

# PROPOSED SERVICE CENTRE – 47 MILLBROOK ROAD, WAIPU: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared for Vaco Investments (Waipu Project) Ltd



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By

Leah Harding (BSc Hons)

Doug Gaylard (MA Hons)

Glen Farley (MA Hons)

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**Clough**  
& ASSOCIATES LTD

321 Forest Hill Rd,  
Waiatarua, Auckland 0612  
Telephone: (09) 8141946  
Mobile 0274 850 059  
[www.clough.co.nz](http://www.clough.co.nz)

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## INTRODUCTION

### Project Background

Vaco Investments (Waipu Project) Ltd proposes to develop a new travellers' service centre within an existing rural block on the corner of Millbrook Road and State Highway 2, Waipu, Whangārei District (see Figure 1 and Figure 2). The proposed service centre comprises: a full service station and truck stop, food and beverage facilities, a supermarket, automotive assistance shop, public amenities and car parking. The legal description of the property is Lot 1 DP 44163 and it covers 31.8184 hectares. The service centre would occupy approximately 5.9175ha (18.6%) of the property, with the remaining 81.4% consisting mainly of farmland, with an existing residential home and landscaped areas.

The development of the service centre will require significant earthworks (see Figure 3–Figure 4). The works include:

- An overall topsoil strip of the project area in which the service centre will be located.
- A cut to excavate space for the underground fuel storage tanks, including some 4,119m<sup>2</sup> of stormwater ponds and swales.
- Development of wastewater infrastructure with septic tanks and driplines discharging treated wastewater into 5,490m<sup>2</sup> of grassland.

An archaeological assessment was commissioned by Keren McDonnell of Mount Hobson Group on behalf of Vaco Investments (Waipu Project) Ltd to establish whether the proposed development is likely to impact on archaeological values. This report has been prepared as part of the required assessment of effects accompanying a resource consent 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.

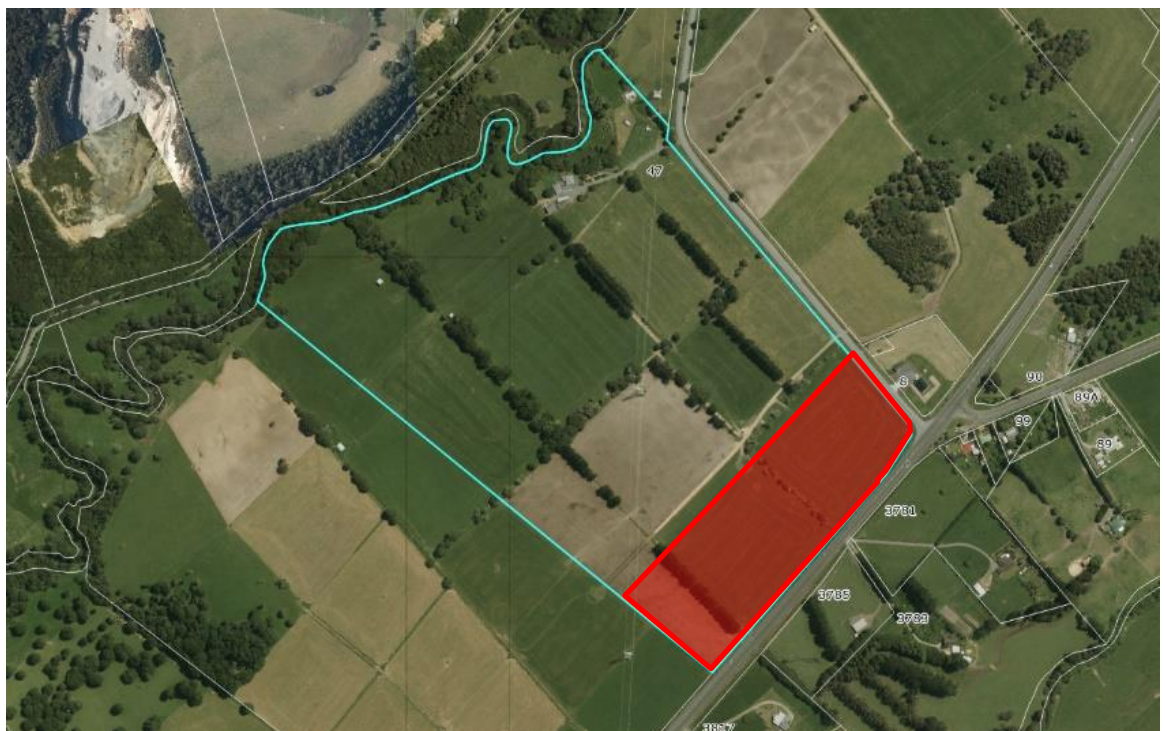
### Methodology

The New Zealand Archaeological Association's (NZAA site record database (Archsite), District Plan schedules and the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage NZ) New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero were searched for information on sites recorded in the vicinity. Literature and archaeological reports relevant to the area were consulted (see Bibliography). Early survey plans and aerial photographs were checked for information on past use of the property.

A visual inspection of the proposed development area was conducted on 14 April 2022. 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 relating to Māori settlement, 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 across the proposed development area to determine whether buried archaeological deposits could be identified, examine subsurface stratigraphy or establish the nature of possible archaeological features. A previously recorded site on the property was identified and photographs were taken to record the project area and features of interest.

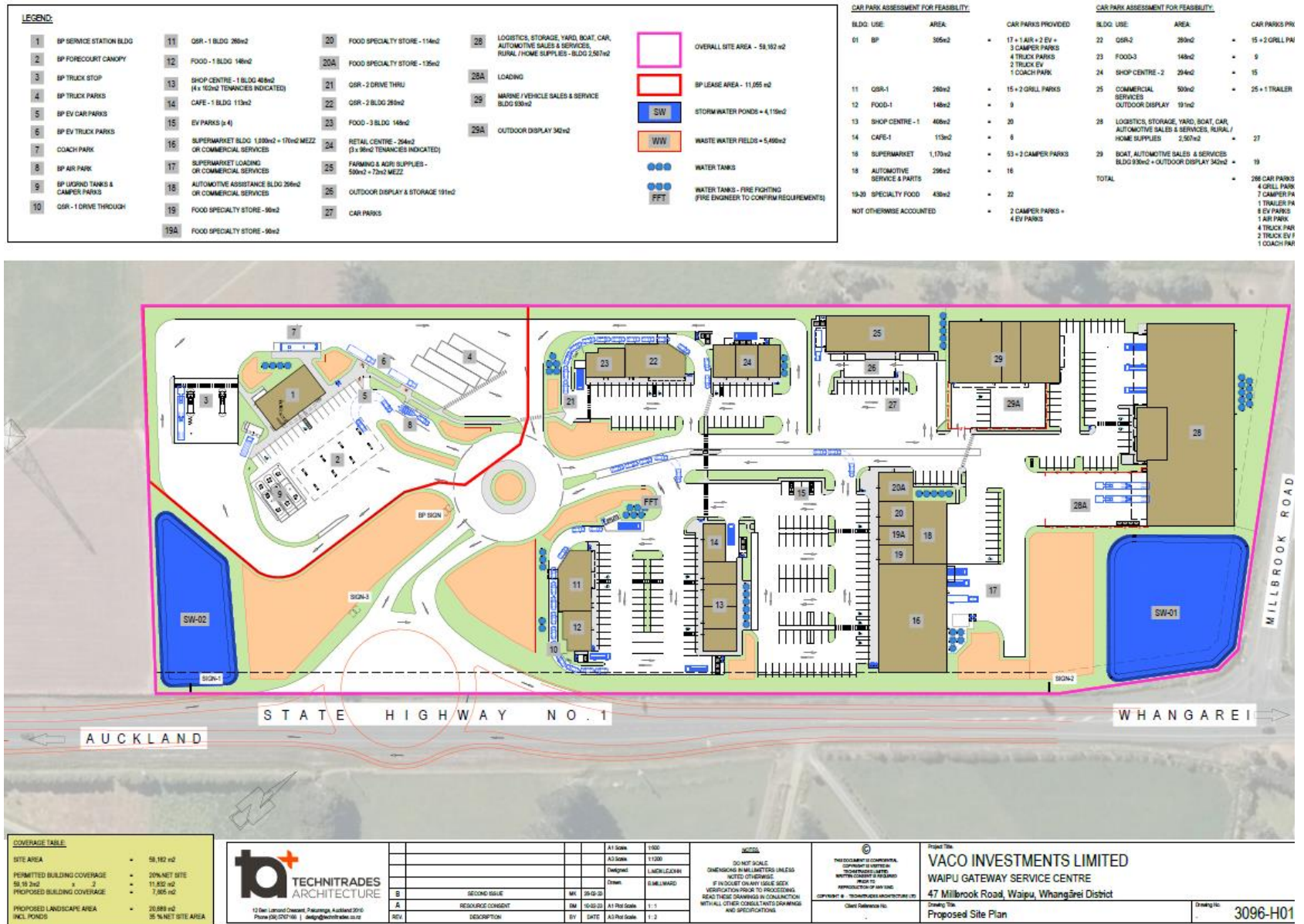


**Figure 1. Aerial map showing the general location of 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu, Whangārei District (source: Google Maps 2022)**

