000-1550m)

NZAA Ref	CHI Ref	AUP Ref	Site Type	Description	NZTM Easting	NZTM Northing
R12/282	7078	n/a	Archaeological Site	Find spot – adze and wooden paddle found near area of bush.	1770535	5883829
R12/741	11387	01502 Cat B	Historic Structure	Pukekohe East Presbyterian Church and Stockade. Site of New Zealand Wars battle	1772638	5882333
R12/1178	22332	n/a	Historic Domestic	Brick well dating to the late 19th century	1769791	5881213
n/a	1806	n/a	Historic Structure	Pukekohe East Presbyterian Church Memorial Plaques.	1772725	5882451
n/a	2793	01512 Cat B	Historic Structure	Villa built 1909	1769620	5881337
n/a	2794	01513 Cat B	Historic Structure	House probably built in the 1910s.	1769641	5881355
n/a	2801	01519 Cat B	Historic Structure	House probably dating to the 1920s.	1769662	5880978
n/a	2813	n/a	Historic Structure	Prominent volcanic outcrop - Adam Rock	1769574	5882359
n/a	2815	01557 Cat B	Historic Structure	Rooseville Park - Set aside as a reserve in the 1920s.	1770163	5881257
n/a	14980	n/a	Historic Structure	Monument and plaque at Pukekohe East School.	1772658	5882873
n/a	14998	n/a	Historic Structure	Pukekohe East Primary School	1772635	5882901
n/a	15848	n/a	Reported Historic Site	Plaques at Pukekohe East Community Hall	1772836	5881647
n/a	15875	n/a	Reported Historic Site	Location of Boy Scouts Hall built in 1959 - demolished.	1772801	5881656
n/a	17027	n/a	Reported Historic Site	WWII Military Camp at Rooseville Park.	1770084	5881297
n/a	19320	n/a	Historic Structure	Pukekohe East Community Centre – built in 1959	1772821	5881669
n/a	19321	n/a	Historic Botanical	Oak Tree - c.70 years old	1772603	5882939
n/a	19343	n/a	Historic Botanical	Rimu Tree - possibly from the 1920s.	1772709	5882824
n/a	22221	n/a	Historic Structure	Villa probably dating to c.1912	1769500	5881632
n/a	22224	n/a	Historic Structure	Former residence of Leonard Roose.	1770036	5882789
n/a	22321	n/a	Historic Structure	Tennis Court – originally built in 1920.	1772864	5881671
n/a	22335	n/a	Historic Structure	Villa constructed around 1912.	1770226	5880887

NZAA Ref	CHI Ref	AUP Ref	Site Type	Description	NZTM Easting	NZTM Northing
n/a	22372	n/a	Historic Structure	Railway Cottage at 8 Ngahere Road	1770150	5880942
n/a	22373	n/a	Historic Structure	Railway Cottage at 6 Ngahere Road	1770156	5880922
n/a	22374	n/a	Historic Structure	Railway Cottage at 4 Ngahere Road	1770161	5880901
n/a	22375	n/a	Historic Structure	Railway Cottage at 47 Birch Road	1770151	5880866
n/a	22376	n/a	Historic Structure	Villa -Former Sharp Residence	1772620	5883092

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Geology and Geomorphology

The Plan Change Area is located in the South Auckland Volcanic Field which was active between 1.6 and 0.5 million years ago. As can be seen on the map in Figure 10, the Plan Change Area is situated in one of the volcanic features, namely the Roosevelt Tuff Ring North, which has a diameter of c.1.2km. A tuff ring is created from an explosive volcanic eruption that occurs when rising magma comes into contact with groundwater or swampy ground. These explosive eruptions can have columns consisting of clouds of steam, magmatic gas, fragmented lava and pulverised rock rising to heights of several kilometres. The tuff ring itself is formed by the larger and heavier particles of volcanic ash and blocks/bombs that fall in the vicinity of the crater, building up a raised circle or ring around the edge of the crater (Hayward 2014: 10). Because of the age of the volcanic field, these volcanoes are only recognisable from the tuff rings. There is also a slightly smaller tuff ring located to the south and southwest of the Plan Change Area, the Roosevelt Tuff Ring South which has a diameter of 0.9km. The area containing the Roosevelt Tuff Ring North has mostly been developed into suburban subdivisions. The low-lying craters of both the North and South tuff rings drain via a stream that has breached the northern crater to the northeast of the Plan Change Area.

