



Belmont Quarry Development – Part B

Substantive Application
Appendix B.11 – Archaeological Assessment
Winstone Aggregates

16 August 2026

WELLINGTON BELMONT QUARRY, PROPOSED OBDA: ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared for Winstone Aggregates
A Division of Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Ltd
July 2026



By

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Executive Summary

This archaeological assessment report provides an assessment of the effects to archaeological values from the proposed development of the OBDA at the Belmont Quarry, which has been created as the result of a land exchange between Winstone Aggregates and the Department of Conservation. This assessment has incorporated desk-top research and field surveys to establish whether the proposed OBDA is likely to impact on archaeological or historic values.

Currently there is one recorded site in the proposed OBDA, a 20th century site consisting of a collapsed farm shed which is located in the Stage 1 area of the proposed works. The closest 19th century recorded archaeological sites located within the Belmont Regional Park are located c. 4km to the west. There are no historic heritage sites recorded within the proposed OBDA or in close proximity. Based on the findings of this assessment, it is considered unlikely that any 19th century European archaeological sites or sites associated with Māori occupation and settlement are present in the proposed OBDA, although the possibility cannot be completely excluded. As such, for risk management purposes only, an Archaeological Authority to cover 15 years is sought under the FTAA (2024) to prevent any delays during the works in the unlikely event that subsurface archaeological remains are exposed.

Report Release and Reliance

This report has been prepared by Clough & Associates on the instructions of our client, in accordance with the agreed scope of work. If it is intended to support an application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, it may be relied upon by the Expert Panel and relevant administering agencies for the purposes of assessing the application.

While Clough & Associates has exercised due care in preparing this report, it does not accept liability for any use of the report beyond its intended purpose. Where information has been supplied by the Client or obtained from external sources, it has been assumed to be accurate unless otherwise stated.

Statement of Qualification and Experience

I am a co-director at Clough & Associates. Clough & Associates is a heritage consultancy specialising in archaeological and historic heritage assessment and management. I hold a Master of Science Degree in Environmental Archaeology and Palaeoeconomy from the University of Sheffield which I completed in 1991. I am also a member of the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA).

I have 27 years of professional experience in the heritage consultancy field. My experience includes archaeological research, survey, excavation, analysis and report preparation, initially in Asia and have worked full time in New Zealand carrying out assessments of effects for development and infrastructure projects since 2014. I have attached my CV in Appendix A.

I have been involved in the Belmont Quarry Expansion project since 2022.

I confirm that I have sighted the final draft conditions of consent and consider that they appropriately reflect the recommendations in my report.

I confirm that, in my capacity as the author of this report, I have read and abide by the Environment Court of New Zealand's Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses Practice Note 2023.



Ellen Cameron

July 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

Project Background

1. Belmont Quarry, operated by Winstone Aggregates (a division of Fletcher Concrete and Infrastructure Limited), is a principal source of aggregates for the Wellington region, supplying approximately 40% of local demand. The quarry is essential for meeting ongoing demand for roading, housing, and development materials. The quarry contains a remaining rock reserve of approximately 33.7 million tonnes which, at forecast production rates, provides for a quarry life of approximately 40 years. Continued access to aggregate resources requires controlled removal and placement of overburden.
2. The estimated 40-year quarry life reflects the quantity of accessible aggregate resource made available through development of the proposed OBDA, whereas the 35-year duration sought for regional discharge permits the maximum duration for those approvals under the RMA. The two periods are not required to align. The proposed OBDA enables access to resource extending beyond the consent duration, and any continued operation beyond the expiry of the permits would be subject to future consent renewal processes
3. Belmont Quarry's ability to access and sustain aggregate production is dependent on continuous overburden disposal capacity; with the existing Cottle Block nearing exhaustion, the proposed OBDA is essential to permanently place overburden and process fines, remove a critical operational constraint, and enable continued extraction of the remaining rock resource.
4. As the quarry has progressed, available space within the Overburden Disposal Area (OBDA, specifically the Cottle Block has steadily reached capacity and is now effectively exhausted. The only remaining capacity at Cottle Block is for fines disposal.
5. To ensure a long-term solution for overburden management, a new OBDA adjacent to the existing quarry footprint (Figure 1) is proposed to be developed. The selected OBDA location is situated within the Belmont Regional Park, adjacent to the existing Quarry operational area. This location has been identified as the most suitable due to its operational, environmental and logistical advantages. Its adjacency to the quarry operation allows for a direct haul route, minimising transport distances, fuel use and emissions.
6. Enabling this development requires a land exchange between Winstone Aggregates and the Department of Conservation, as described in section 2.1. A Land Exchange Report was lodged with Department of Conservation in December 2025.
7. The proposed OBDA will accommodate approximately 2.7 million cubic metres of overburden, including topsoil, subsoil, weathered greywacke, and process & pond fines, placed progressively over the approximately 40-year life of the quarry. The OBDA has been designed to function as a permanent engineered landform. It will be established and constructed across 10 stages, with supporting haul infrastructure, drainage, fines containment, and progressive rehabilitation.

