

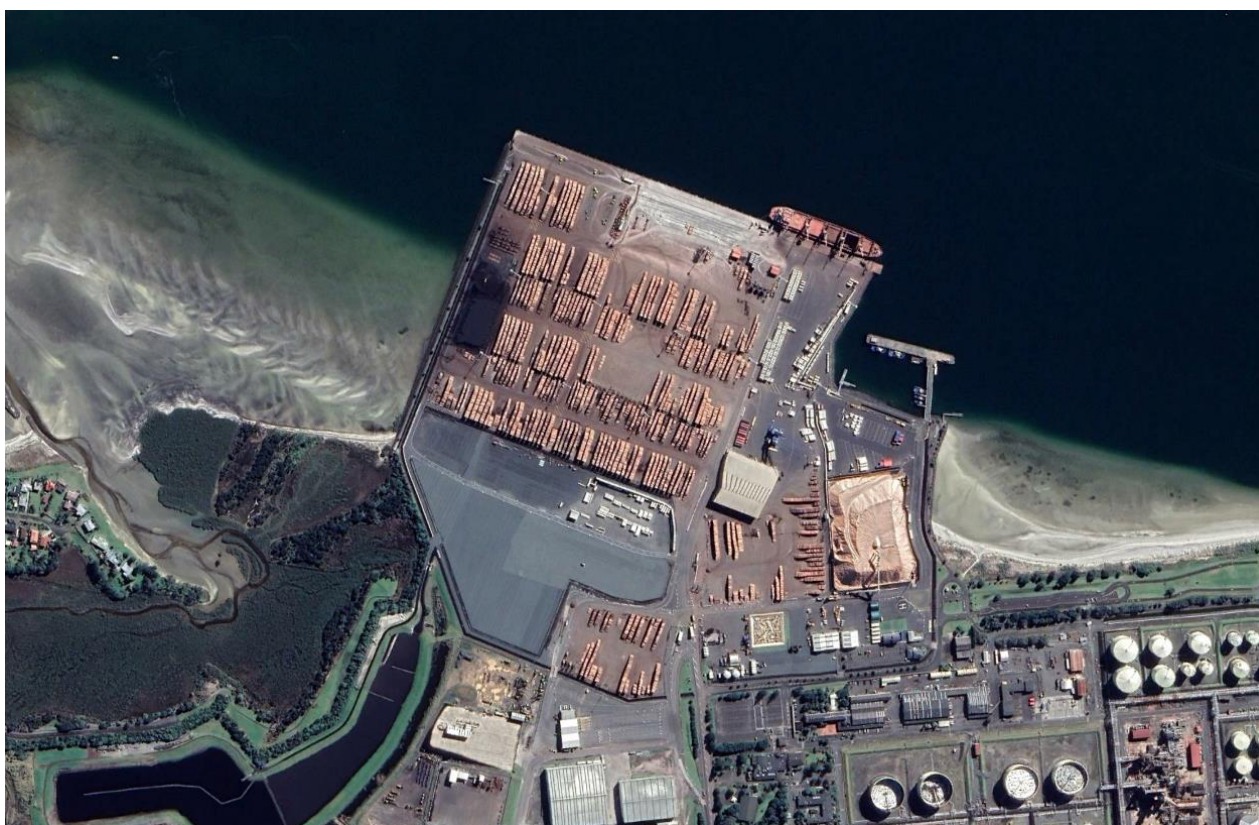
# **Appendix 16**

## **Archaeological Assessment**

# **NORTHPORT PROPOSED EXPANSION, WHANGAREI HEADS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**

Prepared for Northport Limited

June 2022 (Updated from November 2021)



By  
Glen Farley (MA Hons)

---

**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)

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Introduction .....	1
Project Background .....	1
Methodology .....	2
Historical Background .....	5
Maori Settlement .....	5
European Settlement .....	5
Archaeological Background .....	10
Previous Archaeological Work .....	10
Recorded Archaeological Sites .....	12
Physical Environment .....	17
Field Assessment .....	18
Field Survey Results .....	18
Discussion and Conclusions .....	21
Summary of Results .....	21
Maori Cultural Values .....	21
Survey Limitations .....	21
Archaeological Value and Significance .....	21
Effects of the Proposal .....	22
Resource Management Act 1991 Requirements .....	22
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 Requirements .....	23
Conclusions .....	23
Recommendations .....	24
Bibliography .....	25

## INTRODUCTION

### Project Background

Northport Limited proposes expanding its existing facilities to increase its freight storage and handling capacity to support the future freight needs of the upper North Island.

The Proposal includes:

- Reclamation within the Coastal Marine Area (CMA) and earthworks to the immediate east of the existing reclamation to expand Northport's footprint by approximately 13.7 hectares. This comprises 11.7ha of reclamation within the CMA and 2ha of earthworks outside the CMA.
- Capital and associated maintenance dredging to enlarge and deepen the existing swing basin and to enable construction of the new wharf.
- A 520m long wharf (including the consented but not yet constructed 270m long Berth 4) constructed on the northern (seaward) face of the proposed reclamation.
- Sheet piling and rock revetment structures on the eastern edge of the proposed reclamation.
- Treatment of operational stormwater via the existing pond-based stormwater system.
- Port-related activities on the proposed expansion and wharves.
- Construction of a new tug jetty.
- Replacement of the existing floating pontoon, public access and public facilities.

The anticipated port-related activities include a container terminal, Coastguard, biosecurity, border control/customs and quarantine facilities, harbour control facilities plus supporting offices and workshops. In the future, as the number of containers handled by Northport increases, ship-to-shore gantry cranes will be added.

The construction of the reclamation, wharf and associated structures is expected to include some or all of the following activities:

- Capital dredging, using a trailer suction hopper dredger (TSHD) and/or cutter suction dredger (CSD), to remove an anticipated volume of 1.4 million m<sup>3</sup> of dredge spoil.
- Reclamation, using the dredge spoil, and discharge of decant water.
- Construction dredging, using a backhoe dredger, to create the desired underwater profile and allow for construction of the batter slope.
- Excavation, placement of material and compaction.
- Construction work to construct seawalls and abutments (work above and below MHWS).
- Staging of construction equipment, including piling to create work platforms and install pile gates.
- Pile-driving, using methods including vibro and top-driven impact hammers. This will involve cranes (shore based or mounted on jack-up barges), excavators and power packs (generators and hydraulic pumps).

- Placement of formwork, tying reinforcing steel and laying of ducts and pipework.
- Pouring of concrete for the port deck and discharge of concrete curing water.
- Construction of pavement surfaces.
- Installation of wharf furniture (bollards, electrical services etc).
- Installation of services and other infrastructure on the expansion area. (Figure 1 to Figure 3).