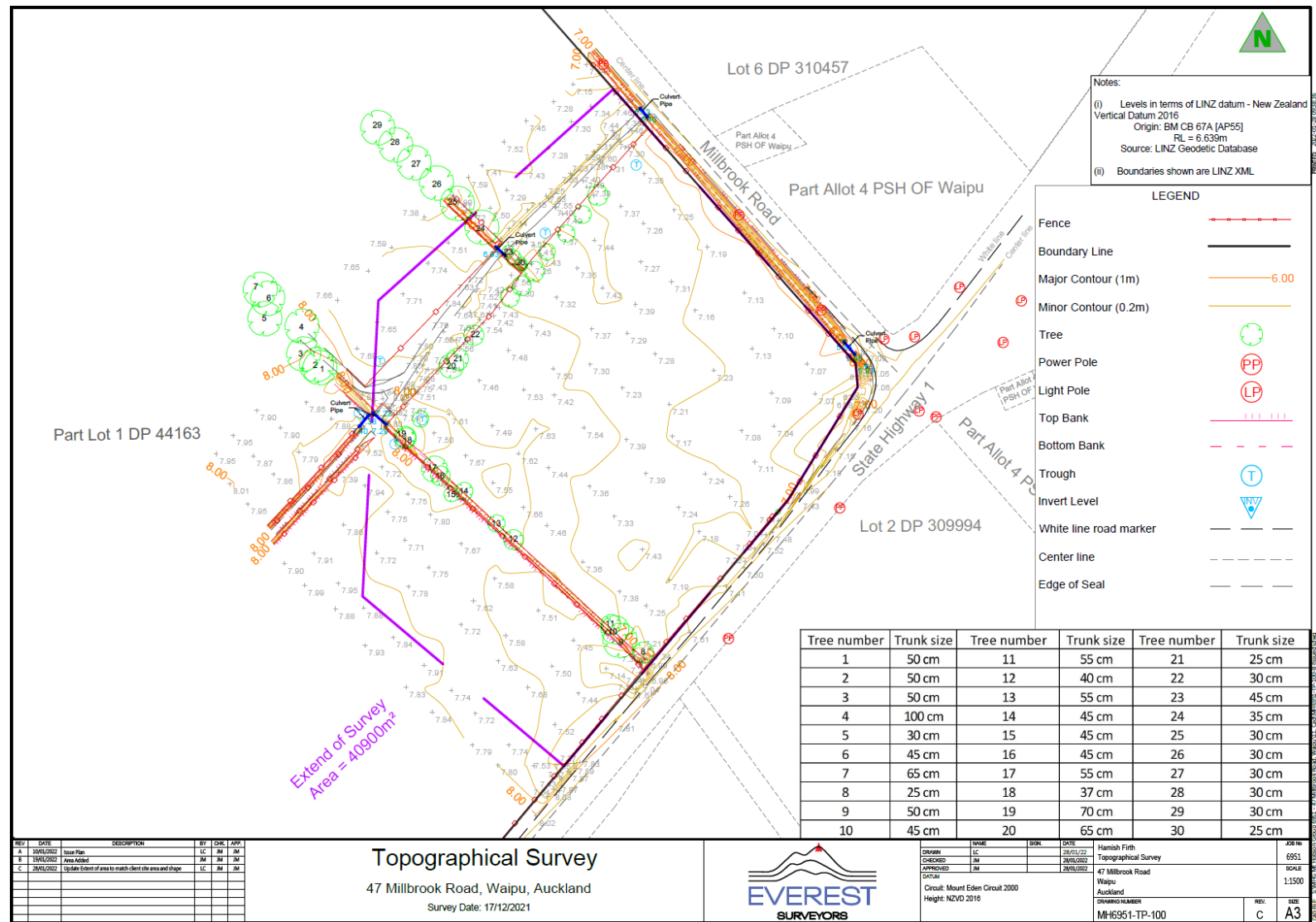


**Figure 2. Aerial map showing a close-up of 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu (outlined blue) with proposed service centre development area (highlighted red) (source: Google Maps 2022)**

Figure 3. Overall plan of service centre 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu with stormwater, swales, and wastewater (source: Technitrade S Architecture )



**Figure 4.**  
Topographical survey of the proposed service centre project area at 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu showing existing trees and land contour (source: Everest Surveyors)



## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND<sup>1</sup>

### Māori Settlement

Situated within the environs of Bream Bay, and to the south of the Whangārei Heads, the area of Waipu (meaning ‘reddish water’) was occupied by Māori for generations before the arrival of Europeans, evidence of which survives in the form of recorded place names, oral traditions, and archaeological sites (Reed 2016: 135). The bay provided not only abundant marine resources but also access to some significant communication and portage routes such as the Waipu, Ahuroa, Pohuenui and Waihoihoi Rivers, along with tributaries including the Waionehu Stream (Haysmith, Langsford and McKenzie 2002: 16). Coastal and estuarine areas were rich in bird life, as were the extensive tracts of native forest in and around Waipu. Rivers and estuaries provided stocks of eels, fresh water prawns, pipi, tuatua and cockles (ibid.: 17). Early Māori settlements were predominantly established near shorelines and major rivers and were occupied either long-term, seasonally, or temporarily, according to the availability of food resources.

Several different iwi and hapu groups claim affiliation with the land around Bream Bay including Te Parawhau, Ngāti Wai, and Patuharakeke, whose tribal territories commonly changed in response to warfare, migration, or intermarriage. The many tribes of the wider Whangārei area are said to have descended from a number of ancestral canoes which landed along the coast, including – the *Māhuhu-ki-te-rangi*, captained by Manaia which landed at Motu Kokako (although a differing account notes that Manaia captained the *Ruakaramea* which arrived at Whangārei), the *Tūnui-ā-rangi* and *Te Arawa* which landed at Whangārei, the *Te Wakatūwhenua* which landed in a bay to the north of Cape Rodney, and the *Moekakara*, captained by Tahuhunui-o-te-rangi, which landed at Cape Rodney and at Te Kawau Island (Taonui 2006: 268).

Around 1500AD Māori began to construct defensive settlements known as pā, which were sited on strategic areas such as headlands and volcanic cones, including several locations around the perimeter of the Whangārei Heads. The area of Waipu was protected by a number of natural defensive features and Haysmith, Langsford and McKenzie (2002: 21) note:

‘The Waipu area lay at the cusp between tribes that formed various confederations around the Ngāpuhi base in Kaikohe, Ngāti Pāoa in the Hauraki Gulf and Ngāti Whātua on the isthmus between the Waitemata and the Manukau harbours and around the Kaipara harbour. In the south the rugged country between Bream Tail and the Mangawhai estuary and the swamps that lie around the estuary formed a natural boundary. So too did the escarpment of ridges and peaks and the heavy bush on the Waipu, Taipuha and Pohuenui Fault Blocks. The Whangārei harbour and estuary and the Hātea and Whau Rivers created a natural northern boundary.’

The natural borders allowed the tribes of Bream Bay to remain somewhat isolated from their neighbours and this provided some protection as the area offered few suitable locations for pā building (ibid.). A pā (Q08/133) is known to have been constructed along the western side of the Waipu River, and later European records state that early settlers

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Clough et al. 2018.

encountered the remnants of more than 20 defensive sites in the Bream Bay area, although all had been destroyed or deserted (ibid.).

