

Kings Quarry expansion: archaeological assessment

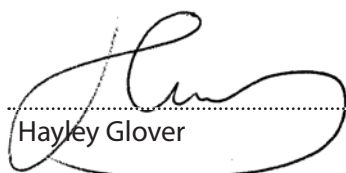
**report to
Kings Quarry Limited**

Hayley Glover and Ella Ussher

Kings Quarry expansion: archaeological assessment

report to
Kings Quarry Limited

Prepared by:


Hayley Glover

Reviewed by:


Matthew Campbell

Date: 22 January 2025

Reference: 23-1478

© CFG Heritage Ltd 2023

Kings Quarry expansion: archaeological assessment

1 Introduction

Kings Quarry Limited propose extending their existing quarry (Kings Quarry), including an overburden site, at Allotment 78 and Allotment 577, Parish of Kaukapakapa. One archaeological site is recorded on these properties in the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) Site Recording Scheme (SRS), a pit site (R10/918). This archaeological assessment has been prepared in support of the application by Kings Quarry Limited for a listed project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024. Pamela Santos of Barker and Associates, on behalf of Kings Quarry Limited, commissioned this assessment 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.

2 Methodology

The following digital data sources were consulted:

- Site records from the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) Site Recording Scheme (SRS) obtained from ArchSite (<https://nzarchaeology.org/archsite>).

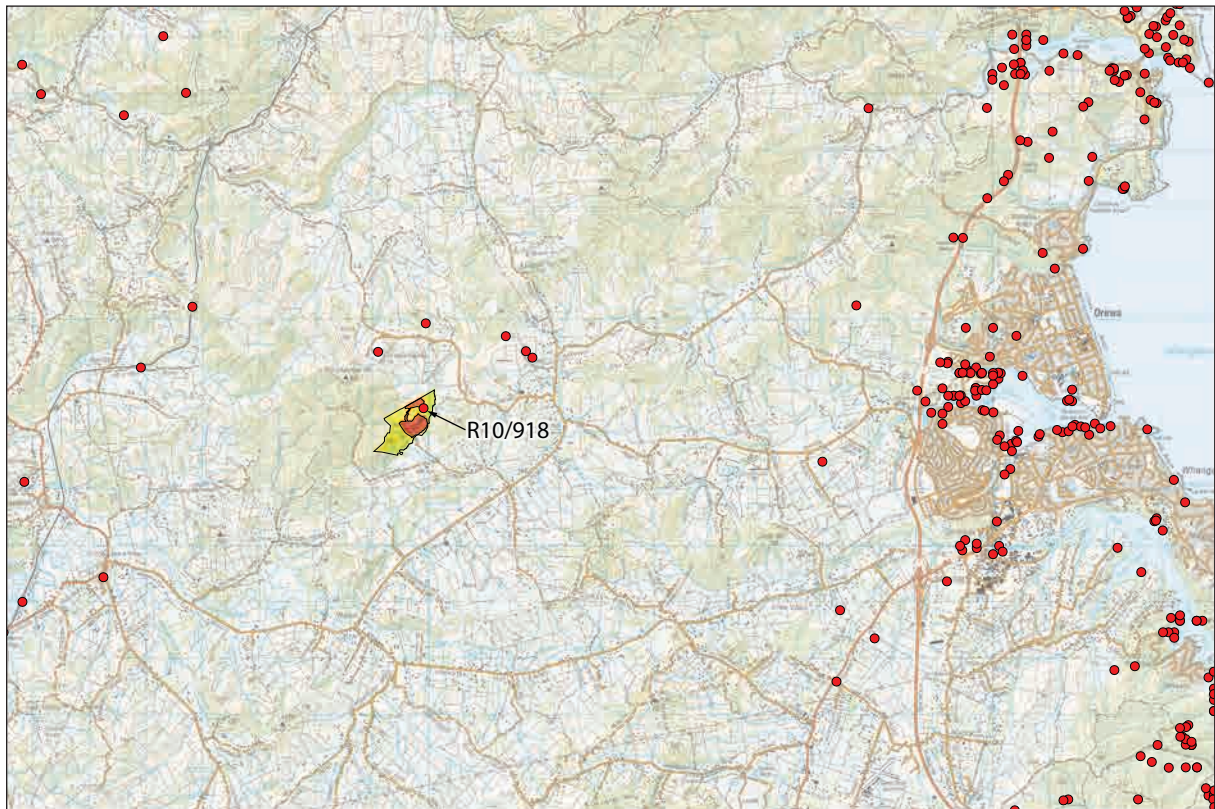


Figure 1. Location of proposed works and recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity.