Northport is situated near Marsden Point, Whangarei Harbour. The facility is bounded to the north by the harbour, and to the east and west by the harbour and foreshore. To the south lies Ralph Trimmer Drive and the Port Marsden Highway, with additional port service industries and the Marsden Point Oil Refinery.

The reclamation footprint is approximately rectangular with a total area of approximately 13.7ha. Design height of the land will match the existing Northport levels, being a minimum of 5m above chart datum. The land will be built using dredge spoil and imported material, and will be utilised as a container terminal

An archaeological assessment was commissioned by Jared Pettersson of Enviser, on behalf of Northport Limited, to establish whether the proposed work 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/Rārangi Kōrero were searched to determine whether any archaeological sites had been recorded on or in the immediate vicinity of the property. Literature and archaeological reports relevant to the area were consulted (see Bibliography). Early survey plans and aerials were checked for information relating to past use of the project area.

A visual inspection of the property was conducted on 9 September 2020. 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 to determine whether buried archaeological deposits could be identified or establish the nature of possible archaeological features. Photographs were taken to record the topography and features of interest.



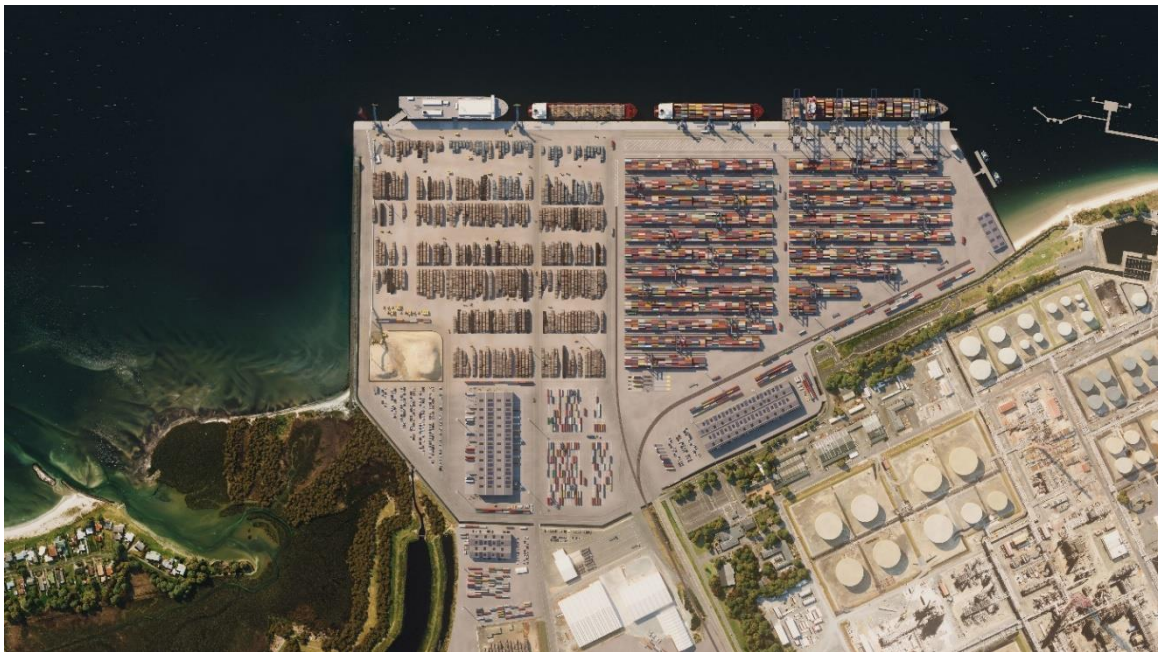


Figure 1. Aerial showing Whangarei Heads and its environs and the location of Northport (source: Google Maps)





**Figure 2. Aerial of the existing site**



**Figure 3. Artist's impression the proposal**

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

### **Maori Settlement**

Whangarei formerly belonged to the Ngai Tahu people who landed at Te Arai in the canoe Tu Nui a Rangi in the 14th century, and whose rohe once extended from Auckland to about 80km north of Whangarei (Fletcher 2018: 17). Whangarei was a desirable place to live due to its sheltered harbour, ample marine and freshwater resources and temperate climate. However, from the 17th to mid-19th centuries the northern tribes were engaged in almost constant warfare and the positioning of Whangarei at the southernmost boundary of Ngapuhi tribal land meant that it was a focal point for campaigns against southern tribes and for retaliatory attacks from southern tribes from the Hauraki, Kaipara and Waikato seeking revenge. Great gatherings of up to 2000 to 3000 men would camp on the shores of the harbour, giving the harbour its name, ‘Whangarei Terenga Paraoa’, the swimming place of the whales, or the meeting place of the chiefs (ibid.) (see Figure 4 and Figure 5).

Around 1750 the Ngati Ruangaio chief Te Ponaharakeke came from Ngapuhi of Orauta to live among the Ngai Tahu people on the western shores of Whangarei Harbour (ibid.). To avenge a perceived insult he called on Ngapuhi allies, including Ngaro-ki-te-uru and Tawhiro, to join him in battle, securing the area from Whangarei to Waipu and Waihonga to Tangihua, with the conquerors dividing the land between them (ibid.). Te Ponaharakeke and Te Tokaitawhio took the western shores of Whangarei Harbour from Te Awatawhiti to Mangapai (ibid.: 18). The latter lived at Otaika until his wife became pregnant, at which point he moved to the Hokianga (ibid.).

However, the conquerors remained vulnerable to attack on the shores of the Whangarei Harbour, being at the southern limit of Ngapuhi tribal land and with no place to retreat except north. Many tribal leaders were killed in subsequent battles: Tawhiro and his nephew were attacked and killed by Ngati Maru from Hauraki in a battle called Otaika-timu; Te Wha and Hautakere were killed by Ngati Whatua from Kaipara; and Te Ponaharakeke, Te Waikeri and Te Tirarau I were killed by Ngapuhi from the Bay of Islands (ibid.).

Warfare intensified following the introduction of muskets through trade with Europeans, giving Ngapuhi, who acquired them first, a strong initial advantage. Thousands of Maori died in intertribal wars in New Zealand between c.1818 and the 1830s (Ballara 2003). The end of the intertribal wars was brought about during the 1830s by two factors – constant war was exhausting the tribes, and the influence of missionaries was increasing (Pickmere 1986:13). Subsequently the coastal areas of Whangarei were repopulated.