By the 18th century vast areas of the Tāmaki isthmus, Kaipara, Whangārei and Hokianga had come under the control of the Ngāti Whātua confederation, who established settlements across the region (Taonui 2006: 197; Haysmith et al. 2002: 22). Intertribal warfare continued from the early 19th century; however, the musket raids of 1820s, led by Ngāpuhi from the north, proved the most destructive. Defending Ngāti Whātua warriors, armed only with traditional hand combat weapons such as mere and taiaha, were swiftly defeated. Some Bream Bay tribes allied themselves with Ngāpuhi, although suffered retribution and retaliatory attacks as a result. The missionary Henry Williams later wrote: ‘The people of Bream Bay (Whangārei), who were Hongi’s allies, felt insecure in their position, which was a sort of borderland between the hostile tribes; and through fear of the Thames natives they came to live at the Bay of Islands.’ (Haysmith et al. 2002: 24). Most inhabitants of the Bream Bay area fled the series of invasions during the 1820s, leaving the region virtually deserted for several years (Stone 2001: 104-107).

## European Purchase

In December 1839 William Colenso counted just 250 inhabitants of Bream Bay. The residents of the area had gathered to negotiate the terms of sale for a block of land at Waipu to James Busby, the British Resident in New Zealand. The boundaries of the land encompassed 1500 acres; however, Busby’s claim of ownership was later disallowed by the Land Claims Commission (Haysmith et al. 2002: 25; Turton 1882: 285-286).

Further attempts to purchase land around Bream Bay were initiated by the Crown in the early 1850s, which appointed John Grant Johnson as the principal negotiator and interpreter (Haysmith et al. 2002: 25). Negotiations were completed in early 1854 with payment for the deed to the Waipu No. 1 Block (No. 97) paid out in three instalments, on 20 February, 2 March, and 8 March 1854 (Turton 1877: 132-133; Waitangi Tribunal 2006: 118). The Waipu deed did not include reserves or a statement of area; however, the boundaries were described with the following:

‘Commencing at Te Urititi thence to Poherangi, Pukehinau, Pohuenui, Pukekaramarama, thence, to Te Raka, to Puketotara, Rotomoeho thence along the ridge to the source of Taotaonoa, the source of Te Haronga, the source of Waionepu thence to Taumatatuhi, at the source of Kaupare it joins Arama Karaka’s boundary to Te Kohiraunui thence along the ridge to Te Kapewhiti, Te Uriowhetau, Wakatarariki then it joins again Te Urititi.’ (Turton 1877: 132).

The deed was endorsed by 23 signatories who were paid £350 for the land (ibid.; Waitangi Tribunal 2006: 118). An additional payment of £10 was later paid to one signatory on 26 May 1854 in a second Waipu deed (No. 99) (ibid.; Turton 1877: 136). A final Crown payment of £200 was offered in response to the claims of Tirarau and Parore in a deed covering Mangawhai and Waipu, dated 17 July 1854 (Turton 1877: 139). The deed noted ‘the true consent of us the chiefs of Ngatiporo, te Patukai and Ngatitu whose names are attached to this document signed on behalf of ourselves, our children our descendants...’ and signatories included Te Tirarau, Hori Kingi Tahua, Te Manihera, along with four others (ibid.). Johnson also signed the document and in a subsequent report to the Chief Commissioner, dated 2 August 1854, he described it as ‘the deed of final extinction of the claims of the chiefs and their followers’, who appear to be Ngāpuhi and include Te



Parawhau (Tirarau and his brother Taurau) and Te Tatoa (Parore) (Waitangi Tribunal 2006: 120).

## The Nova Scotian Settlement

The Crown purchase of the Waipu Block was driven by the need to acquire land for the establishment of ‘special settlements’ in and around the Whangārei and Kaipara area (ibid.: 39). Around 1852 or 1853 the Reverend Norman McLeod, who led a group of Scottish immigrants, had written to Sir George Grey about the suitability of land for settlement and was encouraged to bring his people to New Zealand (*The New Zealand Railways Magazine* 1940: 30). Those travelling with McLeod comprised a group of dispossessed Scots, landless due to the enclosure process carried out in the Western Highlands from 1746 after the Battle of Culloden (Haysmith et al. 2002: 33). McLeod was a charismatic Presbyterian preacher described as ‘an inspiration, a nineteenth century prophet with a message of hope’, who organised the immigration of some 400 Highlanders to a new settlement in Nova Scotia in 1817 (ibid.). Further settlements were later established on Cape Breton Island before an economic depression across Canada forced McLeod’s group to seek new territory in Australia. In 1851 the barque *Margaret* set sail for Adelaide with 140 passengers, followed by the *Highland Lass* in 1852 (ibid.: 37). Despite extensive searching across South Australia and Victoria, a suitable site could not be found and in September 1853 the first members of the Nova Scotian group arrived in Auckland (Waipu Museum). Leaders of the group corresponded with the government for the acquisition of land and on 7 November 1853 Andrew Sinclair, the Colonial Secretary, wrote to John Johnson asking him to ‘immediately proceed to Whangārei to negotiate purchase of as extensive a block of land as possible, including a location fit for the Highlanders, recently arrived in the Colony’ (Waitangi Tribunal 2006: 116). ‘A party of the Highlanders’ were subsequently noted to have explored the district and selected the land at Waipu as an appropriate site for settlement and following the conclusion of land negotiations an advance group of Nova Scotians, including Norman McLeod, arrived at Waipu in September 1854 (ibid: 39).

Early Scottish settlers in Waipu faced a landscape of scrub and regenerating bush with ‘a mixture of planted and cultivated areas [and] other fallow areas of scrub with regenerating ferns, kanuka and manuka and stands of dense bush in the low-lying areas and on river banks.’ (Haysmith et al. 2002: 27). In March 1857 the Chief Commissioner wrote to Colonel T. Gore Browne, Colonial Governor, with the following description of the Nova Scotian settlement:

‘At Waipu, about twelve miles from the south head of Whangarei, a party of emigrants from Cape Breton, North America, have formed a settlement, and in the short space of twelve or fifteen months have converted the primitive wastes and forests into comfortable homes and farmsteads. Without any other aid than that of the axe and the hoe they have cleared and brought under cultivation much more than sufficient land to raise crops for their own subsistence, and from their hardihood and previous skill in contending with the heavy forests and capricious climate of North America there is every reason to expect that, in a country like New Zealand, which they regard as a comparative paradise, by a continuance of their present industry and perseverance, they will contribute greatly to the material advancement of the province.’ (Turton 1883: 56-57).

The early Waipu community focussed on the clearance and cultivation of the land with good crops of wheat produced in the 1850s and a gristmill erected in 1859 (Haysmith et al.

2002: 38). Agriculture, based around the beef trade, rapidly became the commercial staple of the district. Beef cattle, first introduced in 1854-55 (McKenzie 1935: 305), were so successful that by 1868 1000 head of cattle were sent to the Auckland markets annually (ibid.: 122; Clough and Prince 2002). Kauri gum was plentiful around Waipu and was dug over large areas of land too poor to be cultivated, including the inland hills and swamps, throughout the 19th century (McKenzie 1935: 172-175; Clough and Prince 2002).

Dairying also figured large at Waipu, and in 1899 a co-operative dairy company was formed. In 1900 work began on the construction of a factory (Campbell nd: 20). The milk and butter production was valuable income for the district right up until the factory burnt down on 30 April 1941; the fire thought to have been caused by a defect in the power systems (Campbell nd: 24).

