

Tokanui Psychiatric Hospital: archaeological assessment

**report to
Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand
and
Underground Overground Archaeology**

Leela Moses and Danielle Trilford

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1 Introduction

Toitū Te Whenua Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) plan to undertake demolition and remediation works at the site of the former Tokanui Psychiatric Hospital at 149 Te Matawhai Rd, Tokanui (Section 1 SO 44852; Section 1 SO 59771), which is currently designated as a Deferred Selection Property in the Maniapoto Deed of Settlement. Although a detailed plan of works has not yet been determined, the remaining structures on the site are to be demolished and their foundations removed. The works are in preparation transfer to Ngāti Manipoto as part of their settlement with the Crown. The transfer of this site requires demolition of hospital buildings that have fallen into disrepair since the 1998 closure of the hospital. No archaeological sites are currently recorded within the boundaries of the hospital. However, it is located along the southern banks of the Pūniu River, which was central to the pre-European Māori settlement of the area, adjacent to major battles during the Waikato War, and would become the southern boundary of Te Rohe Pōtae, all of which suggests previously unrecorded archaeological material may be present. An archaeological assessment of effects is required to support possible applications for an archaeological authority to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT). Hayden Cawte of Underground Overground Archaeology commissioned this report on behalf of LINZ from CFG Heritage Ltd

1.1 Statutory requirements

All archaeological sites, whether recorded or not, are protected by the provisions of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 and may not be destroyed, damaged or modified without an authority issued by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT).

An archaeological site is defined in the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act as:

- (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).

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) requires City, District and Regional Councils to manage the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way that provides for the wellbeing of today's communities while safeguarding the options of future generations. The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development is identified as a matter of national importance (Section 6f).

Historic heritage is defined as those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures, derived from archaeological, architectural, cultural, historic, scientific, or technological qualities.

Historic heritage includes:

- historic sites, structures, places, and areas
- archaeological sites;
- sites of significance to Maori, including wahi tapu;
- surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources (RMA Section 2).

These categories are not mutually exclusive and some archaeological sites may include above ground structures or may also be places that are of significance to Maori.

Where resource consent is required for any activity the assessment of effects is required to address cultural and historic heritage matters.

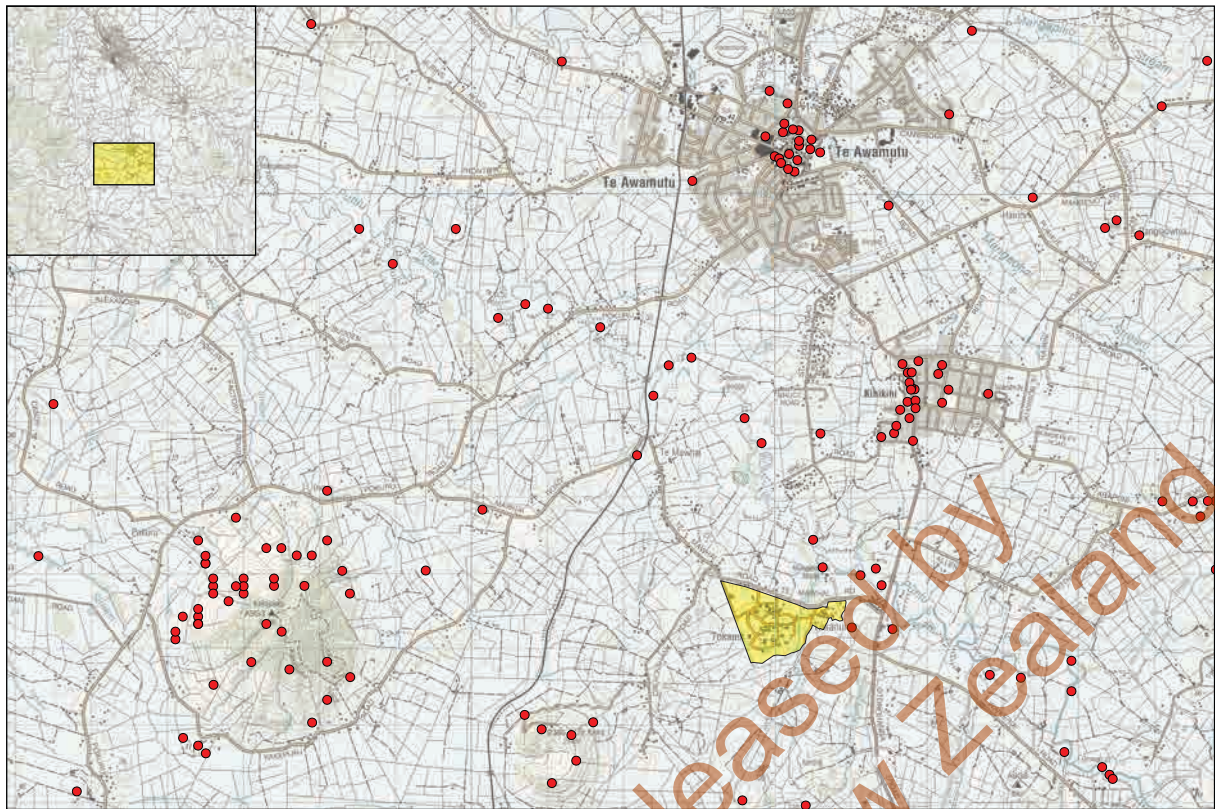


Figure 1. Location of the former Tokanui Hospital and archaeological sites recorded in the vicinity.

2 Methodology

Much of the background for this report was drawn directly from Eva Garbutt (2022) *Tokanui History*, and Campbell (2014) *Te Awamutu Reinforcement Project: Archaeological assessment*.