### **European Settlement**

In 1823 the missionary Samuel Leigh travelled through the district of Whangarei and found it desolate. He landed near One Tree Point with a mission group and spent the night at Takahiwai (Vallance 1964:30). The missionary Marsden had travelled through the area in 1815 and 1820 and eventually the influence of the visiting missionaries helped to abate the wars. Another missionary, Colenso, travelled the district between 1836 and 1842, accompanied by the British Resident James Busby in 1839, who bought the Ruakaka area from the Parawhau and Patuharakeke chiefs. The sale was supervised by the chiefs Te

---

<sup>1</sup> The historical background is drawn from earlier Clough & Associates reports including Jones et al. 2020, Larsen and Clough 2020 and Bicker and Clough 2017.



Tirarau III and Karekare (Nevin 1982:14). Busby also bought land in 1839 ‘on the south side of the harbour’ from Patuharakeke (Pickmere 1986:27). In 1841 Colenso travelled from the Kaipara, with the first habitation the party came across being ‘near the present settlement of Takahiwai’, where they were welcomed by the Patuharakeke rangitira Pou and the hapu (Vallance 1964:34). A sketch dated to 1842 shows the entrance to Whangarei Harbour with silhouettes of the Heads and a manned waka (Figure 5). In February 1854 Ruakaka was again sold by Maori, this time to the Crown. It was a smaller block than that sold previously, not including Marsden Point or One Tree Point, so they insisted on Busby being compensated. The excluded area was known as Poupouwhenua (Figure 6) and was sold to the Crown in July 1854 (Richards 1984:9-12).

In 1857, Donald McLean, Land Commissioner wrote to the Governor describing the district of Whangarei:

‘... the low, sandy country around the town site of Marsden, ... on the banks of streams are some Native villages, ... here and there are occasional patches of poor white clay soil, which have been dug over for kauri gum’ (Nevin 1982:5).

It is highly likely that one of these ‘Native villages’ was along the banks of the Takahiwai Stream and possible that the Patuharakeke were engaged in gum-digging activities for, as the trade developed, Maori became rapidly involved. Nevin has attempted to trace the gumfields which were worked over around the Whangarei Harbour, showing likely activity in the One Tree Point and Marsden Point areas, although neither is listed among the main gumfields in the district (Vallance 1964:84). For evidence, Nevin used local knowledge, field observations and typical soil types (Nevin 1982:16, 17). Captain Duncan Mackenzie must have been an early purchaser of land in the area as he had a property and store at One Tree Point in 1854. It was here that ships’ passengers were offloaded and taken in open boats along the coast to Waipu. The Captain, also known as ‘Prince’, was very active in the shipping business and had four sons who were all master mariners (Pickmere 1986:127).

A.M. Rust, born 1859, wrote in his reminiscences of Whangarei that, for Maori, fishing was a great pastime, describing how they used to make raids on the sharks about One Tree Point, then clean the harvest and hang it out to dry in the sun (Rust 1936:125).

The Takahiwai area supplied flax for mills in and around Whangarei in the early days of European settlement. The chief of the Patuharakeke at the time was Te Ikanui Te Pirihi (Nevin 1982:15). Pickmere records that there was a Maori settlement at Takahiwai in the 1880s (1986:151).

In 1906 a survey was carried out around One Tree Point by G. Martin (SO 14130, Figure 7). The property on which Northport is based was described as covered in manuka and fern, being part of Lot 83 and part of the ‘Marsden Town Sections’.

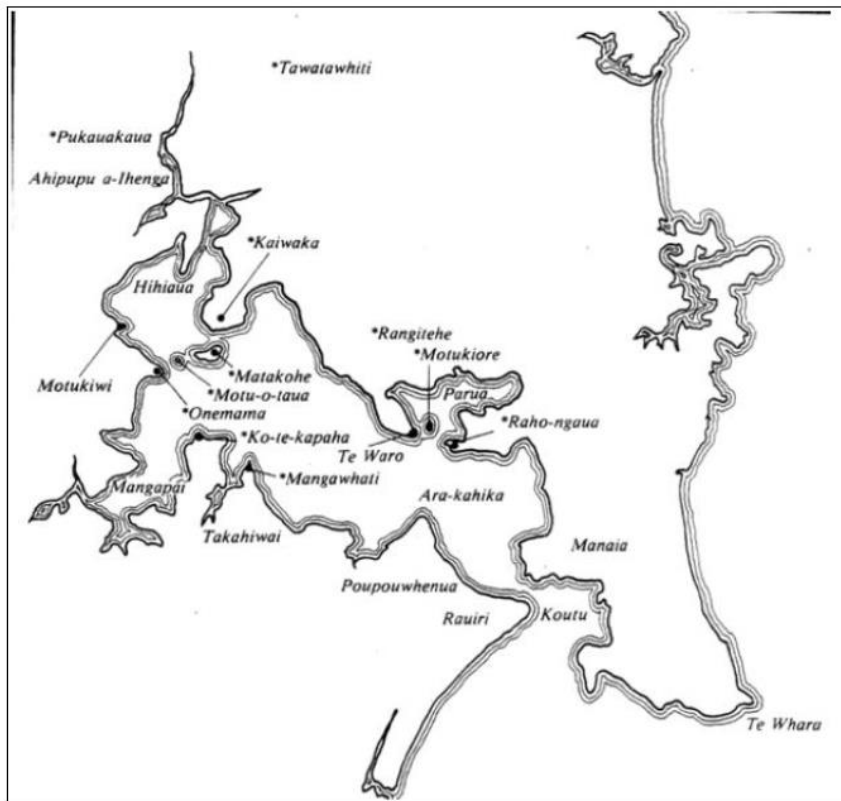


Figure 4. Traditional place names used in the early 19th century (Pickmere 1986:5)