## **Allotment 5, Parish of Waipu**

The project area (Lot 1 DP 44163) of 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu, originally formed part of Allotment 5, Parish of Waipu (see Figure 5). A Crown Grant for the allotment was issued to a Mr Duncan McKay on 5 April 1856 (Crown Grant 13 1G/111). A conveyance on 21 July 1857 is recorded in the Crown Grant books (Crown Grant 13 1G/102), presumably from Mr Duncan McKay to a Mr Donald McKay (farmer), who later transferred the northern part of Allotment 5, bounded to the southwest by Allotment 8, to a Mr Roderick McKay (accountant) on 3 November 1866 for the sum of £200 covering 210 acres more or less situated in the Parish of Waipu, in the County of Marsden (Deed Register B3/146) (see Figure 6). Mr Roderick McKay then leased all of Part Allotment 5 to a Mr Charley Lewis (store keeper) on 22 August 1873 (Deeds Register B4/387). After Roderick McKay's death the property passed to Mr Donald Hugh McKenzie (ship chandler) and Mr Benjamin Gilmer (accountant), who on 28 December 1875, conveyed all of Part Allotment 5 to Mr Daniel McKay (Deeds Register B5/223). On 18 January 1879, Mr Daniel McKay conveyed all of Part Allotment 5 to Mr Roderick McGregor (Blacksmith) for the sum of £350 (Deeds Register B6/640), who built a house and a blacksmith's shop on the property (see below). Records suggest that Roderick McGregor leased parts of Part Allotment 5 to various other individuals from 1879 to 1884 (Deeds Index 3B/545).

Figure 7 shows Part Allotment 5 in the 1930s. It was subsequently subdivided into two, with Lot 1 DP 44163 in the northern area comprising just over half of property (see the 1963 aerial photograph in Figure 8).

## **The McGregor Blacksmiths of Waipu<sup>2</sup>**

Roderick McGregor arrived in Auckland from Nova Scotia on 11 May 1860 as part of the crew on the *Ellen Lewis* from Nova Scotia. Jean/Jane Kempt, who was also a passenger, shortly became Roderick McGregor's wife. They later had two children, Gregor Kempt McGregor, and Anne McGregor. It is thought that the family did not settle in Waipu until around 1870. It is possible, through looking at past censuses, that Roderick McGregor was one of the first Blacksmiths to operate in Waipu.

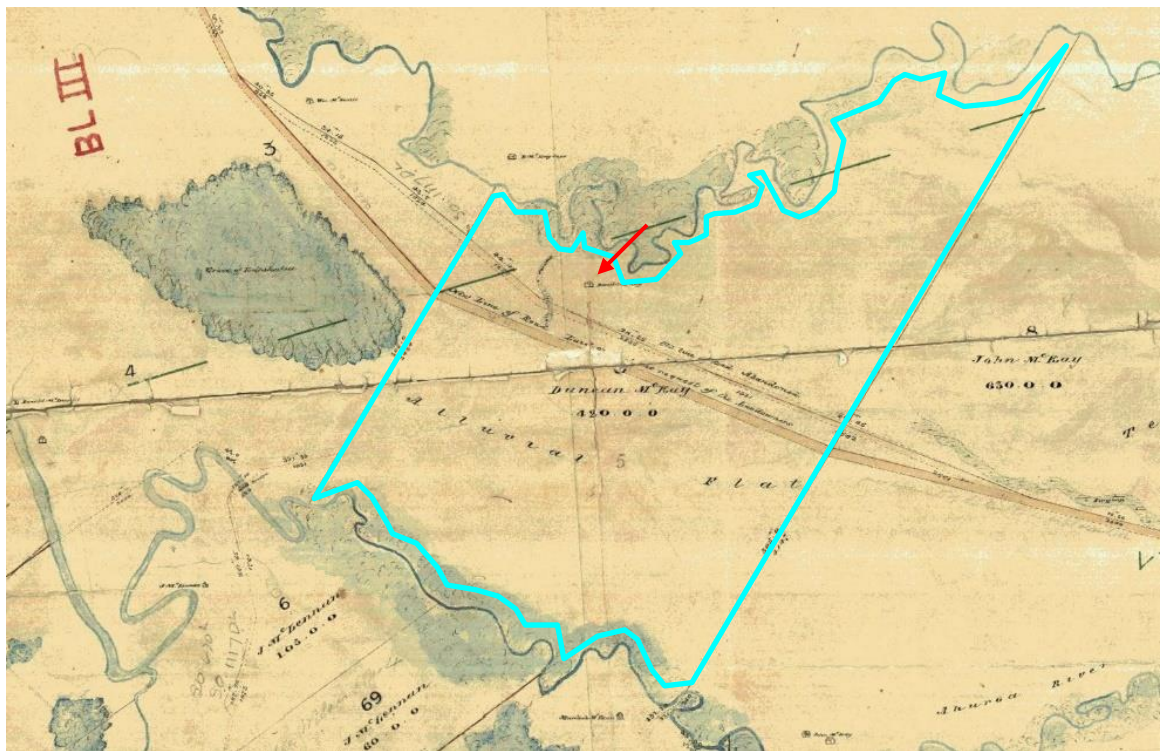
Roderick McGregor is recorded as having died on 27 August 1919 (*Northern Advocate* 1919); however, contradicting obituaries and his tombstones do not agree regarding his age at death. He was recorded as having been 79 and also 92. His son Gregor Kempt McGregor

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<sup>2</sup> Adapted from Best et al. 2003.

then took over the family business, having been registered as both a blacksmith and coach builder. Gregor is recorded as having died on 6 March 1943, his obituary states that he was 76 years old and had ended up selling out of his father's blacksmithing business to devote the remainder of his life to farming (*Auckland Star*, 11 March 1943).

Roderick McGregor also had an apprentice blacksmith named John Alexander McKay, he was born on 29 April 1877 and started working as a blacksmith apprentice around 1890, which would have made him a teenager around the time. Around 1896, it is recorded that McKay went out on his own, setting up a shop on the corner of the Braigh and Shoemaker Road. McKay worked as a blacksmith for 40 years before passing away 29 August 1950 at the age of 73 (*Northern Advocate*, 10 September 1950).



**Figure 5. Close-up of SO 698 showing a survey of roads in the Waipu Block in which Mr Duncan McKay was awarded the Crown Grant in 1856 of Allotment 5, Parish of Waipu (blue outline). The area is recorded as alluvial flat, and a house is recorded within the southern part of Allotment 5 (red arrow) (source: Quickmaps 2022)**

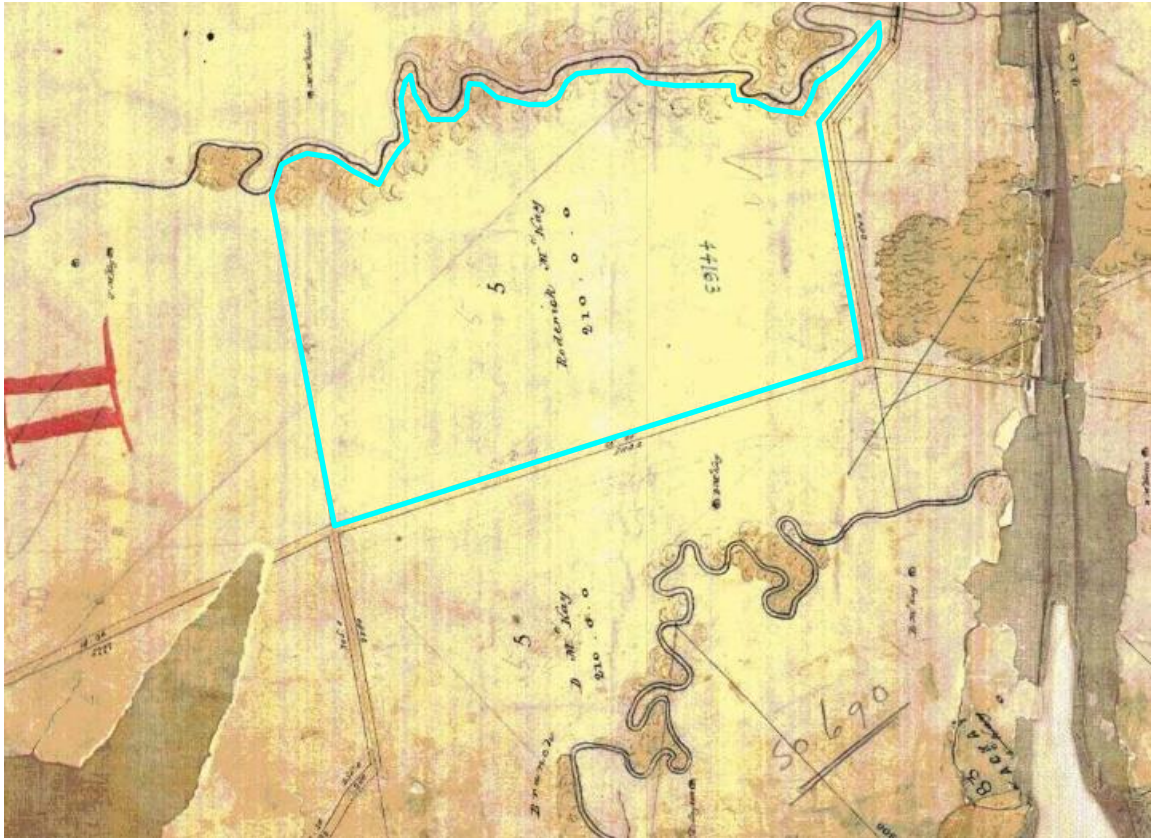


Figure 6. A close-up of SO 690 showing the plan of roads through the Waipu Block, in which the northern part of Allotment 5 (blue outline) has already been transferred to Mr Roderick McKay, which was recorded in 1866 (source: Quickmaps 2022)