The following digital resources were also consulted:

- Archaeological site records were accessed from the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) Site Recording Scheme (SRS) through ArchSite (<http://archsite.org.nz>).
- The Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) digital library was searched for relevant reports on previous archaeological investigations (<https://dl.heritage.org.nz/greenstone3/library/collection/pdf-reports/>).
- Modern aerial images and land parcel information were accessed from Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) data service (<https://data.linz.govt.nz/data>).
- Historic aerial imagery was accessed from Retrolens (<https://retrolens.nz/>).
- Historic maps and plans held by LINZ were accessed using QuickMap.
- Digital NZ was searched for records of old maps and plans.
- The National Library/Alexander Turnbull Library was searched for historic photographs of the site (<https://natlib.govt.nz/>).
- Soil types were determined using the New Zealand Land Resource Inventory (NZLRI) soils portal (<https://iris.scinfo.org.nz/layer/48066-nzlri-soil/>).
- SmartMaps was used to access Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research soil data (<https://smap.landcareresearch.co.nz/maps-and-tools/app/>).
- Manaaki Whenua was also searched for historic and pre-human environmental information (https://ourenvironment.scinfo.org.nz/maps-and-tools/app/Wetlands/wetlands_historic).
- Several texts were accessed at the Auckland City Library.

A site visit was undertaken by Danielle Trilford and Leela Moses on 7 September 2022, using hand augering to analyse subsoil conditions. A two day cultural induction at Mangatoatoa Marae was attended by Danielle Trilford and Leela Moses on 8 – 9 February 2023. . The results of this hui will be presented in a CVA, but kōrero from this hui have formed part of this assessment and are discussed in the mana whenua section below.

3 Background

Much of the background for this report was drawn directly from Garbutt (2022) and Campbell (2014).

The former Tokanui Hospital complex is located on what is currently flat rural farmland on the floodplain of the Pūniu River, to the south of Te Awamutu and Kihikihi. The majority of the site rests on volcanic soils with moderate drainage, with some patches of yellow-brown loams (Soil Bureau Bulletin 1954: 128-168; <https://smap.landcareresearch.co.nz/maps-and-tools/app/>). Prior to human arrival the area directly around the Pūniu River was forested with kahikatea-pukatea-tawa forest with much of the surrounding area in wetland (<https://iris.scinfo.org.nz/layer/48289-potential-vegetation-of-new-zealand/data/>; https://ourenvironment.scinfo.org.nz/maps-and-tools/app/Wetlands/wetlands_historic).

According to historical accounts, the vegetation of the flat land immediately surrounding the Pūniu River in the vicinity of the project area appears to have consisted of native shrubs, flax and pockets of swampland in the 19th century, which was drained after the land confiscations of the New Zealand Wars (*Waikato Times*, 15 January 1878: 3) The hospital site is at the junction of three waterways, noted in ML 6748 drawn in 1889 as Mokoroa, Tarutahi Swamp, and Wharekorino Swamp (Figure 2) (Te Muraahi and Maniapoto 2021). That plan also shows a transport route, presumably either a walking or horse track through the project area.

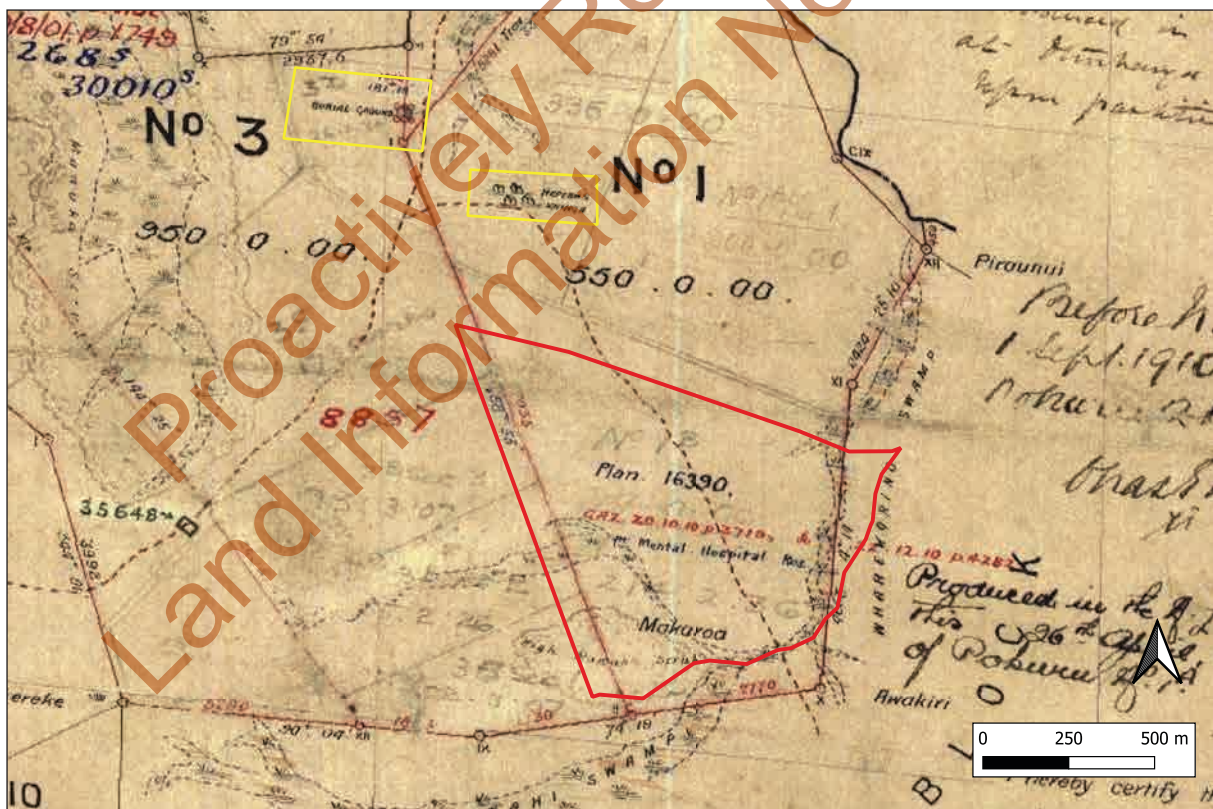


Figure 2. Detail of ML 6748 drawn, 1889, of the Pokuru Block.