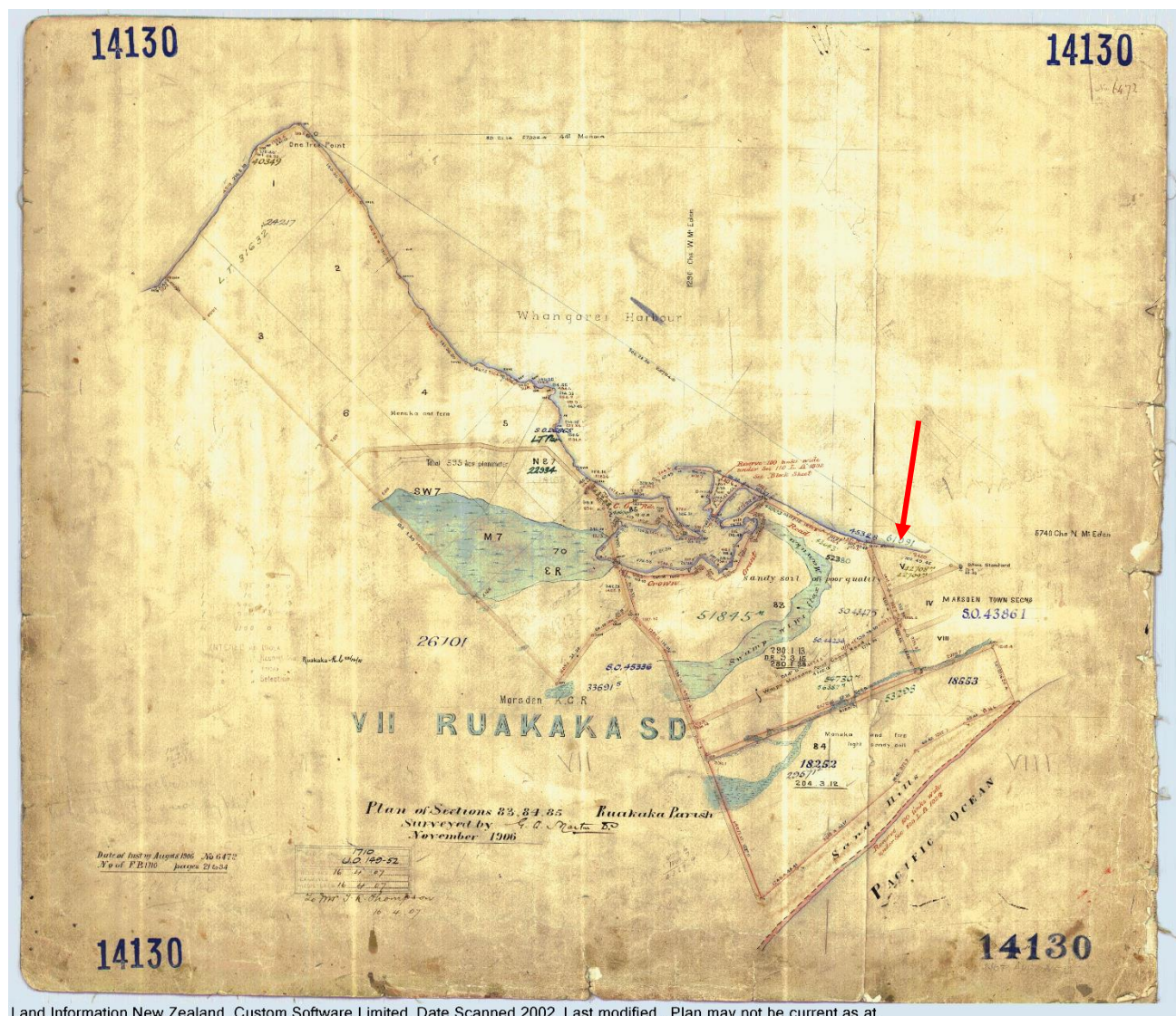


Figure 5. View of the Entrance to Whangarei Harbour (1842) Entrance to Whangarei River, bearing NW by W; Hen and Chickens, New Zealand..., Te Waka Maori (canoe of New Zealand); Wangari or Bream Bay, New Zealand. 1842. Reference number: MS-0104-071 (<https://tiaki.natlib.govt.nz/#details=ecatalogue.239815>)



Figure 6. A close-up of Roll 16 (approximate location of the development arrowed in red) (source: Quickmap)





Land Information New Zealand, Custom Software Limited, Date Scanned 2002, Last modified , Plan may not be current as at

Figure 7. SO 14130 dated 1906 (approximate location of the development arrowed in red)



## ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND<sup>2</sup>

The district is dominated by Whangarei, the largest city north of Auckland, which is situated at the western end of a large harbour with extensive mangrove and estuarine catchments, rich shellfish beds, and other marine resources. The harbour entrance at the eastern end of the harbour is a relatively narrow channel that is bordered by the Whangarei Heads area to the east and the Marsden Point – One Tree Point area to the west. The last decade or two have seen increasing subdivision of the farmland and orchards surrounding the city of Whangarei, extending westwards towards Maunu, eastwards beyond Onerahi and southeast onto the Whangarei Heads. On the southern side of the harbour, the Ruakaka – One Tree Point area has also seen increasing subdivision. The wider district remains largely rural, with extensive farmland, and large areas of both native and exotic forestry. There are a number of smaller settlements along the coast, including Waipu, Pataua, Ngunguru, Tutukaka, Matapouri and Whananaki. The district also includes several offshore islands, notably the Poor Knights and Hen and Chickens Islands. For Polynesians arriving from the tropics hundreds of years ago, the Whangarei district was a highly favourable area for settlement. The sheltered Whangarei Harbour and other major rivers and inlets (Ngunguru, Horahora, Ruakaka, Pataua, Taiharuru and Whananaki), with their rich marine resources and easy accessibility by canoe, attracted occupation from the earliest times. Thorne (1876) described moa bones and obsidian tools in locations around the Whangarei Heads and particularly at Pataua, indicative of this early ‘Archaic’ settlement. Similarly, European settlers and traders rapidly adapted to their new country during the 19th century, setting up homes and gardens alongside farming and extractive and other industries along this coastline.

### Previous Archaeological Work

Excavations have been carried out around Whangarei Harbour since the 1960s. At Bream Head, for example, a large midden site produced evidence of significant shellfish cooking as well as seal, dog, bird tuatara and fish bone, chert flakes and hangi stones and fishing equipment (Green and Davidson 1964 and NZAA Site Record Form Q07/103 cited by Phillips and Harlow 2001:14). More recent test excavations at Bream Head have been conducted, but little information is available regarding the results. Bickler et al. (2008) excavated midden sites in McGregor’s Bay, opposite the subject area on the north side of Whangarei Harbour, consisting of small to medium-sized middens, but these were relatively simple sites with no evidence of structural features.

Nevin and Nevin (1981, G. Nevin [1984]) carried out the main surveys on the southern side of Whangarei Harbour and identified a large number of the sites which have been identified in the Ruakaka area. These were mostly midden near the coast. Further inland, G. Nevin (1984) identified a wider range and large numbers of sites in the Takahiwai hills including pa, sites containing pits and terraces, and evidence of gardening along with the ubiquitous midden sites.