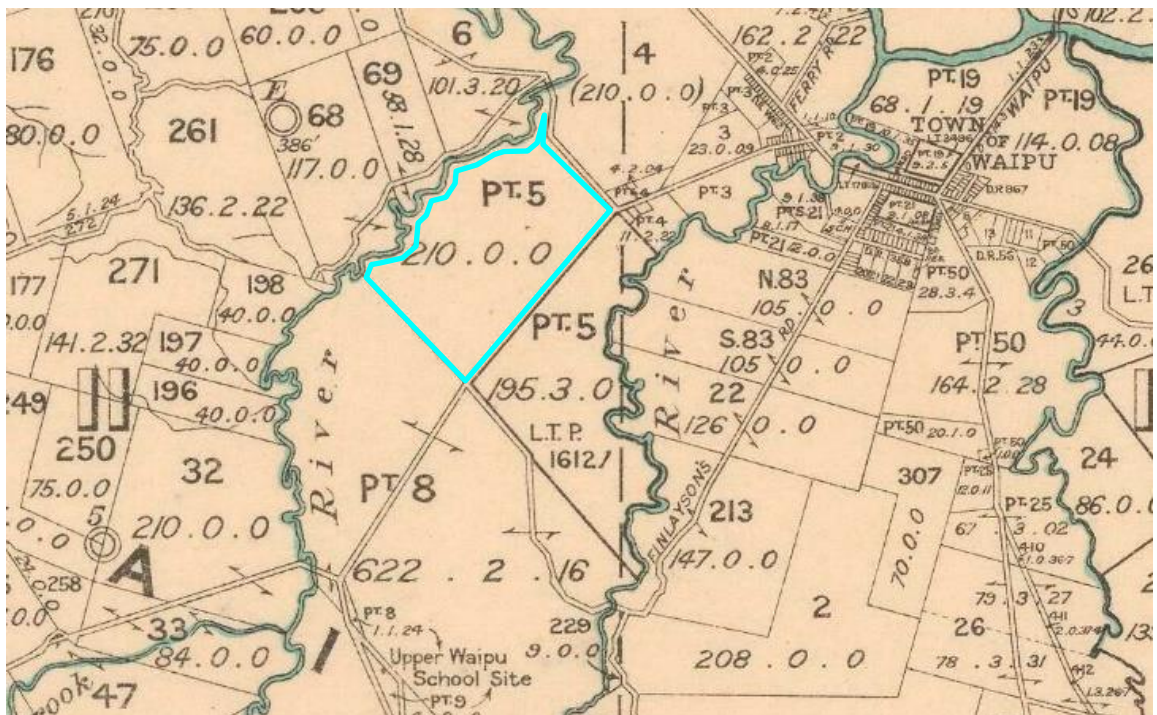


Figure 7. Map dated 1930 by R. P. Fletcher depicting the Waipu Survey District, showing Part Allotment 5 (blue outline) in the Parish of Waipu, County of Marsden (LINZ)



**Figure 8. Aerial image from 1963 showing 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu (source: Retrolens ref: SN212 418 59)**

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### Previous Archaeological Work

A large number of archaeological surveys and investigations have been carried out in and around the town of Waipu, some of which are discussed below.

In 1976 R.M. Bellingham undertook an archaeological survey of the Māori sites found in the East Brynderwyn Hills and in the coastal area from Mangawhai Heads to Langs Beach. The survey was conducted mainly on foot, with some initial reconnaissance by car from access roads in the survey area. The survey report concluded that no sites were located within the Brynderwyn Region, other than in the Waipu Gorge. It also noted that the majority of the coastal sites seemed to be predominantly located by a sandy beach and not a rocky shoreline, that sites are generally located where there are better volcanic soils and that sites are predominantly located where access to the sea is easy (Bellingham 1976).

An archaeological assessment was carried out by Leigh Johnson in 1996 for a proposed cell phone mast at Ahuroa Road, Waipu. No evidence of archaeological remains was identified but Johnson noted that at the time no detailed area archaeological surveys had been undertaken in the Waipu area. The closest recorded site was Q08/2 (a ring ditch pā site), with many pā recorded close by on an old land plan (SO 3028) but not recorded in the NZAA site recording scheme. (Johnson 1996).

An archaeological survey by Nevin in 1997 for a subdivision proposal at Cove Road, Waipu identified five shell midden (Q08/369, Q08/370, Q08/371, Q08/372 and Q08/373), all exposed through cattle tracking on the slope overlooking the Waipu River. In 2006 an archaeological Authority (No. 2004/243) was issued by the NZ Historic Places Trust for the archaeological excavation of sites Q08/371, Q08/372 and Q08/373. These were found to be: a shell midden in which possibly two to three terrace areas were discovered, along with firescoops (Q08/371); a similar shell midden which been substantially damaged by tree roots but which contained a small number of firescoops with various shellfish species (Q08/372); and a midden and terrace with concrete present, where the bulk of the material reflected the building of a house in 1916 and no pre-European components were identified (Q08/373). Two radiocarbon dates from Q08/371 and Q08/372 suggested that the sites were occupied during the early to mid-1500s while midden analysis indicated that these sites were likely shellfish processing areas and were unlikely to have been used over a long period of time (Bickler et al. 2006).

Archaeological excavations were carried out in 2003 to commemorate 150 years of settlement in Waipu by the Nova Scotians. Three sites were selected for excavation: Reverend Norman McLeod's house site, the Fraser Flour Mill, and the McGregor Blacksmith site (Q08/652). A low-lying mound in the eastern corner of 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu, was identified as the area of main interest for archaeological excavation, through test pitting and magnetometry. A small trench measuring 0.5m – 1m x 14.5m E10-11 N7.5-24 was excavated through the low-lying mound, while a 1m<sup>2</sup> pit E14-15 N15-16 was excavated to the east of the main trench. The archaeological investigation did not locate any structural features related to the McGregor blacksmith shop; however, it did uncover many discarded metal artefacts including numerous horseshoes that were obviously associated with the shop. The report concluded that the low-lying mound was likely to have been the refuse area associated with the shop and through comparison with a fur trade period blacksmith shop in Canada, suggested that the refuse area was likely to have been

located outside the shop, well clear of doors and pathways, some distance away but not too far from the shop (Best et al. 2003). Therefore, it is highly likely that the main structure of the McGregor blacksmith shop was in the vicinity of the refuse area located during excavations.

Archaeological monitoring of the preliminary earthworks for the Flagstaff Reach residential subdivision on Cove Road, Waipu was carried out in 2003. Seven previously unrecorded sites (Q08/471, Q08/472, Q08/473, Q08/474, Q08/475, Q08/476 and Q08/477) were encountered, consisting of five shell middens and two shell middens with firescoops/ovens. Two previously recorded sites were also located and modified (Q08/451 and Q08/456), both shell middens. All features were removed during earthworks (Prince 2004).