Following the establishment of the Tokanui Mental Hospital in 1912, hospital structures as well as domestic dwellings and gardens were successively constructed on the properties encompassed by this assessment. Much of the surrounding land today consists of smaller scale farming blocks and pockets of smaller rural houses and settlements.

3.1 Pre-European Māori

The greater Waikato and Waipā district was occupied as early as the 14th century by peoples of *Tainui* waka, who gradually displaced the first inhabitants of the land residing along the banks of the Pūniu River, either through war or assimilation (Taitoko 1998). According to reports the original inhabitants were either Ngāti Kahupungapunga (Waipā District Council 2014) or Te Waiohua (Maniapoto-Anderson 2012). All tangata whenua of the Waipā district today can trace their ancestry to Tāwhao, a direct descendant of Hoturoa, the captain of the *Tainui* (Waipā District Council 2014).

Pre-1900 settlements around Tokanui were concentrated along waterways, including the Pūniu River which runs north of the site. The Waipā district, particularly around the Pūniu and Waipā Rivers, was densely populated and utilised by Māori, with settlements, urupā and mahinga kai distributed throughout the region as observed at the time of European settlement (Waipā District Council 2014). In addition to the Pūniu River and surrounding land representing a focus for the gathering of resources such as flax, eels and other freshwater species by local Māori, several temporary and more permanent settlements were established in the Waipā district (Te Onewa Consultants 2017). These included larger pā along the Pūniu River, such as Rewatu, Kaiure, Piranui and Te Horanga) and on hilltops further away from the river. The large hill running along the western extent of the hospital site was known as Mokoroa, and has been referenced as the site of an extensive settlement or pā (pers. comm. Toataua, N. 2023). The large areas of former swampland were utilised and traversed by Māori, with kōrero of the surrounding plants and shrubs being utilised in rongoa (Te Muraahi and Maniapoto 2021). Te Awamutu, the name of which refers to the end of canoe navigation on the Manga-o-hoi stream, the point from which Māori who wanted to travel further inland had to proceed on foot, was an early settlement in the area, as was nearby Kihikihi (Barber 1984: 20; Simmons 2006).

3.2 19th Century Māori

Early accounts and traditional histories indicate that the late 18th to early 19th centuries were a period of major change for Māori in the Waipā, characterised by inter-tribal conflict and major population movements. The Pūniu River has often functioned as a border, including between Ngāti Toa and Ngāti Raukawa during periods of conflict (Phillips 1995: 137). Phillips (1989: 90) recounts the tale of a battle between Ngāti Whakare and Ngāti Maniapoto at a pā 'within revolver shot' of the current Tokanui village, in about 1800.

The rise of musket warfare between 1810 to 1865 led to an increase in inter- and intra-tribal warfare among the various iwi and hapū of the region during the so-called Musket Wars. The Kingitanga movement was formed in response to pressure for land sales, with the first Māori King, Pōtatau Te Wherowhero, elected in 1857 (Bass 1993: 32–33). The movement was seen as an attack on British sovereignty, impeding the Crown's acquisition of land. King Pōtatau died in 1860 and was succeeded by his son Matutaera Tāwhiao. Following increased tensions between Māori and Europeans in Auckland and Waikato districts, Governor Grey issued an 1863 ultimatum to Waikato Tribes around Auckland: drop their arms and swear allegiance to the Queen or retreat beyond Mangatāwhiri and lose their lands. Before the ultimatum reached Māori, Crown troops crossed the Mangatāwhiri into the Waikato, beginning the Waikato War.

Following the war, an aukati (border) was established along the Pūniu River, with garrisoned redoubts on the northern side and Kingitanga settlements on the south (Marr 1996: 7). The aukati effectively closed the King Country to Europeans.

In 1880 the railhead of the North Island Main Trunk line reached Te Awamutu and a link through the King Country was seen as essential to opening up the country for European settlement and development. Within the Kingitanga there was also internal pressure for titles to land to be legally recog-



Figure 3. The turning of the sod for the northern trunk railway, along the Pūniu River. Rewi Maniapoto centre with grey beard and top hat. APG-1180-1/2-F, Alexander Turnbull Library 1885.

nised so that land could be leased or otherwise used for economic gain (Marr 1996: 11). Following negotiations, it was agreed that the Rohe Pōtāe would be opened in exchange for Crown assistance in the maintenance of Iwi and hapū authority, and the continuation on the ban of liquor sales in the area (Marr 1999: 156; Murray and Cocker 1930). The first sod on the south side of the Pūniu River was turned on 15 April 1885. By 1887 the line had reached Otorohanga and just a few months later Te Kuiti, but it was not until 1908 that the final spike was driven to complete the main trunk line.

3.3 European Settlement

Missionaries arrived as early as 1834 in the Waipā and Waikato districts and began to establish parishes and later churches, focussing largely on the land surrounding the western coastline (Marr 1996). One of the first inland mission stations was Mangapouri (S15/134, outside the Study Area), established by the Church Missionary Society (CMS) near the junction of the Pūniu and Waipā rivers in 1834, although this proved to be a short-lived affair and was abandoned in 1836. The CMS soon after restored their base in the region with the Rev B. Y. Ashwell, who persuaded some of the local Māori at Otawhao (Te Awamutu) to help him establish a mission station there in 1839 (S15/325).