In the inland areas around Takahiwai and near Ruakaka, the Maori settlement pattern appears to have been focussed around the higher ridges. Pa sites offered some defence from

---

<sup>2</sup> This section incorporates background information from Plowman et al. 2008. That has been more recently summarised and updated in Jones, B., B. Larsen, T. Clough-Macready, S. Bickler, R. Clough and S. Phear. In Prep. Stages 3-10, One Tree Point Road Subdivision Development, Whangarei Harbour: Archaeological Investigation and Monitoring Report. Report Prepared for WHF Properties Ltd.

raiding parties travelling through the area. Gardening was carried out in this hinterland. Access to the rich marine resources would have been straightforward and during the seasonal cycle, groups probably moved down to the dune lands to collect food for storage and perhaps exchange.

A small number of excavations have been carried out near Whangarei on the western and southern side of the harbour. These include the investigation of Ruarangi Pa (Q07/30). The excavations there created a picture of an area that had been occupied a number of times from the 1700s with evidence of houses and midden within the defences. Cockle was overwhelmingly the most common shellfish identified in the midden excavated at the pa (Hougaard 1971 cited in Phillips and Harlow 2001:12-13). A large midden, Q07/58, was excavated by Nichol and Walton in 1976 (Nichol 1988 cited in Phillips and Harlow 2001:13) and suggested extensive shellfish processing much like at the sites around One Tree Point.

More recently, Best (1999) excavated a small pit and terrace complex (Q07/897) in Ruakaka where a sequence of pollen data was retrieved, illustrating environmental impact by Maori and then Europeans in the area. The site included a cache of digging implements of unknown, but relatively 'modern' age (i.e. 1800s onwards, where radiocarbon techniques become problematic) and a radiocarbon date from a midden on the ridge above the cache returned a date of between 1640-1870 AD (at  $2\sigma$ ).

A number of investigations have been carried out over the last 20 years at One Tree Point in the near vicinity of the project area. Extensive excavations were carried out by Phillips and Harlow (2001). A series of midden deposits were excavated which ranged from small concentrations of hangi/firescoops overlain with shells through to large complexes of firescoops, hangi, stake and post holes. The investigators concluded that the sites represented summer occupation of the One Tree Point area for large-scale processing of shellfish from 1500 AD onwards. Most appeared to have only been used during a single season, but in at least one case there was evidence that the Maori returned to one of the sites at least once. Some late 19th century to early 20th century artefacts were also recovered during the investigation of the sites. They were considered to be chance finds relating to gum-digging activities and not linked with the earlier shellfish processing activities.

Ongoing work has been carried out on a number of properties within One Tree Point (Campbell 2005, 2006, Prince 2003, Bickler et al. 2007). The results of these other projects suggest that those sites are similar to the sites investigated by Phillips and Harlow (2001), with little evidence of structures identified.

A large residential subdivision at One Tree Point was surveyed in 2004 (Prince 2004a, b) with a range of midden sites identified in Stages 1 and 2, and it was considered likely that additional midden would be found during any earthworks, leading to the monitoring and excavations in Stages 1 and 2 described in Plowman et al. (2008; see Figure 9). During the earthworks in Stages 1 and 2, 16 midden sites (two of which were redeposited or modern) were excavated, most with a series of hangi pits underneath the initial shell deposits (Figure 10). One of the middens contained predominantly pipi (*Paphies australis*), while the remainder of the middens were predominantly cockle (*Austrovenus stutchburyi*). A further 10 shell species were identified in the middens, at lower frequencies. Four of the shell samples from the excavation were submitted for radiocarbon dating, which returned a date range for occupation in the area from the mid-16th century to the early 19th century. Work on the project for Stages 3-10 was undertaken in 2019, during which 6 midden deposits were investigated (Jones et al. in Prep.). Each of the sites reflected the remains of small,

temporary cooking areas in a coastal landscape that was dominated by scrub such as ti tree and bracken. The cooking areas are situated in the swales in between the dune ridge crests. Dates for these sites are still being processed.

Overall, the results of previous archaeological work suggest widespread shellfish processing at One Tree Point, probably seasonal in nature, from around 1500 AD onwards. While the work of Phillips and Harlow (2001) identified many structural features, including post holes and stakeholes, these were not identified in Stages 1 to 10 of the WHF Properties development at One Tree Point. The sites investigated indicate seasonality of settlement, with hangi, middens and small bin pits most predominant in the record. The remnants of these relatively short-lived settlements have left clusters of shell debris across the sand dunes.

## Recorded Archaeological Sites

Twelve archaeological sites are recorded within 1km of the port facility. These sites are all midden deposits (Table 1 and Figure 9).

Records were examined for indications of any shipwrecks or other maritime archaeology in the area. None were recorded. Given the regular bathymetric surveying of the harbour undertaken by Northport, it is considered likely than any such maritime features or hazards would have been identified. The regular modification of the seabed around the port through the action of regular dredging, and the effects of the initial reclamation activities are likely to have greatly modified the seabed and would have removed any maritime archaeology that may have been present.

**Table 1. Archaeological sites previously recorded within a 1000m radius of the port facility (source: NZAA ArchSite 2020)**

NZAA Number	Easting	Northing	Site Type
<b>Q07/72</b>	1734116	6032829	Midden
<b>Q07/105</b>	1733615	6033227	Midden
<b>Q07/106</b>	1733415	6033127	Midden
<b>Q07/107</b>	1733515	6033127	Midden
<b>Q07/108</b>	1733616	6033028	Midden
<b>Q07/325</b>	1733316	6032927	Midden
<b>Q07/1152</b>	1733516	6032827	Midden
<b>Q07/1153</b>	1733716	6032928	Midden
<b>Q07/1154</b>	1733816	6033028	Midden
<b>Q07/1157</b>	1733432	6032882	Midden
<b>Q07/1162</b>	1733506	6032827	Midden
<b>Q07/1163</b>	1733496	6032827	Midden

**Q07/72:** This site was recorded in 1961 prior to the construction of the oil refinery. The site record form states that it covers the whole of the area owned by the oil company, and describes four midden deposits with references to scatters of shell ‘too numerous to detail’. It is highly likely that all of these deposits were destroyed either during the construction of the refinery or during developments on site since then. If this site still exists it will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/105:** This site was recorded in 1981 as part of a large work scheme survey. The site consisted of three middens. Two of these deposits were 10m apart exposed in the eroding beach front bank, while the third was 10m from the beach front under 5m high gorse/teatree scrub. The first deposit was exposed over 10m along the beach front and was c50cm thick under 8cm topsoil and extended about 3m inland. At the time of recording an obsidian flake was collected from the beach in front of the site. The second deposit consisted of a small midden exposed over 2m. The inland deposit was approximately 4m x 4m. Given the changes to the alignment and angle of the beach that have occurred since the construction of the oil refinery it is considered likely that this site has entirely eroded away. The site record provides almost no details as to the location – apart from reference to a map which is presented below (Figure 8). If this site still exists it will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/106:** This site was recorded in 1981 as part of a large work scheme survey. The site consisted of a midden eroding from sand over an area of 20m, and was described as washed out, present on the beach, with no exposed profile. At the time of recording an obsidian flake was collected from the beach. The site record provides almost no details as to the location – part from reference to a map which is presented below (Figure 8). If this site still exists it will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/107:** This site was recorded in 1981 as part of a large work scheme survey. The site consisted of a midden eroding on the high-water line over an area of 10m x 6m, and was described as part washed out and part covered by consolidated dune. The site record provides almost no details as to the location – apart from reference to a map which is presented below (Figure 8). At the time of recording an obsidian flake was collected from the beach in front of the site.