In 2005, an archaeological assessment for a proposed subdivision on Ferry Road, Waipu, was carried out (Farley and Clough 2005). A previously unrecorded shell midden was identified (Q08/509) which was recorded as 9m x 5m in plan and 15cm deep, and consisted of densely packed cockle and pipi, with fire cracked rock and charcoal. On the northern side of the property, the remains of the Waipu Co-operative Dairy Company factory (1900-1941) were also located which, although not a recorded archaeological site, was considered important to the community history of Waipu.

An archaeological assessment of a proposed subdivision area on Nova Scotia Drive, Waipu, was carried out in 2018 (Clough et al. 2018). The property contained a historic period site (Q08/510) containing concentrations of ceramics, glass, and bivalve marine shell (*Austrovenus stutchburyi* and *Paphies subtriangulta*), which had been disturbed by subdivision works. This particular site was related to a Presbyterian manse and glebe located to the south of the property. The assessment concluded that most of the intact deposits associated with Q08/510 were on the southern side of the fence line. The deposits located on the northern side of the fence and within the subdivision earthworks area were unfortunately largely destroyed (Clough et al. 2018).

## Recorded Sites

One archaeological site has been recorded within the boundaries of the proposed service centre at 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu (see Figure 9), being Q08/652, the site of historic artefacts associated with McGregor's Blacksmiths Shop, previously investigated by Best and others (2003), as discussed above. No other sites are recorded within 1km of the project area, but in the hills to the west are three recorded pā sites (Q08/2, Q08/3 and Q08/327) and a burial site (Q08/8). Midden sites are located on flatter land close to rivers: Q08/9 and Q08/518 to the southwest, and Q08/509 to the east near the township of Waipu (see Figure 9). The two other sites shown close to the township on Figure 9 are Q08/510, a historic period rubbish deposit associated with a Presbyterian manse as discussed above, and Q08/655, a historic period artefact scatter, well and building material.

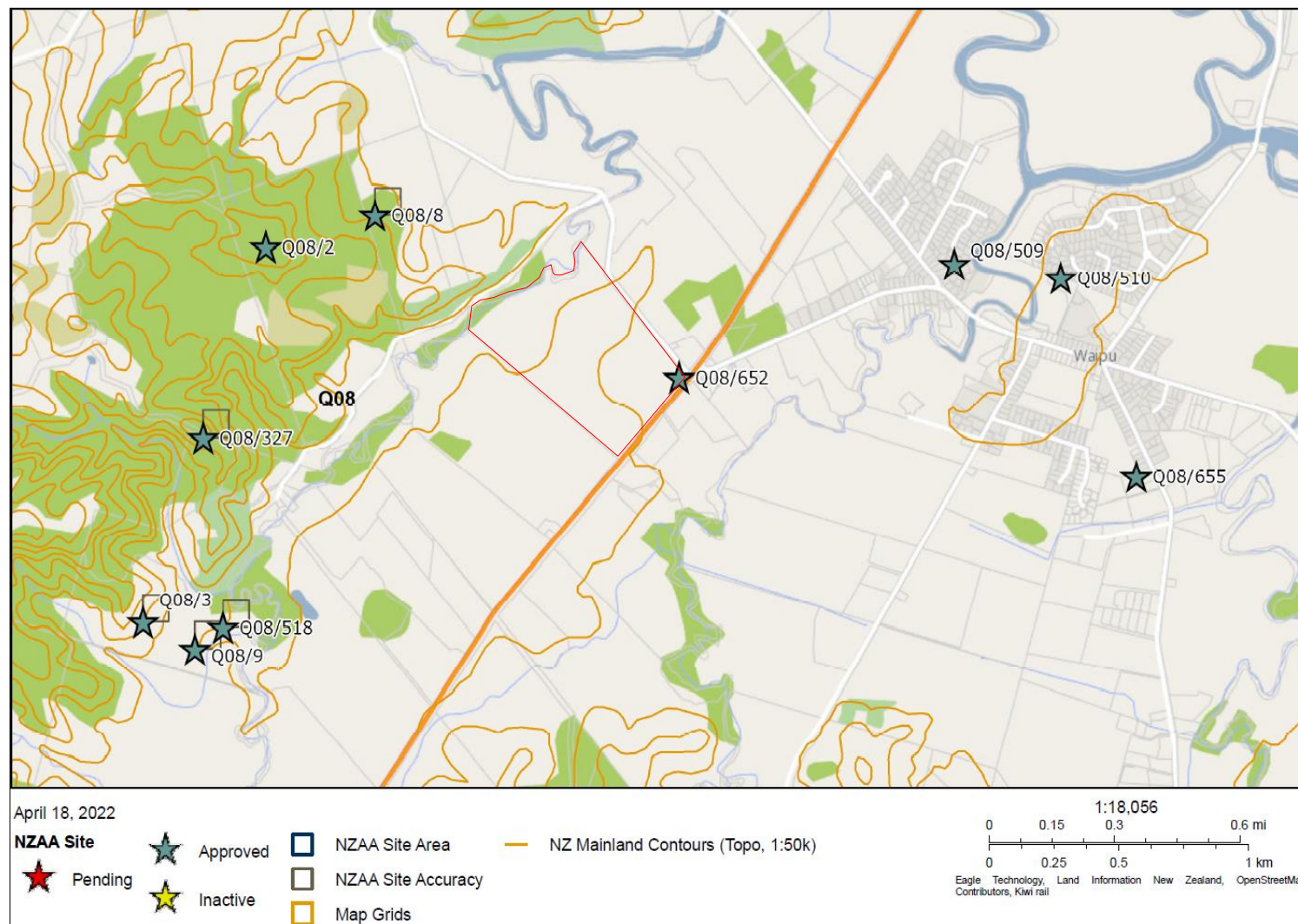
**Q08/652:** Recorded at E1728830 N6016720, the site comprises the blacksmith's shop that was opened in Waipu sometime during the late 19th century by Roderick McGregor near the corner of SH1 and Millbrook Road (see appended site record form). While the previous archaeological investigation of the site (Best et al. 2003) failed to locate any structural features relating to the shop, it did uncover a large assemblage of metal artefacts clearly associated with the blacksmith's shop. As only a small part of the artefact mound was

excavated other artefacts will remain in situ, and there is potential for subsurface remains of the blacksmith's shop still to be present on the property in the vicinity of the mound.

There are no scheduled historic heritage places recorded on the Whangārei District Plan within the vicinity of 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu.



**Figure 9. Previously recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of the proposed service centre at 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu (outlined red) (source: NZAA ArchSite)**



## FIELD ASSESSMENT

### Field Survey Results

Field survey of the proposed development area was undertaken on 14 April 2022. Conditions were clear and visibility was good. Ground surfaces were soft owing to recent heavy rain.

The proposed development area itself is largely flat grazing pasture with shallow undulations across the entirety of the site (see Figure 10–Figure 13). There is an unsealed access way close to the western boundary (Figure 13). A hummock/mound is visible within the eastern extent of the site, and this corresponds with the location of the low-lying mound partially investigated by Best (et al. 2003) (see Figure 14). As noted in the investigation report, it is likely that much of the area bordering State Highway 1 and Millbrook Road contains historical material associated with the archaeological site Q08/652 (McGregor’s Blacksmith) (see Figure 15 and Figure 16).

Randomised subsurface probing was undertaken across the proposed development site, which revealed the presence of archaeological material within the low-lying mound, but no other suspected archaeological material was encountered.

In addition, five test pits were excavated (see Figure 17):

The first test pit (TP1) was located at E1728768 N6016814 and was excavated to a depth of 20cm. TP1 displayed a 9cm layer of deep brown silt, capping 11cm of mottled grey silt. No inclusion were noted within TP1 (see Figure 18).

Test pit two (TP2) was located at E1728833 N6016727 and was excavated to a depth of 18cm. The subsurface stratigraphy within TP2 was entirely represented by mid-brown silt, and no inclusions were noted (see Figure 19).

Test pit three (TP3) was located at E1728765 N6016637 and was excavated to a depth of 20cm. The stratigraphy of TP3 was consistent with that of TP2, displayed 20cm of mid-brown silt with no inclusions (see Figure 20).

Test pit 4 (TP4) was located at E1728689 N6016697 and was excavated to a depth of 19cm. As with TP2 and TP3, the subsurface stratigraphy within TP4 was entirely represented by 19cm of mid-brown silt with no inclusions (see Figure 21).