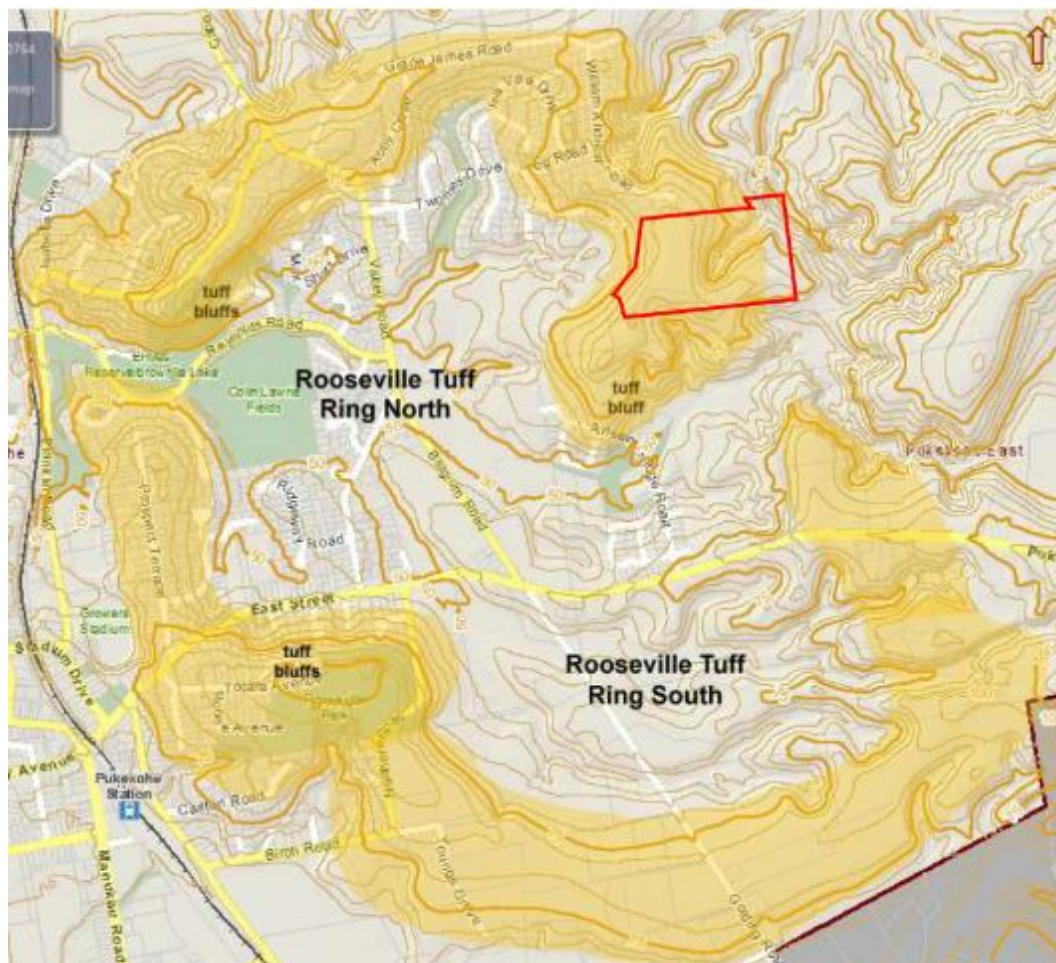


Figure 10. Map showing the locations of the Roosevelt Tuff Rings North and South with the Plan Change Area outlined in red (source: Hayward 2014 in Pukekohe Heritage Survey – Final)

Topography, Vegetation and Land use

As can be seen in the aerial photograph in Figure 11 the Plan Change Area is situated in hilly terrain with a north-trending ridge in the northwest corner and a generally east/northeast ridge located in the central part. A modern house and landscaped grounds are located on the ridge in the northwest corner. There is one permanent stream in the Plan Change Area, located in the northeast corner, and three overland flow paths, one to the west of the stream and two just entering into the southern part of the Plan Change Area. Both the stream and the overland flow paths are located at the bottom of steep slopes and, as can also be seen in the aerial photograph in Figure 11, with the land bordering the stream and northern flow path containing thick vegetation. The remainder of the Plan Change Area (apart from the house and grounds) consists of grass-covered pastures.