Purpose of this report

8. This archaeological assessment was commissioned by Winstone Aggregates to determine if the proposed development of the OBDA is likely to impact on archaeological or historic heritage values. This report has been prepared as part of the Substantive Application under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 to support an application for an archaeological authority.

Description of works and scope of Archaeological Authority

9. The proposed OBDA is located directly to the north of the existing quarry and is approximately 15.7 ha in size, within a broader land area of 23.86 ha to be exchanged. The area consists of a ridgeline along the central part bordered by steep slopes and gullies. Access to the proposed OBDA will be provided through an extension of the internal quarry haul road network to connect the two sites. The extended haul road will connect the northern quarry area to the proposed OBDA footprint, following the ridgeline to reduce earthworks and maintain workable gradients for heavy vehicles. This haul road will be initially developed from the south to north along the ridge through the centre of the OBDA. Secondary access roads will then be developed for each stage to provide access for enabling works and the subsequent construction of the OBDA.
10. For each stage of the proposed OBDA development, enabling works are required. These include construction of temporary erosion and sediment controls, vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping, stockpiling and construction of access tracks. This will be required for Stages, 1 - 6 and 8 with Stages 7, 9 and 10 building on the foundations completed in earlier stages. Some enabling works will be required outside the OBDA design footprint but within the land exchange area. Such works will be limited in extent and confined to areas required for structural stability, drainage, or maintenance access dependent on factors such as localized ground conditions, topography, and weather.
11. The preliminary enabling works include establishing an access track along the alignment of the future Central Haul Road. This track as shown in Figure 3 will provide access to the northern boundary of the proposed OBDA to enable installation of security fencing, signage, and construction of northern bund for amenity screening, prior to bulk earthworks commencing in Stage 1.
12. The works for Stage 1 will consist of the construction of the central haul road along the ridge leading from the northern edge of the existing quarry, vegetation clearance and topsoil stripping in the northeastern part of the proposed OBDA and for stockpiling in the west central part of the project area. This includes the area containing the recorded 20th century site R27/910 as shown in Figure 4.
13. The works in Stage 2 which continue to the west of Stage 1 consist of an access track, vegetation clearance, topsoil stripping and stock piling as

shown in Figure 5. The enabling works for Stage 3 (Figure 6) extend only slightly outside of those for Stage 2.

14. The enabling works for Stage 4 cover the southeastern side of the proposed OBDA (Figure 7). Stage 5 covers the southwestern part of the proposed OBDA (Figure 8), with Stage 6 covering the area between Stage 5 and Stage 2 (Figure 9). The works in Stage 8 cover the area between Stage 4 and Stage 5 (Figure 10). The works in Stages, 7, 9 and 10 are located in areas where enabling works have taken place previously.
15. The proposed works have the potential to affect the recorded 20th century site S27/910 and any currently unrecorded sites in the proposed OBDA.
16. The development of the proposed OBDA will be required to enable the continuation of mineral extraction at Belmont Quarry to meet ongoing demand for roading, housing and development materials in the Wellington region. As a precaution, Winstone Aggregates seeks to apply for an Authority to cover the vegetation clearance and earthworks for a 15 year duration to cover the preliminary enabling and Stage 1 and 2 works with the option for applying for an authority for the remaining stages in future.

Methodology

17. The New Zealand Archaeological Association's (NZAA) site record database (ArchSite), District Plan schedules and the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (Heritage NZ) New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero were searched to provide information on any archaeological sites recorded on or in the immediate vicinity of the proposed OBDA. Literature and archaeological reports relevant to the area were consulted (see Bibliography). Early survey plans were checked for information relating to past use of the land in the proposed OBDA and aerial photographs were checked to identify past land use in the area.
18. Two brief visual inspections of the proposed OBDA were carried out, the first on 25 November 2022 and the second on 27 June 2025. The proposed OBDA area was walked over where possible, although the gully areas were not able to be entered due to the steep slopes and heavy vegetation.
19. A field survey of the ridge was also undertaken on 18 March 2026 with particular attention paid to the area containing the recently recorded 20th century archaeological site and also for any evidence of archaeological remains associated with early European settlement. It is noted that part of this area was covered by thick vegetation which did not allow for full inspection of the ground surface. Photographs were taken to record the topography and features of interest, including the archaeological site.