While there is evidence for European ownership of land south of the Pūniu River in the 1860s, with T. Russell having purchase large tracts of land encompassing the Pokuru Block from Māori landowners on 1868, it is unlikely that this land was intensively settled or farmed given the conflicts between European settlers and Māori from the 1860s onwards. More intensive and extensive European occupation of the land south of the Pūniu River only commenced following the delineation of native land after the Native Land Court hearings in the late 1880s.

3.4 Tokanui Psychiatric Hospital

Negotiations commenced between the Crown and local hapū in the early 20th century for the purchase of large blocks of land immediately to the south of the Pūniu River for the purposes of establishing a prison and associated reformatory farm (Waikeria) and a mental hospital at Tokanui (Taitoko, 1998) under the provisions of the Public Works Act 1908. Previously defined blocks were further subdivided, with the 5146 acres procured by the Crown from the former Pokuru 1 (Taitoko 1998). The main hospital was established on the Pokuru 1B block, covering an area of 215 acres, with an additional 15 acres to the east of the hospital complex being used for the construction of 52 residential dwellings, a water and sewage supply system, a cemetery and other ancillary buildings (Taitoko 1998). Much of the land clearance was undertaken by prisoners from Waikeria, who also constructed some of the prison buildings (Cameron and Clough 2016: 6). In 1923 concerns were raised by Raureti Te Huia regarding two urupā on the site which the Government had failed to protect as promised. One of these is identified by Wayne Taitoko as the nearby Pukekawakawa burial reserve. The exact location of the second is unknown, though it is believed to be within the hospital grounds (Te Muraahi & Maniapoto 2021: 48). Further research in subsequent stages of the project may help identify the location of the urupā.

Site selection was driven by a general shift from urban to rural locations for asylums, to ensure patient privacy, mollify public fears, and ensure space for future development. The space also enabled the hospital to be somewhat self-sufficient, with onsite gardens and orchards worked by patients for both therapeutic and economic gain (Campion et al.: 29-31). Te Mawhai Road, as well as other roads associated with the hospital complex, were also constructed during the first decades of the hospital's establishment in 1912 (*Waikato Times*, 10 January 1917: 4).

In 1993, Health Waikato announced the closure of the hospital. Since this time, the hospital complex has been abandoned and has largely fallen into disrepair, with the residential dwellings on the properties to the east being occupied by private individuals. Shortly after the announcement of the hospital closure, the original Māori owners of the land lodged a claim with the Waitangi Tribunal for the return of their ancestral land (Taitoko 1998).

4 Archaeological Background

There are no recorded archaeological sites in the project area, and there are no records of archaeological work undertaken in or near the project area. There are, however, several pā recorded along the Pūniu River in either direction of the site, including oral traditions of a pā or settlement along Mokoroa hill, through the western edge of the project area. There are interview records taken in 1923 noting an urupā within the hospital grounds, the location of which is unknown. In addition to the urupā, several areas of cultural sensitivity were noted by mana whenua representatives, including land around the former men's dormitories (also known as Buildings 13 and 48), and around a "ditch" on the western edge of the site (pers. comm. Maniapoto 2023). Commercial mitigation archaeological monitoring and investigations have also taken place in the wider region, particularly in association with wastewater pipelines, Waikeria Prison and powerline installation (Campbell and Harris 2012; Druskovich 2007; Lawrence 2019; O'Hagan and Keith 2019; Simmons 2006; Ussher 2020).

Archaeological monitoring of trenching in Kihikihi has been undertaken four times (Druskovich, 2007; Hoffmann, 2010; Cruickshank and Craig 2020). These projects uncovered historic waste consistent with both military and residential settlements. These included large amounts of alcohol bottles from the hospitality industry, blacksmithing waste and religious items. Other works have focussed on identifying structures and material related to Crown military actions (Simmons 2006).

Work for the Waipā power network has involved the survey and mapping of archaeological sites across the Waipā district. This identified issues with accuracy in recorded locations of archaeological sites, and the lack of systematic survey on the region. Pā from documentary sources, for example Haereatea Pā were noted, this pā was not seen during survey. There was, however, another pā along an oxbow of the Pūniu River, confirming the pattern of pā along the rivers bank (Campbell 2014).

A 1980 field survey of the Lower Pūniu River by Leahy and Walsh extended from just to the south of Tokanui Hospital. Walkovers along the river noted that the area has been extensively ploughed, and many of the ridges bulldozed. Several sites that had been recorded by Steve Edson from aerial photography were confirmed and a further 115 sites added to the record, consisting of mostly pā in prominent positions and within sight of each other and pit/terrace sites. This survey indicated that despite extensive land modification the Pūniu Riverbanks and surrounds contained intact archaeological sites (Edson 1980).

The area around Tokanui Hospital itself has not been well surveyed, with archaeological field work tending to be focused on developed settlements or constrained by development plans. Six archaeological sites are recorded within 2 km of the hospital grounds, all of which are pre-European Māori pā. Many of these were identified in 1980 by Steve Edson of the Waikato Museum from aerial photographs, which explains the dominance of large, exposed earthworks sites such as pā and pit/terrace sites, which are more clearly visible in the photographs. Many of these sites have not been field checked by archaeologists. Although in the Waikato, Pūniu River is not associated with the Waikato Garden Soil complex or borrow pits, and there are no pre-European Māori horticultural sites recorded in the area. However, the presence of 10 storage pit sites within 5 km of Tokanui Hospital, indicates that horticulture was occurring.

There are also several 19th century period sites in the wider area, including a redoubt and stockade associated with the Waikato constabulary force (S15/235 and S15/2360), two taverns (S15/394 and S15/398) and some domestic and rubbish sites in nearby Kihikihi.