Figure 11. Aerial photograph with contours showing the permanent stream (turquoise line) in the northeast corner of the Plan Change Area (which is outlined in red) with overland flow paths indicated by blue lines (source: Auckland Council Geomaps)

FIELD ASSESSMENT

Field Survey Results

A field survey was undertaken by Ellen Cameron on 26 October 2021. The survey consisted of a site walkover and visual inspection with probing along the ridge line and one spade test (c.25cm x 25cm) which was also located on a ridgeline, to observe the stratigraphy. It was also noted that there were numerous examples of areas of exposed soil from rabbit activity and stock movements. The exposed soils were also inspected to identify any evidence of archaeological remains, however, no archaeological features or deposits were detected during the survey.

The southern property (Lot 2 DP 143272) in the Plan Change Area was visited first. It is rectangular shaped with the northern section situated on high ground with steep slopes running down to the south and southeast (Figure 12). A test pit was located on the ridge near the western edge of the property at coordinates E1770878 N5882308 +/-1m (location shown in Figure 12). The test pit showed a grass turf with light yellowish brown slightly clayey silt from 0-8cm below surface (bs) over a yellowish orange clayey silt becoming more clayey with depth from 8-26cm (bs) with a yellow orange silty clay encountered at 26cm (bs), where the test pit was stopped. The test pit did not contain any inclusions and did not show any signs of previous disturbance. Areas of soil erosion were noted along the upper edges of the gullies leading down to the two southern overland flow paths, with an example at the southwestern side also shown in Figure 12. The ridge was walked over and no depressions were noted, nor did probing indicate any irregularities in the subsurface soils. The steep slopes leading down from the high ground showed signs of slumping from stock movements. The two overland flow paths at the southern edge of the Plan Change Area were both located at the bottom of deep gullies and contained trees and shrubby vegetation. General photographs taken during the survey are shown in Figure 13 and Figure 14.

The northern property (Lot 1 DP 143272) was visited next. The northern ridge containing the modern house (Figure 12,) was not included in the survey as it had been at least partially modified from construction works associated with the house and grounds. The majority of the surveyed area was observed to contain steep slopes, apart from a small protrusion of the north-easterly trending ridge in the south central part of this property. Areas of eroded soil and slumping from stock movements were also observed across this property along the steep hillsides with an example shown in Figure 12. It was also noted that cattle were present in the paddocks in the eastern part. The gully bottoms containing both the stream and overland flow path were noted to be heavily vegetated and observation of the soil profiles along the banks and probing were not possible due to the thick surface and root coverage. Photographs taken during the survey are shown in Figure 15, Figure 16 and Figure 17.

No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the survey.



Figure 12. Aerial plan showing the location of test pit and exposed soil in Lot 2 DP 143272 with upper left inset showing the detail of the test pit and upper right and lower insets showing the detail of areas of exposed soil (looking northwest)



Figure 13. Photograph taken from the western edge of Lot 2 DP 143272 looking westwards across the ridge and hillsides



Figure 14. Photograph showing a general view of the ridge in the northern part of Lot 2 DP 143272, looking east



Figure 15. Photograph showing the modern house and grounds with steep hillside leading down to the northern overland flow path with soil erosion and slumping visible, looking northwest



Figure 16. Photograph showing the thickly vegetated gully containing the northern overland flow path with soil erosion and slumping visible on the hillside, looking northwest



Figure 17. Photograph showing the stream in the north-eastern part of Lot 1 DP 143272 with heavily vegetated margins (note the edge of the pine plantation visible on the left hand side marks the boundary of the Plan Change Area, looking northeast