**Q07/108:** This site was recorded in 1981 as part of a large work scheme survey. The site consisted of three adjacent middens eroding a 1m high bank of old consolidated sand dune. Two of the deposits were quite small, c.8m long and c.2m long, and being about 10cm thick under 2-10cm of topsoil. The third deposit consisted of a 25-50cm thick layer of midden exposed over 53m on three sides of a point into the mudflat. The site record provides almost no details as to the location – part from reference to a map which is presented below (Figure 8). At the time of recording an obsidian flake was collected from the beach in front of the site.

**Q07/325:** This site was recorded in 1981 as part of a large work scheme survey. The site consisted of five middens eroding from the beach front on the point on the western side of Blacksmith Creek. The deposits were 5m, 20m, 12m, 3m and 15m in length and were described as being around 30cm thick. These sites will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/1152:** This site was recorded in 2001. The site was described as alongside a proposed embankment to be part of the stormwater and settlement pond system. Further details



indicate that the location is likely to have been situated between the current pond and the public access walkway, and therefore, the grid reference appears quite accurate. This site will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/1153:** This site was recorded in 2001. The site was described as being alongside a proposed embankment to be part of the stormwater and settlement pond system. Further details indicate that the location is likely to have been situated between the current pond and the public access walkway, and therefore, the grid reference appears quite accurate. This site will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/1154:** This site was recorded in 2001. The site was exposed during topsoil stripping and measured at least 5m x 4.5m, having being cut by a grader. The site was apparently buried under c.1m of topsoil. The grid reference appears quite accurate. This site will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/1157:** This site was recorded in 2002. The site was exposed during topsoil stripping and measured 5m x 3m. The site was situated immediately on the southern side of the vehicle access road and extended south into the native plantation area. The grid reference appears to place the site within Blacksmith's Creek, and is probably out by 50m to the north. This site will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/1162:** This site was recorded in 2002. The site measures 24m x 17m and is situated within the native plantation area on the south side of the vehicle access road. This site will not be impacted by the proposed development.

**Q07/1163:** This site was recorded in 2002. The site measures 13m x 10m and is situated within the native plantation area on the south side of the vehicle access road. This site will not be impacted by the proposed development.

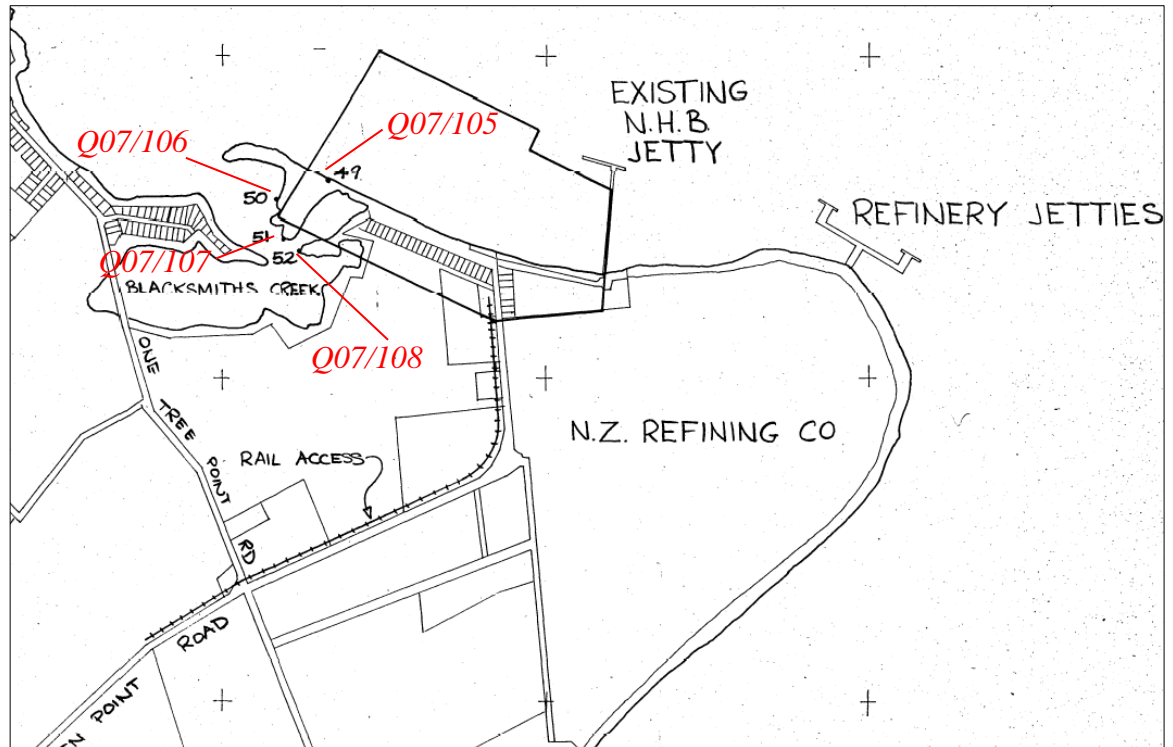


Figure 8. Site location map for sites Q07/105 to Q07/108 (source: NZAA Q07/108 site record form)