4.1 LiDAR

2014 Waikato Council LiDAR was converted to a hillshade model to examine the terrain for any earthwork features not visible from the surface. The two former swamps, now streams, surrounding

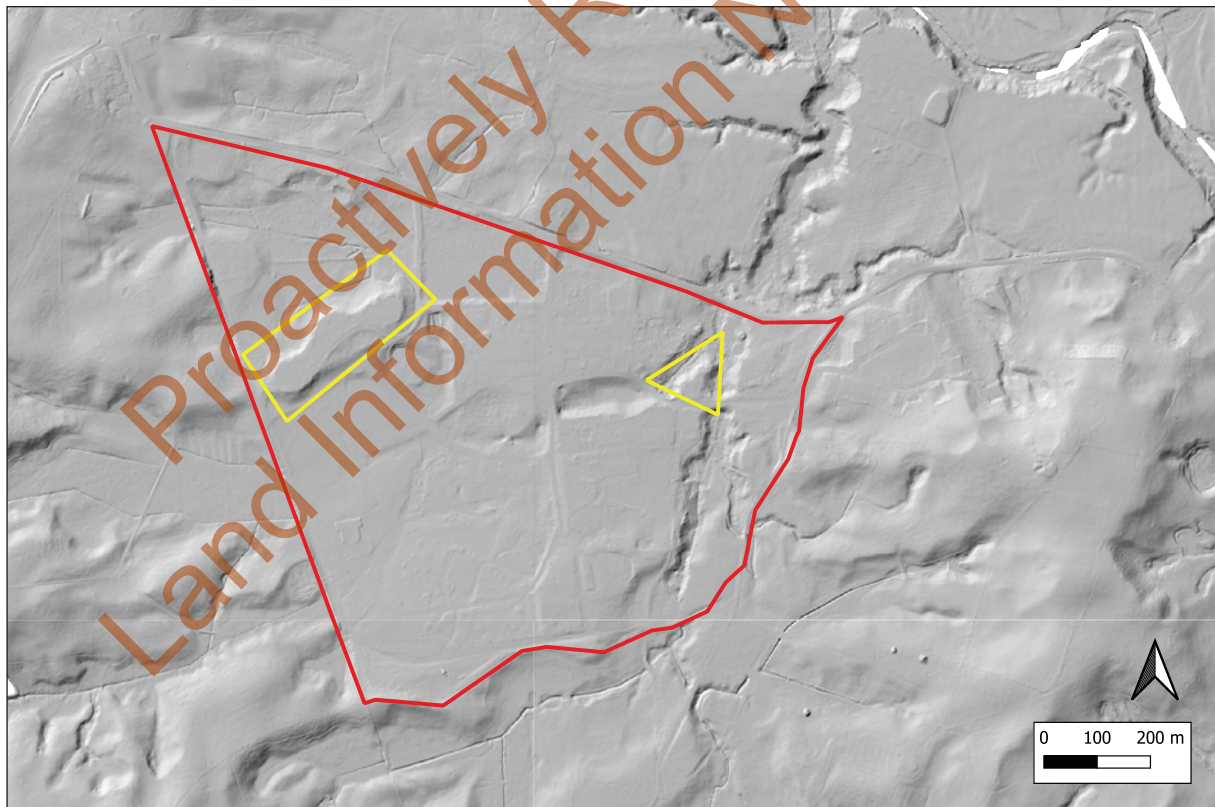


Figure 4. Hillshade LiDAR showing two high points identified during field survey.

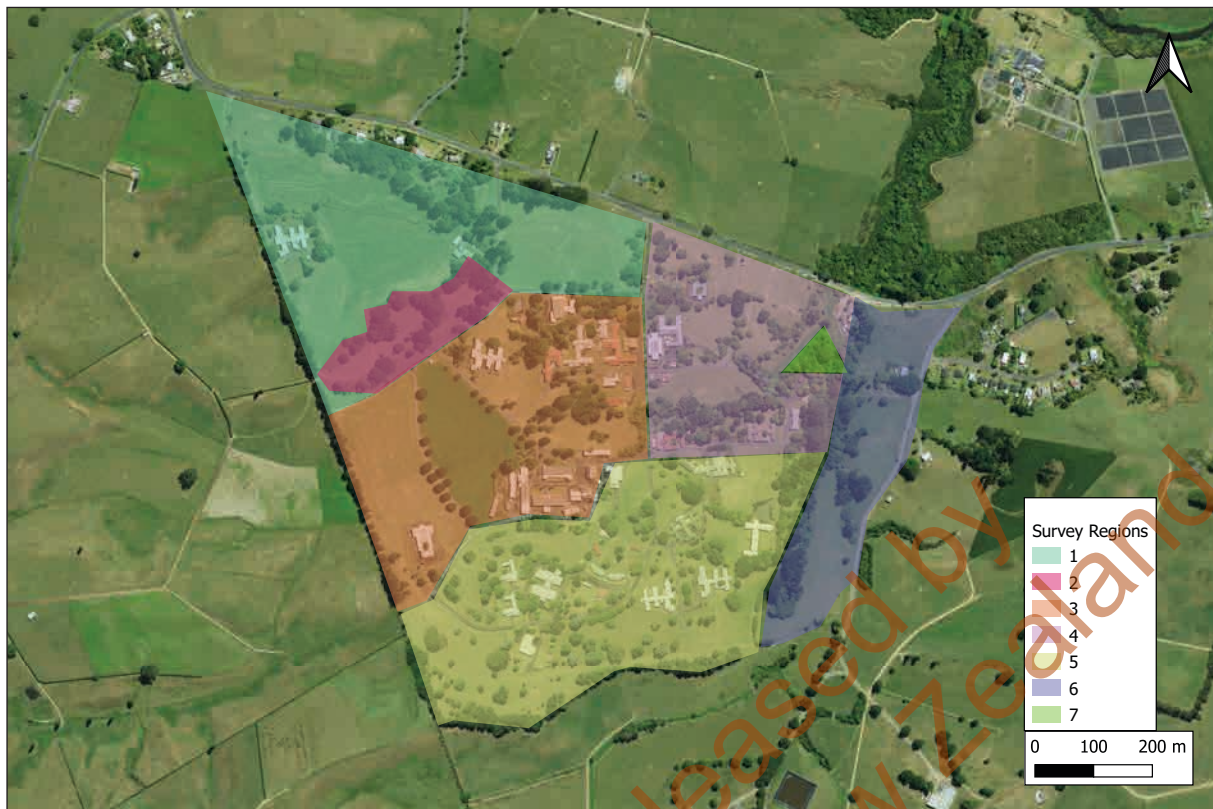


Figure 5. Survey zones.

the site are clear, with no evidence of archaeological earthworks in the project location. A ditch visible in the western portion of the site may be the area referred to by mana whenua representatives as an area of cultural sensitivity, that will be addressed in a cultural impact assessment. The LiDAR resolution was insufficient to identify any smaller features but two high points identified during field survey are clear are highlighted in yellow in Figure 4.