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Summary of Results

No archaeological sites have previously been recorded in the Plan Change Area and none were identified during the survey for this assessment. Recorded archaeological sites associated with Maori settlement and occupation in the general area (apart from isolated find spots) are usually located near navigable waterways or along the coast. Historical research has shown that the land containing the Plan Change Area was granted to European settlers from the mid-1850s and has some potential to contain archaeological remains associated with early European settlement. However, no evidence was found during the research for this assessment that the Plan Change Area has ever contained a residence prior to the modern house that currently exists and apart from this the land has only been used for general agricultural purposes over the years.

Maori Cultural Values

This is an assessment of archaeological values and does not include an assessment of effects on Maori cultural values. Such assessments should only be made by the tangata whenua. Maori cultural concerns may encompass a wider range of values than those associated with archaeological sites.

Survey Limitations

It should be noted that archaeological survey techniques (based on visual inspection and minor sub-surface testing) cannot necessarily identify all sub-surface archaeological features, or detect wahi tapu and other sites of traditional significance to Maori, especially where these have no physical remains.

Archaeological Value and Significance

The archaeological value of sites relates mainly to their information potential, that is, the extent to which they can provide evidence relating to local, regional and national history using archaeological investigation techniques, and the research questions to which the site could contribute. The surviving extent, complexity and condition of sites are the main factors in their ability to provide information through archaeological investigation. For example, generally pa are more complex sites and have higher information potential than small midden (unless of early date). Archaeological value also includes contextual (heritage landscape) value. Archaeological sites may also have other historic heritage values including historical, architectural, technological, cultural, aesthetic, scientific, social, spiritual, traditional and amenity values.

The proposed Plan Change Area has no known archaeological value or significance as no archaeological sites were identified on the property and the potential for unrecorded subsurface archaeological remains is considered to be low.

Effects of the Plan Change Proposal

Future development resulting from the proposed Plan Change will have no known effects on archaeological values as no archaeological sites have been recorded within the boundaries of the Plan Change Area and none were identified during the survey for this assessment. The background research has indicated that the land in the Plan Change Area was bush prior to the arrival of European settlers and is unlikely to contain archaeological sites associated with Maori occupation. It is noted that land was granted to early European settlers in the mid-19th century; however, there is no indication that the Plan Change Area was used for anything other than general agricultural purposes during the 19th century or that it contained a historic homestead.

Resource Management Act 1991 Requirements

Section 6 of the RMA recognises as matters of national importance: ‘the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga’ (S6(e)); and ‘the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development’ (S6(f)).

All persons exercising functions and powers under the RMA are required under Section 6 to recognise and provide for these matters of national importance when ‘managing the use, development and protection of natural and physical resources’. There is a duty to avoid, remedy, or mitigate any adverse effects on the environment arising from an activity (S17), including historic heritage.

Historic heritage is defined (S2) as ‘those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand’s history and cultures, deriving from any of the following qualities: (i) archaeological; (ii) architectural; (iii) cultural; (iv) historic; (v) scientific; (vi) technological’. Historic heritage includes: ‘(i) historic sites, structures, places, and areas; (ii) archaeological sites; (iii) sites of significance to Maori, including wahi tapu; (iv) surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources’.

Regional, district and local plans contain sections that help to identify, protect and manage archaeological and other heritage sites. The plans are prepared under the provisions of the RMA. The Auckland Unitary Plan Operative in Part 2016 (AUP OP) is relevant to the proposed activity.

There are no scheduled historic heritage sites located within proposed Plan Change Area. This assessment has established that future development resulting from the proposed Plan Change would have no effect on any known archaeological remains and has little potential to affect unidentified subsurface remains.

However, if suspected archaeological remains are exposed during future development works, these would be provided for under the Accidental Discovery Rule (E12.6.1) set out in the AUP OP. Under the Accidental Discovery Rule works must cease within 20m of the discovery and the Council, Heritage NZ, Mana Whenua and (in the case of human remains) NZ Police must be informed. The Rule would no longer apply in respect to archaeological sites if an Authority from Heritage NZ was in place.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 Requirements

In addition to any requirements under the RMA, the HNZPTA protects all archaeological sites whether recorded or not, and they may not be damaged or destroyed unless an Authority to modify an archaeological site has been issued by Heritage NZ (Section 42).