- Records of previous archaeological investigations at Kings Quarry and in the wider vicinity obtained from the HNZPT digital library (<https://dl.heritage.org.nz/greenstone3/library/collection/pdf-reports/>).
- Historic maps and plans held by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) were accessed using QuickMap.
- Aerial Photographs held by Land Information New Zealand (LINZ), Auckland Council and in other online archives (<https://data.linz.govt.nz>; <https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/Pages/heritage-photographs.aspx>; <https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz>).
- The Auckland Council Cultural Heritage Inventory (CHI) and the Auckland Council GeoMaps GIS viewer were searched for any areas of cultural significance in the vicinity (<https://geomapspublic.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/viewer/index.html>).

A previous field assessment was undertaken 1 July 2020 by Ella Ussher and an updated field assessment was undertaken on 14 September 2023 by Hayley Glover, both of CFG Heritage Ltd. This was a pedestrian survey with the goal of finding evidence of archaeological material or features which could be affected by the proposed works. No invasive techniques such as test pitting or probing were employed.

3 Background

The history of Māori settlement in the Wainui area is complex and not yet well understood. Wainui was inland from coastal settlements at Orewa and Whangaparāoa on the Hauraki Gulf, and Kaukapakapa on the Kaipara Harbour. There was a portage between the Orewa and Kaukapakapa Rivers that passed through Wainui on the Waitoki Stream (Waitangi Tribunal 2006: 17) and connected these settlements. It is likely that the historic focus of land use in this area was due to these good east-west transport links available. The pā at Te Rite a Kawharu (Q10/763) (later known at Flat Top

Mountain) to the north of the Waitoki Stream was heavily fortified prior to quarrying, and another heavily defended pā has been recorded just to the north of Haruru Road (R10/919).

The nearby Hibiscus Coast area has extensive recorded histories. Campbell and Clough (2003), Judge and Clough (2005), and Mosen et al. (2000) have each synthesised the pre- and post-European contact histories of the wider Hibiscus Coast area. These drew on earlier work by Murdoch (1991) who compiled the traditional history of Whangaparāoa from various sources and much of this is also relevant to the Orewa area. Māori settlement was shown to be complex and reflective of political changes through time.

3.1 Historic period

In 1855, the Wainui Block V, was subdivided from the Mahurangi Purchase (SO 721) and included the general area west of the Waitoki Stream, where Kings Quarry is located. On 1 May in that same year the *Daily Southern Cross* placed a notice regarding the Wainui and Parekakau Blocks, whereby the blocks were proclaimed to be “open for settlement as ‘General Country Land’ on or after the 7th day of May, 1855...” Subsequently, the Wainui Block V was further subdivided into smaller lots (SO 817 n.d) (Figure 2), including Allotment 78 and Allotment S77, Parish of Kaukapakapa. By 1857 a road connected the Wainui Block to the North Shore of Auckland (*Daily Southern Cross*, 27 November 1857:3) which facilitated access to these new parcels of land. Gradually, the land was logged and converted to pasture, but the natural mineral wealth of the Wainui Block was recognised early. An account of a meeting of the settlers of The Wade, which included the Wainui Block, in the *New Zealander* (10 September 1862: 4) describes that “...the Wainui Block, a part of the Wade, is known to contain coal more or less throughout...a quarry of excellent building stone has been discovered: the construction of a tramway from the quarry to the wharf at the Wade township would be a work of no engineering