5 Mana whenua hui

A two-day cultural induction at Mangatoatoa Marae was attended by Danielle Trilford and Leela Moses on 8 – 9 February 2023. During this hui discussions were held regarding the location of areas which may be culturally sensitive. Further details regarding areas of cultural sensitivity will be discussed in a CIA.

6 Field Survey

The area of proposed works was inspected visually with survey conducted both on foot and by vehicle. A series of soil auger tests were taken on high points to examine soil conditions, extent of modification and stratigraphy. Foot survey focused on high points and waterways, with general survey of paddocks. No structures were accessed during this survey. No cultural material was identified, however two areas were identified which warrant further attention. There is no surface evidence of the walking track observed in the 1889 drawings of the area.



Figure 6. Typical auger results in low-lying area, zone 1.



Figure 7. Ridge of hill with tree-lined road, zone 2.



Figure 8. Auger results from point of hill, zone 2.

6.1 Survey zone 1

Survey zone 1 consists of the north-western portion of the site, and is mainly grassed paddock currently stocked with cattle, with scrub and bush around the outer edges and structures in the centre. Initial augering of the lowland paddock in zone 1 exposed no archaeological material, and subsoils were consistent with those in former wetlands (Figure 6). This is supported by Manaaki Whenua historic wetland data. Augers ran to a maximum depth of 700 mm into the subsoils.

6.2 Survey zone 2

This zone is a long linear hill running through the north-western portion of the site. As a prominent high point particular attention was paid. The hill has gently sloping sides and a flat ridge on top; the ridge is one of the highest points in the wider area and commands wide views of the Pūniu River. A hospital road runs along its centre, lined with exotic trees including blossom and citrus trees (Figure 7). Multiple disconnected yellow fire hydrants are evidence of former structures (Mark Collins pers. comm. 2022). Several of these dotted along the hill indicate that it has been significantly modified and may have been levelled. Augers taken at the northern point of the ridge showed 400 mm of dark brown, organic rich topsoil overlying a yellow brown loam. Small red brick fragments were identified in the topsoil layer (Figure 8).

6.3 Survey zone 3

Survey region 3 is the centre west portion of the site, consisting of paddocks to the western edge, and hospital buildings towards the east. The central parts of region 3 are heavily modified with



Figure 9. South facing view along streams edge with structures in the background.

buildings and associated grounds. The surrounding paddocks are lowland and appear to be drained wetlands. The area appears to have been highly modified.

6.4 Survey zone 4

The north central portion of the site consisted largely of landscaped parklands, with several hospital buildings, divided by rows of exotic trees. The area appeared highly modified. Walking along the Tarutahi stream could not be accessed directly due to fencing and dense vegetation. There was no visible surface evidence of archaeological material in zone 4 and the area appears to have been highly modified.

6.5 Survey zone 5

Survey zone 5 consists of the southern section of the site. This is largely stocked paddocks, with several hospital roads and structures, including the male nurses dormitory, a riding for the disabled park and the isolation / infectious disease ward (Mark Collins pers. comm. 2022). There was no visible surface evidence of archaeological material in zone 5 and the area appears to have been highly modified.

6.6 Survey zone 6

Survey zone 6 was accessed via Farm Road. This is a grassy space along the outside of the Tarutahi Stream, and was littered with rubbish, as well as scrub. It appeared to be mostly modified, with older paths and roadways cutting across it.



Figure 10. Stepped slope of hill below morgue, zone 8.

6.7 Survey zone 7

Survey zone 7 is made up of a small north facing point at the confluence of two streams, including the Tarutahi stream. The Tokanui Hospital Morgue rests on at the entrance to the hill which is a small square building with a road running around it. The hill has flat, stepped sides on the slopes, and is covered in exotic trees with native regrowth (Figure 10). It is unclear if these stepped terraces are modern or not. The eastern edge has a more natural, gentle slope down to a wide terrace, with large trees covering much of its surface, before sloping down again to the stream below.

7 Assessment

The following assessment of values and significance relate only to archaeological values. Other interested parties, in particular mana whenua, may hold different values regarding the proposed works.

The Tokonui Psychiatric Hospital grounds are part of a wider under-recorded archaeological landscape. Although there are no recorded archaeological sites within the grounds, based on discussions with mana whenua, topography, elevation, the presence and positions of waterways, soil attributes, and similar variables there is reasonable cause to suspect that there may have been kāinga and ūrupa within parts of the hospital grounds. Previously unrecorded archaeological sites may be present along the high points in survey zones 2 and 7.

7.1 Assessment of values

No recorded archaeological sites will be impacted by the proposed works. Previously unrecorded archaeological sites may be impacted by the soil testing, particularly along the high points

in survey zones 2 and 7. Historic sources, oral traditions and previous archaeological investigations indicate that the site of the former Tokanui Hospital was used by Māori prior to 1900, however modification associated with the draining of swamp lands and construction of the hospital may have destroyed the physical evidence. Importantly, the ground disturbance is evidenced to be patchily present – meaning there is reasonable cause to suspect potential previously unrecorded archaeological deposits may be exposed in areas where certain testing areas are proposed.

