

6.12 Te Ngaere Historic Park

Description

Location:	Riversdale Drive, corner of Kauri Street, Merrilands, New Plymouth
Legal description:	Lot 30 DP 13708, Lot 31 DP 12568 Lot 31 DP 13753
Size:	3.57 hectares
Reserve status:	All lots subject to the Reserves Act 1977
Reserve classification:	All lots are Local purpose (esplanade) reserve



Physical description

The reserve consists of a river flat and terrace connected by a steep bank which alternates to cliff face in places. The steep bank/cliff is vegetated in native flora and the flatter areas are grassed and grazed. The river flat area is part of a walkway along the Waiwhakaiho River. Access from the river flat to the terrace is not possible but is achievable further to the north, at another reserve fronting onto Riverside Drive.

Tangata whenua interests

This reserve is of historic and cultural significance to Te Atiawa and Taranaki Iwi and the Ngati Te Whiti and Nga Mahanga-a-Tairi hapu.

Land status and acquisition history

The three lots were vested in the Council when the land containing the lots was subdivided. Lot 31 DP 12568 was vested with the Council in trust as a esplanade reserve in December 1978. Both Lots 30 DP 13708 and 31 DP 13753 were vested in the Council as Local purpose (esplanade) reserves in July 1982.

History and cultural values

The Ratahangae/Ratakengai Pa is located on Lot 30 DP 13708. The pa is sited on the edge of the river terrace, above a cliff face overlooking the river flat of the Waiwhakaiho. Ratahangae/Ratakengai Pa is listed as a waahi tapu site in the District Plan.

On the opposite bank of the Waiwhakaiho River are two waahi tapu sites, Mapou Pa (Puketapu) and Raukawakawa Pa. This latter pa is visible in the aerial photo at the beginning of this information sheet.

The site has a New Zealand Archaeological Association reference (P19/158).

Existing improvements

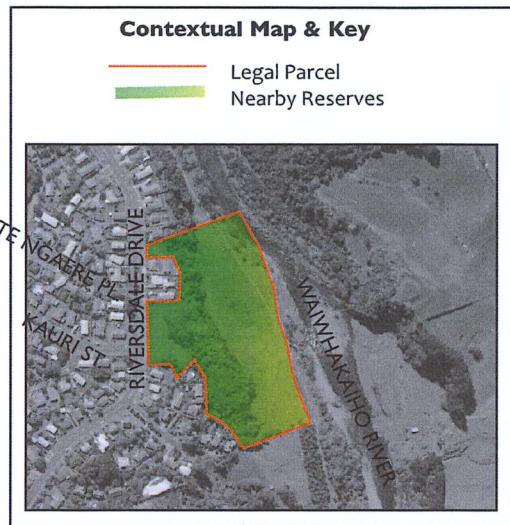
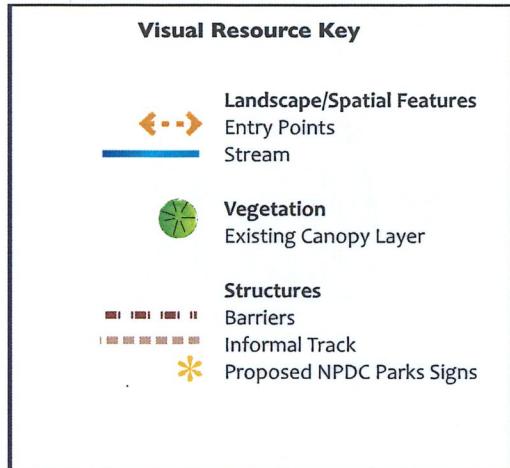
The reserve contains a walkway, fences and stiles to facilitate public access.

Uses and activities

This reserve provides an open space area for walking, river access and appreciation of history through the location of pa sites.

Management objectives and specific policies

- This reserve will be managed as a combination of pa site, walkway and bush reserve.
- Consultation will be undertaken with tangata whenua to determine vegetation management of the pa site contained on this reserve.
- An archaeological authority will be required from the Historic Places Trust under the Historic Places Act 1993, prior to any excavation work being carried out on the site and before any mature trees are removed.
- Further research to be undertaken to gain more knowledge on Ratahangae/Ratakengai Pa, including information gained from the district's review of waahi tapu and archaeological sites.



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Riversdale Drive, New Plymouth

2009/10 Development Plan
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