Test pit five (TP5) was located at E1728741 N6016712 and was excavated to a depth of 16cm. TP5 displayed subsurface stratigraphy comprised of mid-brown silt with no inclusions (see Figure 22).

No indication of archaeological remains was identified in any of the test pits.



**Figure 10. View southeast over the proposed development area**



**Figure 11. View southwest over the proposed development area**



**Figure 12. View west along southern extent of the proposed development area**



**Figure 13. View south along western extent of the proposed development area**



Figure 14. The low-lying mound partially excavated by Best (et al. 2003), indicated by red arrow



Figure 15. Potential location of archaeological material relating to site Q08/652 within the proposed development area (indicated by red shading)



Figure 16. Potential location of archaeological material relating to the site Q08/652 (in red) overlaid on proposed development plan (source: Technitrades Architecture)

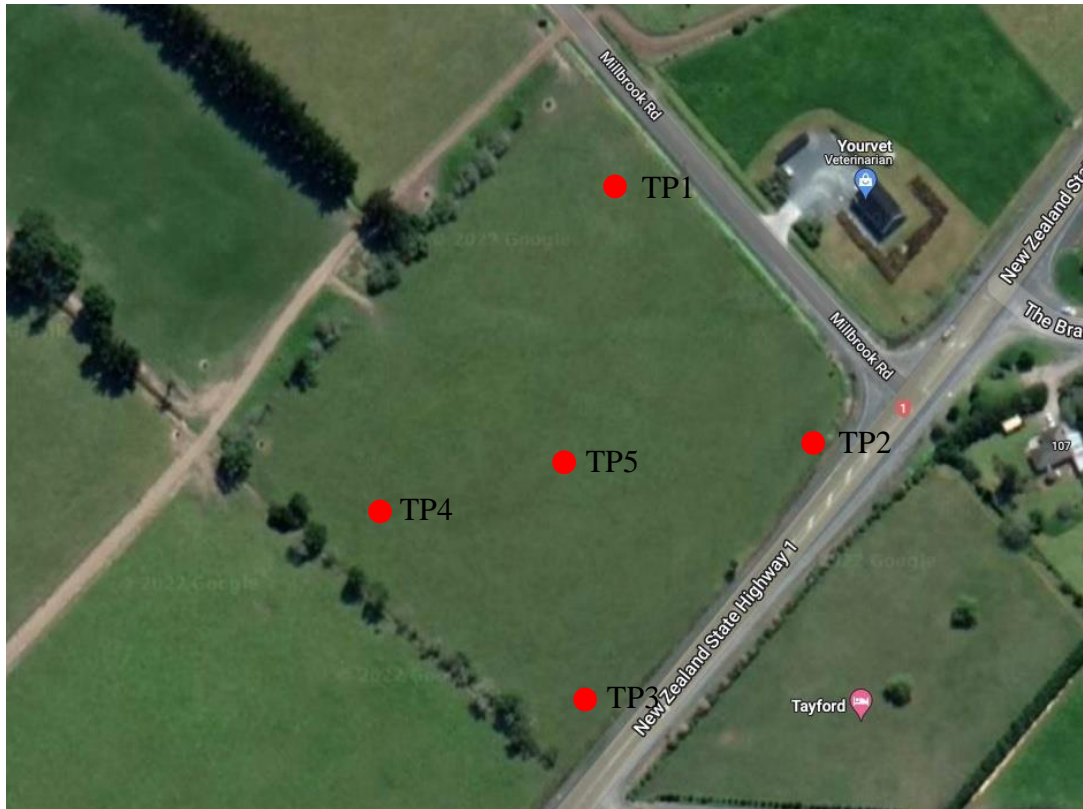


Figure 17. Location of test pits



Figure 18. Stratigraphic profile of Test Pit 1



**Figure 19. Stratigraphic profile of Test Pit 2**



**Figure 20. Stratigraphic profile of Test Pit 3**





**Figure 21. Stratigraphic profile of Test Pit 4**



**Figure 22. Stratigraphic profile of Test Pit 5**



## DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

### Summary of Results

One previously recorded archaeological site (Q08/652, McGregor's Blacksmith's shop) is located within the proposed development area at 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu. An archaeological investigation of the site has previously been undertaken, with excavation of part of a low-lying mound in the eastern corner of the property that contained numerous artefacts relating to the blacksmith's forge (Best et al. 2003). The mound containing archaeological material was relocated during the field survey but no other archaeological remains were encountered despite random subsurface testing across the site with a probe and spade. Despite this, however, it is considered highly likely that other archaeological remains associated with Q08/652 are still present within the proposed development area in the vicinity of the mound.

### Māori Cultural Values

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

The historical association of the general area with the tangata whenua is evident from the recorded sites, traditional histories and known Māori place names.

### 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 wāhi tapu and other sites of traditional significance to Māori, especially where these have no physical remains.

### Archaeological Value and Significance

Heritage NZ has provided guidelines setting out assessment criteria that are specific to archaeological sites (condition, rarity, contextual value, information potential, amenity value and cultural associations) (Heritage NZ 2019:9-10). These criteria have been used to assess the value and significance of archaeological site Q08/652 (see Table 1) which is located within the proposed development site.

The archaeological values of sites relate 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 sites 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 values also include contextual (heritage landscape) value. Archaeological sites may also have other historic heritage values including historical, architectural, technological, cultural, aesthetic, scientific, social, spiritual, tradition and amenity values.

Overall, site Q08/652 is considered to have high archaeological value based on the criteria discussed (see Table 1). The site has considerable information potential through artefact analysis and the investigation of any associated subsurface structural remains that may be present. The site is in good condition despite earlier investigations and is a relatively rare site type, with only 15 blacksmith forges recorded as archaeological sites across New Zealand at the time of the investigation (Best et al. 2003: 9). The site has contextual value as part of the archaeological landscape related to early European settlement in Waipu and has historical value through its association with known individuals and its contribution to local history. Blacksmithing in New Zealand was crucial for the survival of the early European settlers, who were dependent on horse transport and required a range of equipment for farming and other activities.

**Table 1. Assessment of archaeological values of site Q08/652 (historic artefacts associated with McGregor’s blacksmith’s shop) based on Heritage NZ criteria (Heritage NZ 2019: 9-10)**

Criterion	Assessment
Condition	The site has been modified by the archaeological investigation carried out in 2003 during which numerous artefacts were recovered from a low-lying mound. However, investigations were restricted to a trench and two test squares across the mound. Other artefacts still present subsurface within the mound are likely to be relatively intact and in fair condition, based on the previous investigation. Otherwise there has been little modification of the area, except for possible stock trample and agricultural use of the land. It is highly likely that unidentified subsurface features are present in the near vicinity of the mound, potentially including structural remains of the McGregor blacksmith shop itself.
Rarity	Blacksmith’s premises are considered to be a relatively rare site type locally and regionally, with only 15 recorded across New Zealand at the time of the investigation (Best et al. 2003). It is possible, based on census information, that McGregor’s blacksmith’s shop Q08/652 was one of the first in the area.
Contextual value	The site is part of a wider archaeological landscape relating to the historic Nova Scotian settlement of the Waipu District.
Information potential	The site has high potential to provide information relating to the typical blacksmithing activities carried out there through analysis of artefacts and investigation of any associated structural remains that may be present; and to add to knowledge of the history of the 19th century community in the town of Waipu.
Amenity value	The site is of little amenity value, with relatively low visibility, and is located on private property.
Cultural associations	The site is associated with early European settlers.
Other	The site has local historical value through its association with known individuals of local historical importance and contribution to the early development of Waipu.

## Effects of the Proposal

The proposed development of the service centre will require significant earthworks (see Figure 3 – Figure 4). The works will include:

- An overall topsoil strip of the area in which the service centre will be located.

- A significant cut to excavate space for the underground fuel storage tanks, stormwater ponds and swales.
- Development of wastewater infrastructure with septic tanks and driplines discharging treated wastewater into of grassland.