Although outside the scope of this assessment, kōrero with mana whenua have highlighted several areas of potential cultural sensitivity which will be addressed in a CIA at a later date.

7.2 Assessment of effects

The proposed ground disturbance for geotechnical testing includes hand auguring, test pitting with hydraulic diggers, and composite testing involving a combination of the two methods. The proposed test areas will fall within areas of concern (Figure 11):

- WDF TP 01-05; WDG TP01-05; WDH TP01-05 are all along the top of Mokoroa (survey zone 2).
- Hand augurs just below survey zone 7, STR SW02-03; HSP SW01-03.

7.2.1 Testing in zones 1, 3–6

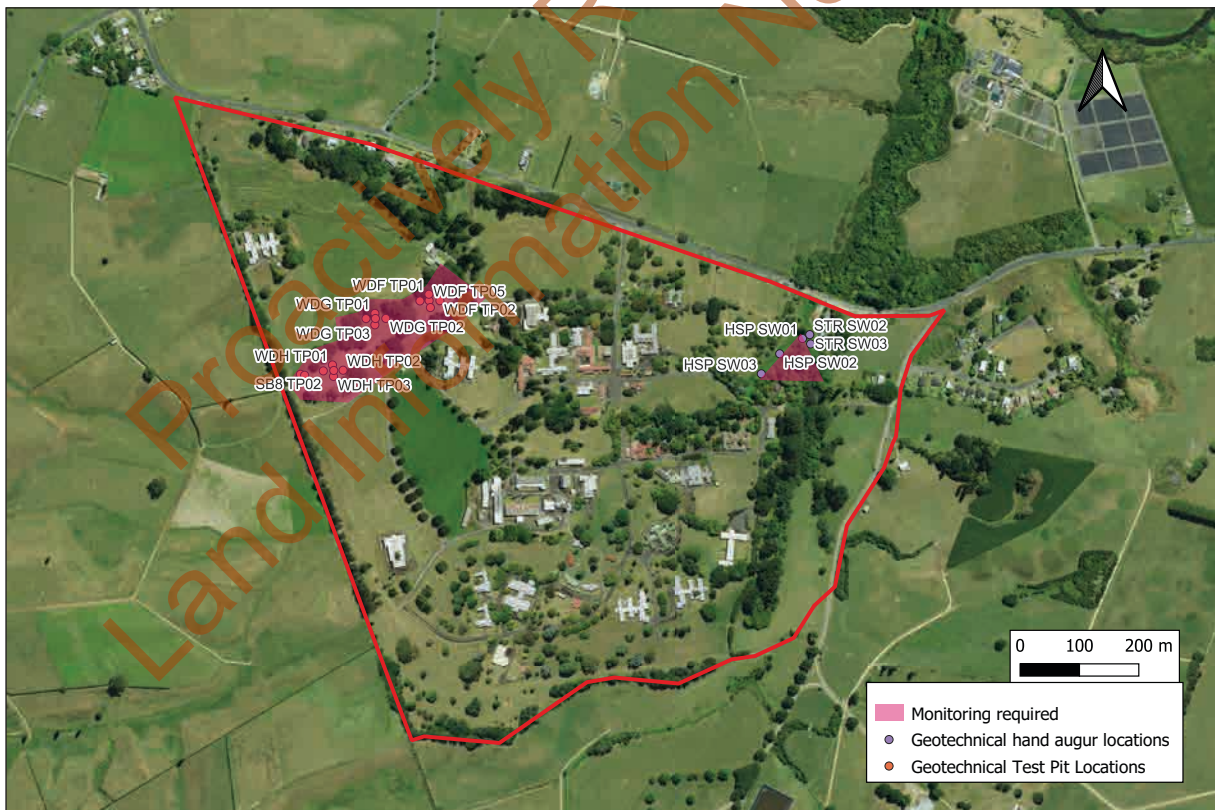
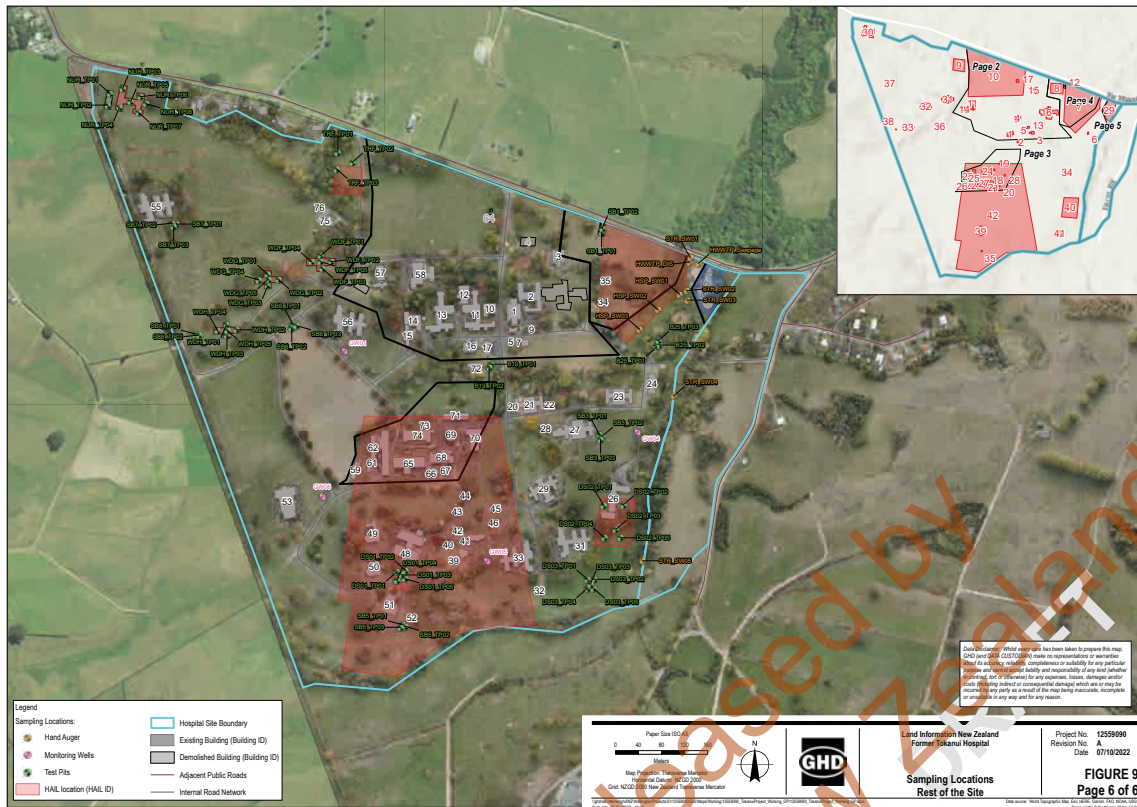
Most of the Tokanui Hospital site appears to have been heavily modified, both with swamp drainage and the construction of the hospital itself. Given previous works in the area, including the draining of swamps, and construction of the Tokanui Hospital structures and grounds, there is no reasonable cause to suspect in-situ subsurface archaeological deposits will be encountered during the proposed geotechnical testing in survey zones 1 and 3–6.