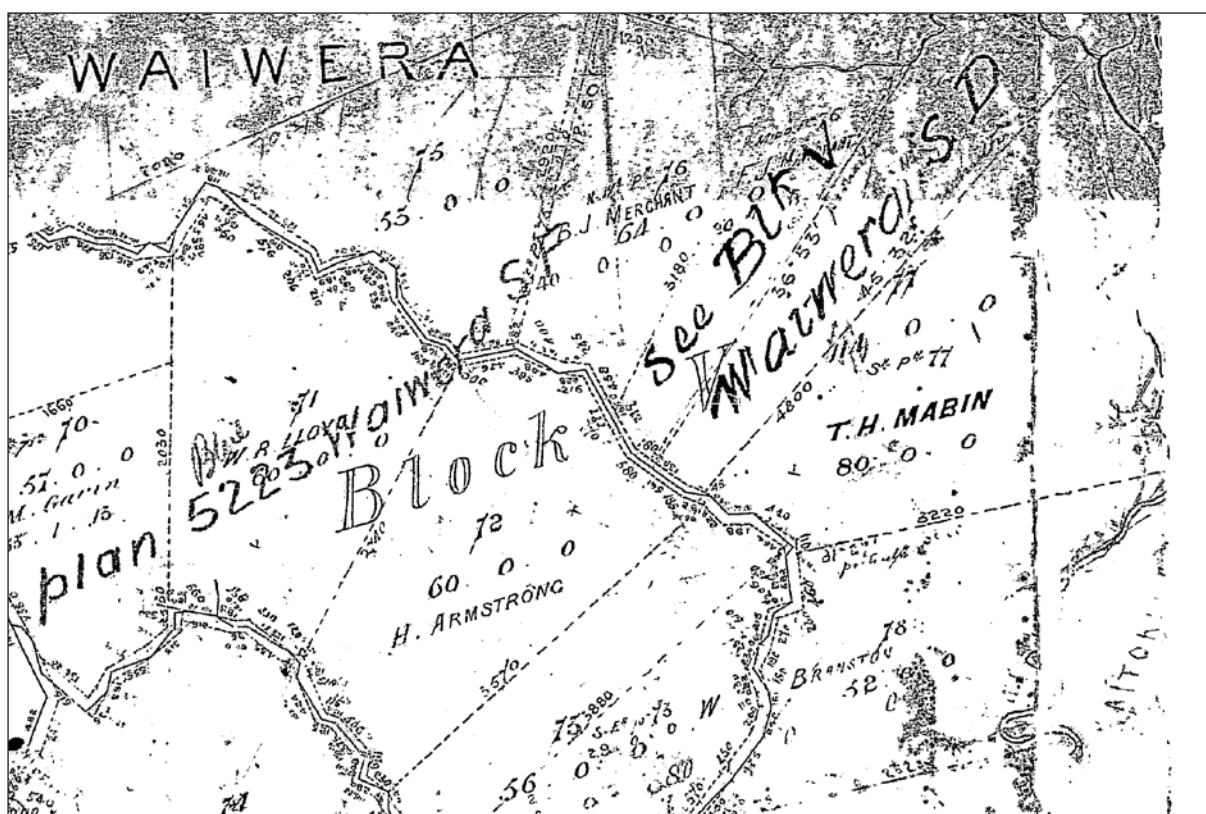


Figure 2. Detail of SO 817 (n.d.) showing Allotments 77 and 78, Parish of Paremoremo.

difficulty whatever, and would scarcely exceed two miles in length.” Industrial quarrying in the vicinity of Allotments 77 and 78 began in the 1950s (Bioresarches 1998) and continued until 1998.

3.2 *Archaeological background*

A small number of archaeological surveys have been conducted around the Wainui area. Mailhot et al. (2015) conducted an assessment for the Perisher Downs residential development at the junction of Haruru Road and Waitoki Road, during which three 19th century house sites were recorded. North of Haruru Road a prominent ridge-top pā was recorded by Mosen in 1998 (R10/919) with several ditches, terraces and pits noted. Pā Q10/763, known as Te Rite a Kawharu, was recorded by Mosen in 1996 to the north west of the quarry after being damaged by quarrying at Flat Top Mountain. The destruction of the site was then monitored and recorded by Bioresarches in 1997 (Bioresarches 1997) with some midden analysis and radiocarbon dating carried out.

The Kings Quarry area was surveyed by Bioresarches in 1998. During this survey, two pits were recorded as site R10/918 on a high spur above the Waitoki Stream and were thought to be related to the occupation of nearby Te Rite a Kawharu (Bioresarches 1998). Several other areas of archaeological potential were highlighted, one being the trig point on Te Rite a Kawharu and another southern spur off that same ridgeline. The location of a number of 19th century houses, an old quarry and a boarding house off Pebble Brook Rd were also argued to highlight the early European settlement of the area.