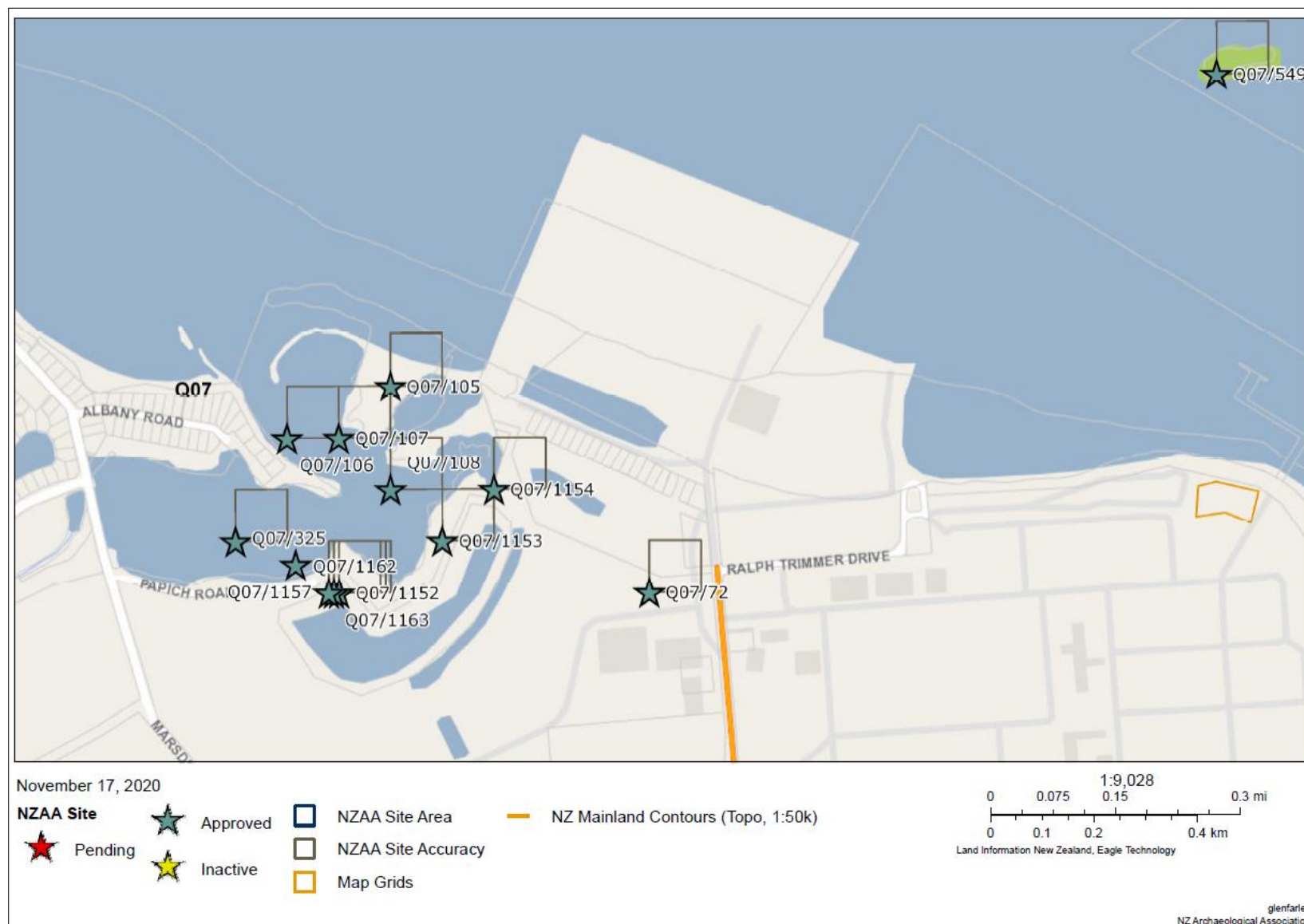


Figure 9. Previously recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of Northport (source: NZAA ArchSite)

## PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The vast majority of the area proposed for development will be land reclaimed from the sea, and is therefore currently water. To the landward side the development will include the existing beach, the foreshore dune environment, and an area immediately behind this which has previously been contoured and built over during construction of the refinery (Figure 10 and Figure 11).



**Figure 10. Close-up view of the Northport area in 1966, with approximate extent of reclamation highlighted in red (source: Retrolens SN1875-5032-18)**



**Figure 11. Close-up view of the Northport area in 1971, with approximate extent of reclamation highlighted in red (source: Retrolens SN32992-4414-14)**



## **FIELD ASSESSMENT**

### **Field Survey Results**

A visual inspection of the project area was conducted on 9 September 2020. The survey was made during fine weather, primarily within either the beach or beach front dune environment. Surface visibility was generally good.

During the survey the beach and beach front sand dunes and the contoured area immediately landward of the dunes were examined (Figure 12 to Figure 14). While shell material was frequent across the beach, and slightly less so within the dunes, this was natural beach shell. The area behind these dunes was noted to have been artificially levelled with drainage pipes installed. This was likely undertaken following the removal of the worker housing which was on site from c.1961-66 to 2006-10. No archaeological deposits were encountered during the survey, and it is considered unlikely that any would be identified in the area.



**Figure 12. Stitched panorama with a view from northwest to northeast showing the existing extent of Northport at left and the refinery terminal at right**





**Figure 13. View facing east along the grassed space between the beach dunes (left) and oil terminal (right)**



**Figure 14. View facing west along the beach dunes towards Northport**

## **DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS**

### **Summary of Results**

Prior to European settlement the One Tree Point/Marsden Point landscape was occupied by Maori. The archaeological literature relating to the area is now becoming more developed, attesting to the length and extent of Maori settlement in this area. A number of archaeological sites relating to Maori settlement are recorded in the general area, mainly clustered along coastal edges.

No archaeological sites have previously been recorded within the port facility and, while 12 are recorded within 1km, these are all situated well to the west and southwest, away from the proposed reclamation area. No archaeological sites are recorded within the marine area, and it is considered very unlikely that any intact deposits would remain. No archaeological sites were identified during the field survey. The potential for undetected subsurface remains within the project area is considered to be very low, but the possibility cannot be excluded.

### **Maori Cultural Values**

This is an assessment of effects on 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.

The historical association of the general area with the tangata whenua is evident from the recorded sites, traditional histories, land records and known Maori 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 wahi tapu and other sites of traditional significance to Maori, especially where these have no physical remains.

### **Archaeological Value and Significance**

The project area has no known archaeological value or significance as no sites have been confirmed within the project area. There is considered to be very limited potential for archaeological remains due to the land use modification that has occurred in the 20th century, and negative results from field survey.

If archaeological remains are present within the project area they would have some archaeological value. 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.

## Effects of the Proposal

The proposed development will involve the creation of approximately 13.7ha of reclaimed land. Design height of the land will match the existing Northport levels, being a minimum of 5m above chart datum. The land will be built using dredge spoil and imported material, with access from the existing port reclamation. Only a small area of land will be affected by construction, as shown in Figure 3. While it is considered unlikely that any unidentified archaeological remains are present within the project area, if any are present they would likely be destroyed by the proposed earthworks.