7.2.2 Zone 2

The hill extending through the western extent of the former Tokanui Hospital is a headland that is bordered by a stream and used to be flanked by wetlands. The hill commands wide views of the Pūniu River and the broader area. Oral traditions refer to this headland as the site of a settlement or pā called Mokoroa. Mokoroa is annotated in the same location on pre-1900 plans. Although there is evidence of ground modification for roading and structures on parts of the hill, there is potential for previously unrecorded archaeological sites. Given its position as a high point surrounded by historic wetlands, view of Pūniu River, in an area which historic sources and oral traditions indicate was used by Māori pre-1900, soil types, and poorly recorded archaeological landscape, a precautionary approach is recommended. Should archaeological deposits be exposed within Zone 2, these are expected to be associated to pre-European Māori domestic features such as post holes and similar structural subsurface features, fire scoops and burning features, and potentially storage features like pits and bin pits. The features if present may be truncated however still hold archaeological value. Should the testing works expose potential previously recorded archaeological sites, these will be negatively impacted through their removal in the testing areas.

7.2.3 Zone 7

The north facing high point where the former morgue stands is a headland at the confluence of two streams. It is common for these topographic and environmental areas to be suitable areas for pre-European Māori areas given their visual command of the area and easily defended. The hill is covered in exotic trees, with native undergrowth and has a stepped eastern slope. Should archaeological deposits be exposed within Zone 7, these are expected to be associated to pre-European Māori domestic features such as post holes and similar structural subsurface features, fire scoops and burning features, and potentially storage features like pits and bin pits. The features if present may be truncated and / or partly damaged by bioturbation however still hold archaeological value. Should



the testing works expose potential previously recorded archaeological sites, these will be negatively impacted through their removal in the testing areas.

7.3 Mitigation of effects

Proposed ground disturbance in survey zones 2 and 8 should be monitored by a suitably qualified archaeologist (Figure 12). Should any material be exposed relating to pre-European Māori land use these should be investigated and sampled following standard archaeological best practice, and there should be a focus on radiocarbon dating to contribute to better understanding of the chronology of Māori settlement in the area. It is expected mana whenua will provide recommendations on the cultural management of the works.

8 Recommendations

These recommendations are only made based on the archaeological values that have been outlined above. Any other values associated with special interest groups, including tangata whenua, can only be determined by them. It is recommended that:

- an authority to destroy, damage or modify previously unrecorded sites be applied for from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) under Section 45 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 for works in zones 2 and 7;
- note that this is a legal requirement;
- no authority should be applied for without consultation with the appropriate tangata whenua authorities; evidence of consultation, and views expressed, will be required by HNZPT, and will be taken into account when making a decision about the granting of the authority
- note that the application process may take up to three months from the date of lodgement, and following issue there is a period of 15 working days during which earthworks cannot commence to allow for appeals to the Environment Court;
- appropriate tikanga (protocols) should be followed during works – mana whenua may make recommendations outlining these;
- in the event of kōiwi (human remains) being uncovered during any future construction, work should cease immediately and mana whenua should be contacted so that suitable arrangements can be made;
- since archaeological survey cannot always detect sites of traditional significance to Māori, or wāhi tapu, mana whenua should be consulted regarding the possible existence of such sites, and the recommendations in this report.
- all works in zones 1 and 3–6 should be undertaken under an Accidental Discovery Protocol; a draft protocol is attached to this report;

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Accidental Discovery Protocol

In the event of the accidental or unexpected discovery of archaeological features, including human remains:

1. All work within the vicinity of the discovery should cease immediately.
2. A buffer of at least 5 m should be set up around the discovery and this should be marked on the ground, preferably with pegs and tape, or similar.
3. All machinery and plant should be removed from the buffer zone where this is possible.
4. The site archaeologist, or other qualified archaeologist, should be informed.
 - i. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) should be informed.
 - ii. If the discovery is of Māori origin, the relevant tāngata whenua authorities should also be informed. Appropriate protocols (tikanga) should be observed.
 - iii. If the discovery is of human remains, the New Zealand Police should also be informed.
5. The archaeologist should take relevant steps to secure the area of the discovery.
6. The archaeologist will assess the discovery and advise HNZPT and the client on the relevant steps to be taken.
7. Works in the area of the discovery shall not recommence until authorised in writing by the archaeologist in consultation with any identified affected parties or HNZPT.

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