4 **Field visit**

Stage 1 of the proposed Kings Quarry extension was originally surveyed in 2020 by Ella Ussher, who focussed on the relocation of the two pits at site R10/918 and the surrounding area (Ussher 2020). The two pits were relocated on the top of the knoll to the east of the quarry. The pits were photographed and an accurate GPS location was recorded (Figure 3). The pits are either mostly naturally infilled since the 1998 survey or were incorrectly recorded, as these were only 1 x 1 m, rather than the 2 x 2 m previously recorded by Bioresarches (1998).

For the current stage (Stage 2) of the project those areas not previously surveyed by Ussher as part of Stage 1 were targeted. Due to wet weather conditions from the weeks preceding the survey the steep sided gullies and slopes were extremely slippery, making access to some areas impossible. The survey focussed largely on the ridgelines, where archaeological potential is higher due to factors like usable ground space, drainage, and viewsheds. Due to ground conditions, R10/918 (the site of the two pits) was not accessible by foot for a reinspection.

The proposed areas for the quarry expansion are primarily very steep and covered in regenerating bush and scrub, with some tracks cut through (Figure 4 and Figure 5). Multiple large slips were noted within the footprint of the proposed expansion (Figure 6 and Figure 7). Soils exposed were orange silty soils with large amounts of pebble inclusions. No evidence of archaeological material was visible at any of these slips.

Beyond R10/918, which is outside of the proposed works area, no further archaeological features or deposits were noted within the proposed extent of works for the quarry extension. In addition, nothing was noted in the LiDAR images accessed and created by Benjamin Jones for CFG Heritage Ltd. These pits appear to be isolated in terms of the preservation of archaeological features within Allotment 78 and Allotment S77, Parish of Kaukapakapa, after a history of logging, farming and quarrying on the properties.



Figure 3. Pit relocated from site R10/918 (Ussher 2020). Photo scale = 1 m.



Figure 4. View east into a gully within the main quarry expansion.



Figure 5. View south down one of the secondary ridgelines within the main quarry expansion.



Figure 6. Large slip immediately west of the original quarry.



Figure 7. View upslope of a slip towards the eastern edge of the proposed quarry.

5 Assessment

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

5.1 Assessment of effects

There is no reasonable cause to suspect that the extent of the proposed Kings Quarry will impact the two recorded pits at site R10/918. The proposed expansion locations extend only to the lower slopes of the knoll on which the pits are located and will cap all existing ground within that area (Figure 8).

The rest of the study area is characterised by steep gullies where the land drops away from the ridgelines, with no terracing or evidence of archaeology. No archaeological material was noted on the surface, or in exposed soils such as cuts for tracks or in slips.