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 Maori 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 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 Whangarei District Plan is relevant to the proposed activity.

There are no scheduled Sites of Significance to Maori on the property. This assessment has established that the proposed activity will have no effect on any known archaeological remains, and has little potential to affect unrecorded subsurface remains. If resource consent is granted, consent conditions relating to archaeological monitoring or protection would therefore not be required. A general condition relating to the accidental discovery of archaeological remains could be included, requiring that if any archaeological remains are exposed during development, work should cease in the immediate vicinity and the Council and Heritage NZ should be informed.

## 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 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.

An archaeological authority will not be required for the proposed reclamation of Northport 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 or other historic heritage sites have been identified within the development area of the proposed reclamation at Northport. The development will therefore have no known effects on archaeological values.

---

<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.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- There should be no constraints on the proposed reclamation of Northport on archaeological grounds, since no archaeological sites are known to be present and it is considered unlikely that any will be exposed during development.
- If subsurface archaeological evidence should be unearthed during construction (e.g. intact shell midden, hangi, storage pits relating to Maori occupation, or cobbled floors, brick or stone foundation, and rubbish pits relating to 19th century European occupation), work should cease in the immediate vicinity of the remains and Heritage NZ and the Council should be notified.
- If modification of an archaeological site does become necessary, an Authority must be applied for under Section 44(a) of the HNZPTA and granted prior to any further work being carried out that will affect the site. (*Note that this is a legal requirement*).
- In the event of koiwi tangata (human remains) being uncovered, work should cease immediately in the vicinity of the remains and the tangata whenua, Heritage NZ, NZ Police and Council should be contacted so that appropriate arrangements can be made.
- 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 project area.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ballara, A. 2003. *Taua: 'Musket Wars', 'Land Wars' or tikanga? Warfare in Maori Society in the Early Nineteenth Century*. Auckland: Penguin.
- Best, S. 1999. The Prescott's Dam Site, Ruakaka, Site N24/581: Archaeological Excavation of Artifact Findspot. Report for Whangarei District Council.
- Bickler, S.H., B. Baquié, M. Plowman and D. Harlow. 2007. Further Excavations at One Tree Point, Whangarei Harbour. Report for Authority pursuant to Section 14, Historic Places Act 1993 No 2005/209. Architage report.
- Bickler, S. and R. Clough. 2017. Marsden Refinery Whangarei Harbour Dredging: Archaeological Assessment. Clough & Associates report prepared for The New Zealand Refining Company Limited.
- Bickler, S., G. Farley, M. Plowman and R. Clough. 2008. Investigations at McGregors Bay, Whangarei Heads: Final Report in Fulfilment of NZHPT Authority no. 2003/143. Clough & Associates report for Reyburn & Bryant Ltd.
- Campbell, M. 2005. Kowi Lakes Development, One Tree Point, Ruakaka, Lot 1 DP 320790 and Lot 3 DP 327945: Archaeological Assessment. Report to Surveyors North.
- Campbell, M. 2006. Archaeological Investigations of Site Q07/1148, Kowi Lakes, One Tree Point, Ruakaka: Final report. Report to Surveyors North.
- Fletcher, M. March 2018. Otaika Quarry – Proposed Overburden Disposal Area. Cultural Report: Assessment of Effects on Maori Values. Hauauru Trust report for GBC Winstones.
- Green, R. and J. Davidson. 1964. Adult education weekend school. Excavation notes.
- Harlow, D. 1998. Archaeological Survey and Assessment Report for Resource Consent Application: One Tree Point Ltd, One Tree Point, Ruakaka.
- Harlow, D. 2005. Archaeological Assessment Report as Part of Documentation for an Application to the Historic Places Trust under Section 12 of the Historic Places Act 1993: Marsden Point Developments Ltd., La Pointe Beach Estates, One Tree Point, Ruakaka.
- Jones, B., B. Larsen, T. Clough-Macready, S. Bickler, R. Clough and S. Phear. In Prep. Stages 3-10, One Tree Point Road Subdivision Development, Whangarei Harbour: Archaeological Investigation and Monitoring Report. Clough & Associates report Prepared for WHF Properties Ltd.
- Larsen, B. and R. Clough. 2020. Winstone Otaika Quarry Expansion, Pegram Block, Whangarei: Final Archaeological Report. In Accordance with HNZPT Authority No, 2019/350. Clough & Associates report prepared for Winstone Aggregates, A Division of Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd.
- Nevin, G. 1982. Whangarei Harbour Study: Archaeology. A report for the New Zealand Historic Places Trust.
- Nevin and Nevin. 1981. Archaeological Site Survey: Project Employment Programme, Whangarei Harbour Mangapai River - Marsden Point. Report for Ministry of Works and Development and Historic Places Trust.
- Phillips, C. and D. Harlow. 2001. Investigation of Midden Sites at One Tree Point, Whangarei Harbour.
- Pickmere, N.P. 1986. *Whangarei. The Founding Years 1820 -1880*. Whangarei: N.P. Pickmere.
- Plowman, M., G. Farley, N. Hill, S. Bickler and R. Clough. 2006. One Tree Pt – Stage 1: Preliminary Report. Clough & Associates report to the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and Dannemora Ltd.
- Plowman, M., G. Farley, N. Hill, S. Bickler and J. Low. 2008. One Tree Point, Whangarei Harbour: Final Report on Stage 1 Investigations. Clough & Associates report to the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and Dannemora Ltd.
- Prince, D. 2003. One Tree Point Road/Pyle Road West Development (Lot 1 DP 153407), One Tree Point, Whangarei District: Proposed Subdivision: Archaeological Survey and Assessment of Effects. Report to Wood and Partners.



- Prince, D. 2004a. Danne Mora One Tree Point Development (Lot 2 DP 332054, DP 106192, SO 26701 and DP 197696), One Tree Point, Whangarei District: Proposed Subdivision: Archaeological Survey and Assessment of Effects. Report to Wood and Partners.
- Prince, D. 2004b. Letter to Wood and Partners, 5/9/2004.
- Richards, J. 1984. Ruakaka. A Brief History. Ruakaka Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association.
- Rust, A.M. 1936. *Whangarei and District Early Reminiscences*. Reed.
- Thorne J.G. 1876. Notes on the Discovery of Moa and Moa-hunters' Remains at Pataua River, near Whangarei, in *Transactions of the New Zealand Institute*, vol. 8, pp. 83-94.
- Vallance, D. 1964. *The Story of Whangarei*. Auckland: Whangarei Heads Centennial Committee.