The eastern corner of the development site contains the earth mound recorded as site Q08/652. In this area the area will be excavated to allow for formation of stormwater ponds and swales. These works would completely remove the mound that contains artefacts relating to the blacksmith's shop Q08/652. An Authority from Heritage NZ would therefore be required to modify the site (see below). Any adverse effects on archaeological sites should be mitigated through archaeological investigation to recover information relating to the history of the site and Waipu area and the recovery of artefacts which can be preserved in the local or regional museum.

In any area where archaeological sites have been recorded in the general vicinity it is possible that unrecorded subsurface remains may be exposed during development. It is considered likely that unrecorded subsurface remains relating to site Q08/652, potentially including structural remains, will be present in the vicinity of the mound.

Archaeological features and remains can take the form of burnt and fire cracked stones, charcoal, rubbish heaps including shell, bone and/or 19th century glass and crockery, ditches, banks, pits, old building foundations, artefacts of Māori and early European origin or human burials.

## **Resource Management Act 1991 Requirements**

Section 6 of the RMA recognises as matters of national importance: 'the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi 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 Māori, including wāhi 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 Whangārei Operative District Plan is relevant to the proposed activity.

This assessment has established that the proposed activity will affect all known remains of site Q08/652 (historic artefacts associated with McGregor's Blacksmith's shop). It is also likely to affect unidentified subsurface archaeological remains relating to site Q08/652 that may be exposed during development. This site is not scheduled on the District Plan.

As the site cannot be avoided if the development is to proceed, the effects can appropriately be mitigated through the recovery of archaeological information relating to the history of Waipu, and the depositing of artefacts from site Q08/652 in the local and/or regional museum. Mitigation can be carried out under the archaeological provisions of the HNZPTA as an Authority under the Act will be required for the proposed earthworks and modification/destruction of the archaeological site.

If consent is granted a condition relating to archaeological monitoring within the area of archaeological potential shown on Figure 15 is recommended to identify any subsurface remains. It is also recommended that an advice note regarding the provisions of the HNZPTA is included, as an Authority under that Act will be required for the modification and investigation of archaeological remains.

## **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).

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

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

*(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)’<sup>3</sup>*

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 Māori 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 Māori 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.

As the proposed development will destroy the archaeological site Q08/652, an Authority must be obtained from Heritage NZ prior to any earthworks being carried out. The conditions of the authority are likely to include archaeological monitoring and the investigation and recording of any remains affected.

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

## **Conclusions**

One archaeological site (Q08/652, McGregor's Blacksmith's shop) has been recorded within the boundaries of the proposed service centre development at 47 Millbrook Road, Waipu. Earthworks for the development of the proposed service centre will result in the removal of this site, which has been assessed as having high archaeological value.

The adverse effects on archaeological values should be mitigated/offset through the recovery of information relating to the history of the site and Waipu area. This will require an Authority under the HNZPTA.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- As archaeological site Q08/652 will be affected by the proposed works, an Authority must be applied for under Section 44(a) of the HNZPTA and granted by Heritage NZ prior to the start of any works that will affect it. (*Note that this is a legal requirement*).
- An archaeological investigation of the mound containing artefacts recorded as site Q08/652 should be carried out under Section 52(2) of the HNZPTA, prior to the start of earthworks, as it has the potential to provide significant information relating to the history of the area.
- The area of archaeological potential shown in Figure 15 should be monitored by an archaeologist during earthworks as it is likely that additional unidentified subsurface remains relating to site Q08/652 will be present.
- Any additional archaeological remains identified during monitoring should be investigated and recorded prior to their removal.



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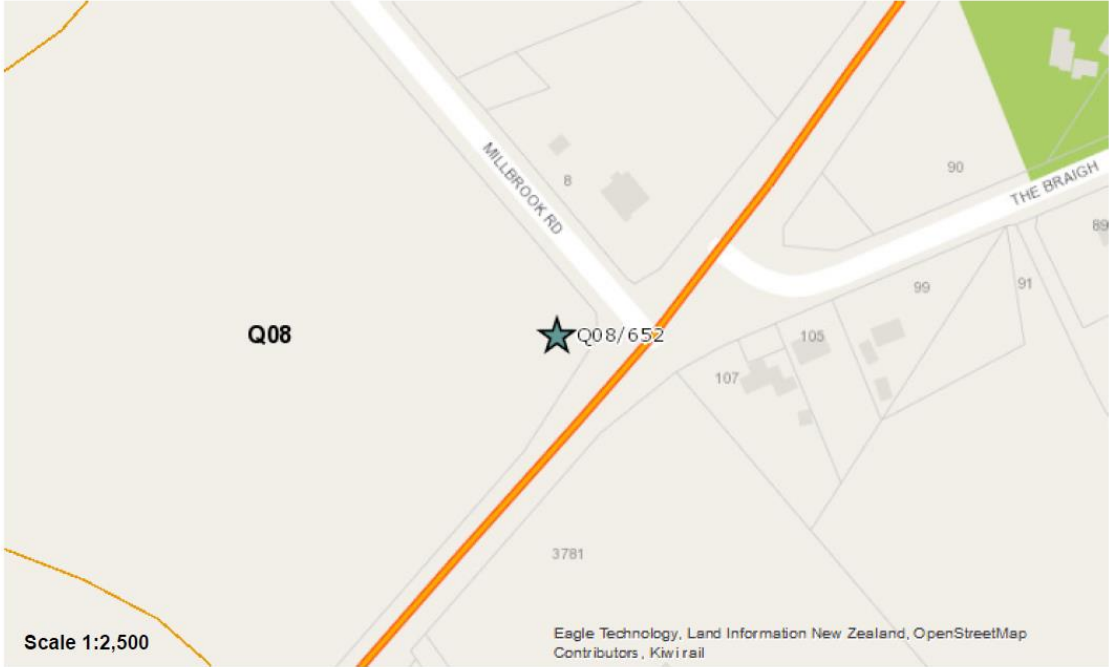
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## APPENDIX: SITE RECORD FORMS

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

 <p><b>Site Record Form</b></p>	<p><b>NZAA SITE NUMBER:</b> Q08/652</p> <p><b>SITE TYPE:</b> Industrial</p> <p><b>SITE NAME(s):</b> McGregor's Blacksmith</p> <p><b>DATE RECORDED:</b></p>
<p><b>SITE COORDINATES (NZTM)</b> Easting: 1728830      Northing: 6016720      Source: On Screen</p>	
<p><b>IMPERIAL SITE NUMBER:</b>      <b>METRIC SITE NUMBER:</b> Q08/652</p>	
	
<p><b>Finding aids to the location of the site</b> Located on the western side of the junction of SH1 and Millbrook Road, Waipu, Northland.</p>	
<p><b>Brief description</b> Historic artefacts associated with blacksmithery</p>	
<p><b>Recorded features</b> Artefact - historic</p>	
<p><b>Other sites associated with this site</b></p>	

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NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SITE RECORD HISTORY	NZAA SITE NUMBER: Q08/652
<p><b>Site description</b>  Updated 02/12/2021 (other), submitted by charlottejedge  Grid reference (E1728830 / N6016720)</p> <p>The following is an extract from 'The Minister, the Miller and the Blacksmith: history and archaeology of three early Waipu identities'. Simon Best et. al. 2003.  "In 2002 the Waipu Museum undertook a project to investigate the history of the Waipu Scottish settlement as part of the 150th Waipu centennial celebrations. Part of this investigation was focused on early industry in the community. As a result an archaeological excavation was carried out beginning on the 28th December 2002 and ending on 10th January 2003 at the possible location of the McGregor Blacksmith shop" (Section 3:1).  The site comprises the blacksmith shop that was opened in Waipu sometime during the late 19th century by Roderick McGregor near the corner of SH1 and Millbrook Road.  While the archaeological investigation of the area failed to located structural features relating to the shop, it did uncover a large assemblage of metal artefacts clearly associated with the blacksmithery.  Refer to Best et. al. 2003 for further detailed information.</p> <p><b>Condition of the site</b>  Updated 02/12/2021 (other), submitted by charlottejedge</p> <p>Site has been partially investigated</p> <p><b>Statement of condition</b></p> <p><b>Current land use:</b>  Updated: 03/12/2021 - Grazing</p> <p><b>Threats:</b></p>	

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SITE RECORD INVENTORY	NZAA SITE NUMBER: Q08/652
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Supporting documentation held in ArchSite

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