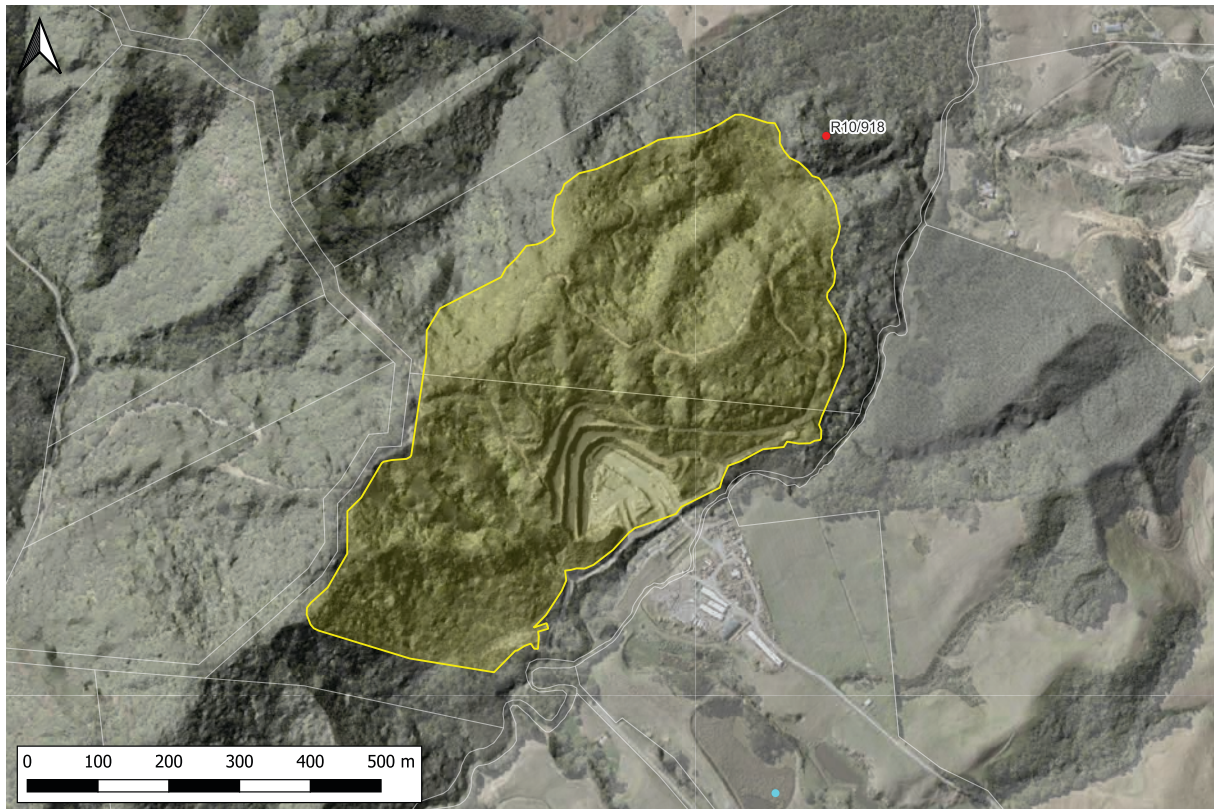


Figure 8. Extent of Kings Quarry expansion in relation to location of archaeological site R10/918.

6 Recommendations

These recommendations are made only on the basis of 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 modify or destroy archaeological sites within the scope of works at Kings Quarry (Allotment 78 and Allotment S77, Parish of Kaukapakapa) does not need to be applied for from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) under Section 44 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014;
- all works should be undertaken under an Accidental Discovery Rule in Chapter E11.6.1 of the Auckland Unitary Plan;
- since archaeological research cannot always detect sites of traditional significance to Māori, or wāhi tapu, the appropriate tangata whenua authorities should be consulted regarding the possible existence of such sites, and the recommendations in this report.

References

- Bedford, S. and M. Felgate 1994. A Cultural Heritage Inventory for a Section of Rural Orewa. Report prepared for the Rodney District Council.
- Bioresearches 1998. Ecological and archaeological characteristics of the former Kings Quarry Area. Unpublished report prepared for Winstone Aggregates Ltd
- Bioresearches 1997. Monitoring the destruction of site Q10/763. Unpublished report for Winstone Aggregates Ltd and New Zealand Historic Places Trust.
- Campbell, M. and R. Clough 2003. Orewa Pipeline and Pedestrian Bridges: Archaeological Assessment. Clough & Associates report prepared for Rodney District Council and Opus International Ltd.
- Judge, C. and R. Clough 2005. Bankside Road and Leigh Road Properties, Silverdale (Part Lot 1 DP 170959 and Lot 4 DP 168591): Initial Archaeological Assessment. Clough & Associates report prepared for Wood and Partners Consultants Ltd.
- Mailhot, C., R. Shackles, and S. Phear 2015. Proposed rural residential subdivision 1502 Weranui road, Wainui, Auckland: Archaeological assessment. Unpublished Clough and Associates report prepared for Rahopara Farms Limited and Cabra Rural Developments Limited.
- Mosen, J., S. Best, B. Druskovich and M. Felgate (Bioresearches) 2000. Results of an Archaeological Excavation at Site R10/782, Maygrove, Orewa. Report prepared for Hopper Developments Ltd.
- Murdoch, G. 1991. History of Human Occupation (Shakespeare Regional Park). In, Shakespeare Regional Park Draft Management Plan. Regional Parks Department, Auckland Regional Authority, Auckland, pp. 32-40.
- Ussher, E. 2020. Pebble Brook Quarry: archaeological assessment. Unpublished CFG Heritage Ltd report to Stan Semenoff Group.
- Waitangi Tribunal New Zealand 2006. The Kaipara Interim Report, WAI 674. Legislation Direct, Wellington.