‘Section 42 Archaeological sites not to be modified or destroyed

(1) Unless an authority is granted under section 48, 56(1)(b), or 62 in respect of an archaeological site, no person may modify or destroy, or cause to be modified or destroyed, the whole or any part of that site if that person knows, or ought reasonably to have suspected, that the site is an archaeological site.

(2) Subsection (1) applies whether or not an archaeological site is a recorded archaeological site or is entered on— (a) the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero under subpart 1 of Part 4; or (b) the Landmarks list made under subpart 2 of Part 4.

(3) Despite subsection (1), an authority is not required to permit work on a building that is an archaeological site unless the work will result in the demolition of the whole of the building.’

An archaeological site is defined by the HNZPTA Section 6 as follows:

‘archaeological site means, subject to section 42(3)¹, –

(a) any place in New Zealand, including any building or structure (or part of a building or structure) that –

(i) was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 or is the site of the wreck of any vessel where the wreck occurred before 1900; and

(ii) provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand; and

(b) includes a site for which a declaration is made under section 43(1)²,

Authorities to modify archaeological sites can be applied for either in respect to archaeological sites within a specified area of land (Section 44(a)), or to modify a specific archaeological site where the effects will be no more than minor (Section 44(b)), or for the purpose of conducting a scientific investigation (Section 44(c)). Applications that relate to sites of Maori interest require consultation with (and in the case of scientific investigations the consent of) the appropriate iwi or hapu and are subject to the recommendations of the Maori Heritage Council of Heritage NZ. In addition, an application may be made to carry out an exploratory investigation of any site or locality under Section 56, to confirm the presence, extent and nature of a site or suspected site.

¹ Under Section 42(3) an Authority is not required to permit work on a pre-1900 building unless the building is to be demolished.

² Under Section 43(1) a place post-dating 1900 (including the site of a wreck that occurred after 1900) that could provide ‘significant evidence relating to the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand’ can be declared by Heritage NZ to be an archaeological site.

An archaeological authority will not be required for future development resulting from the proposed Plan Change as no known sites will be affected, and it is unlikely that any undetected sites are present. However, should any sites be exposed during development the provisions of the HNZPTA must be complied with.

Conclusions

No archaeological sites have previously been recorded in the Plan Change Area, or in close proximity to it, and no unrecorded archaeological sites were identified during the survey for this assessment. It is considered unlikely that any unidentified archaeological sites associated with Maori settlement will be present based on the inland location and lack of navigable waterways in the Plan Change Area. It is also noted that the Plan Change Area was covered in dense bush prior to European settlement, making it unattractive for Maori settlement. It is noted that land was granted to early European settlers in the mid-19th century; however, there is no indication that the Plan Change Area was used for anything other than general agricultural purposes during the 19th century.

If any unrecorded archaeological sites are exposed during future development activities resulting from the proposed Plan Change, the effects are considered likely to be minor and can be appropriately managed under the AUP OP Accidental Discovery Rule (E12.6.1) and mitigated under the archaeological provisions of the HNZPTA.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Based on this assessment there should be no constraints on the proposed Plan Change on archaeological grounds, as the Plan Change Area does not contain any known archaeological sites and it is considered unlikely that any undetected archaeological sites are present.
- No conditions relating to archaeological protection are recommended as the very limited potential for undetected archaeological sites within the Plan Change Area is already provided for under the Accidental Discovery Rule (section E.12.6.1 of the AUP OP).
- If archaeological remains should be exposed during future development resulting from the Plan Change, any adverse effects can be mitigated under the archaeological provisions of the HNZPTA.
- Since archaeological survey cannot always detect sites of traditional significance to Maori, such as wahi tapu, the tangata whenua should be consulted regarding the possible existence of such sites within the proposed Plan Change Area.

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