Figure 1. Upper map showing the proposed OBDA in the greater Wellington region and lower aerial plan showing the properties containing the proposed OBDA (note that the paper road has not been included in the land swap¹) (source: Upper- Google Maps and lower Hutt City District Council Online Maps)

¹ Road stopping for paper road will be undertaken through a separate process.

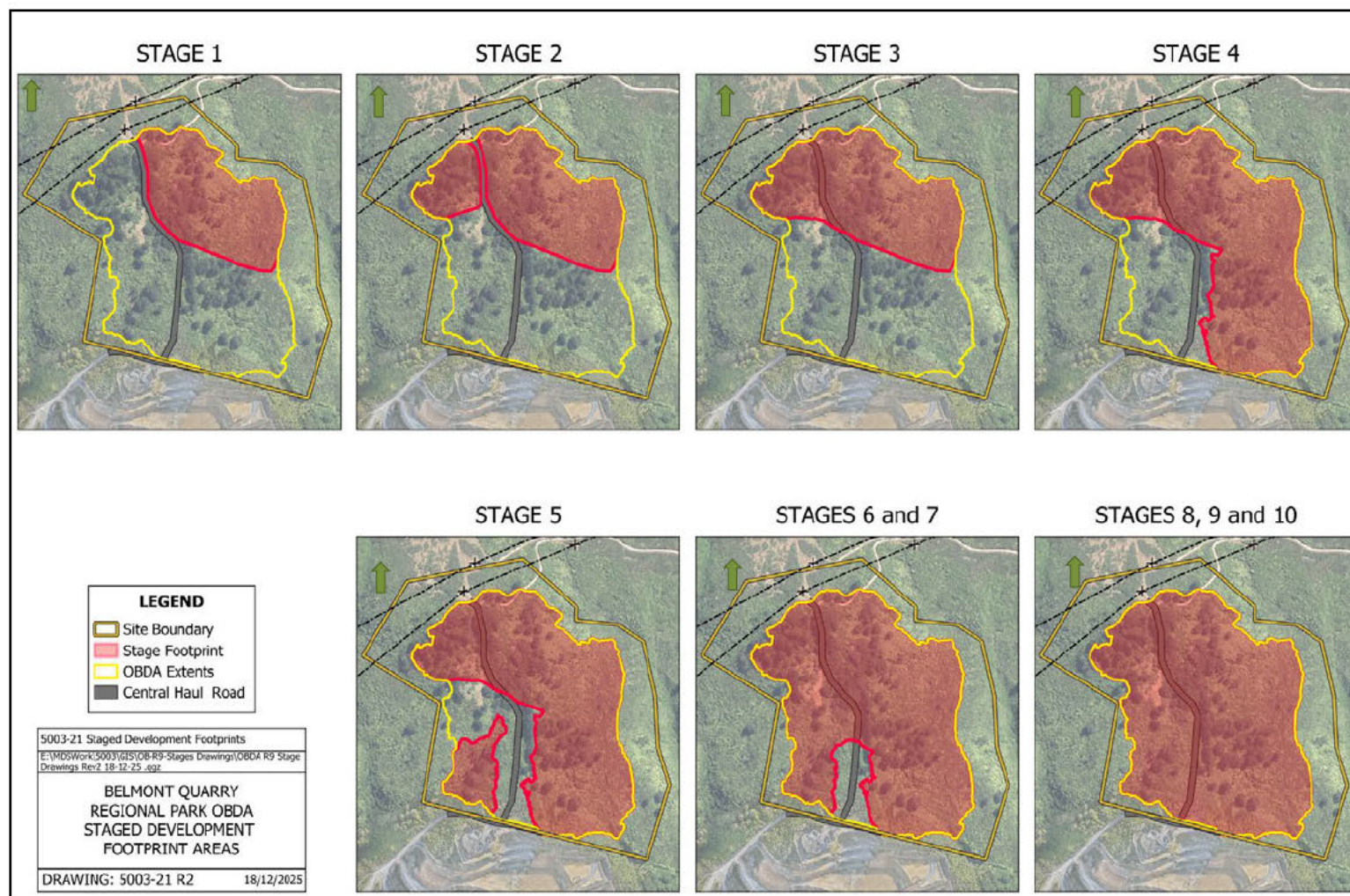


Figure 2. Overview plan showing the proposed OBDA for each of the stages with the development footprint shaded red (source: Winstone Aggregates)

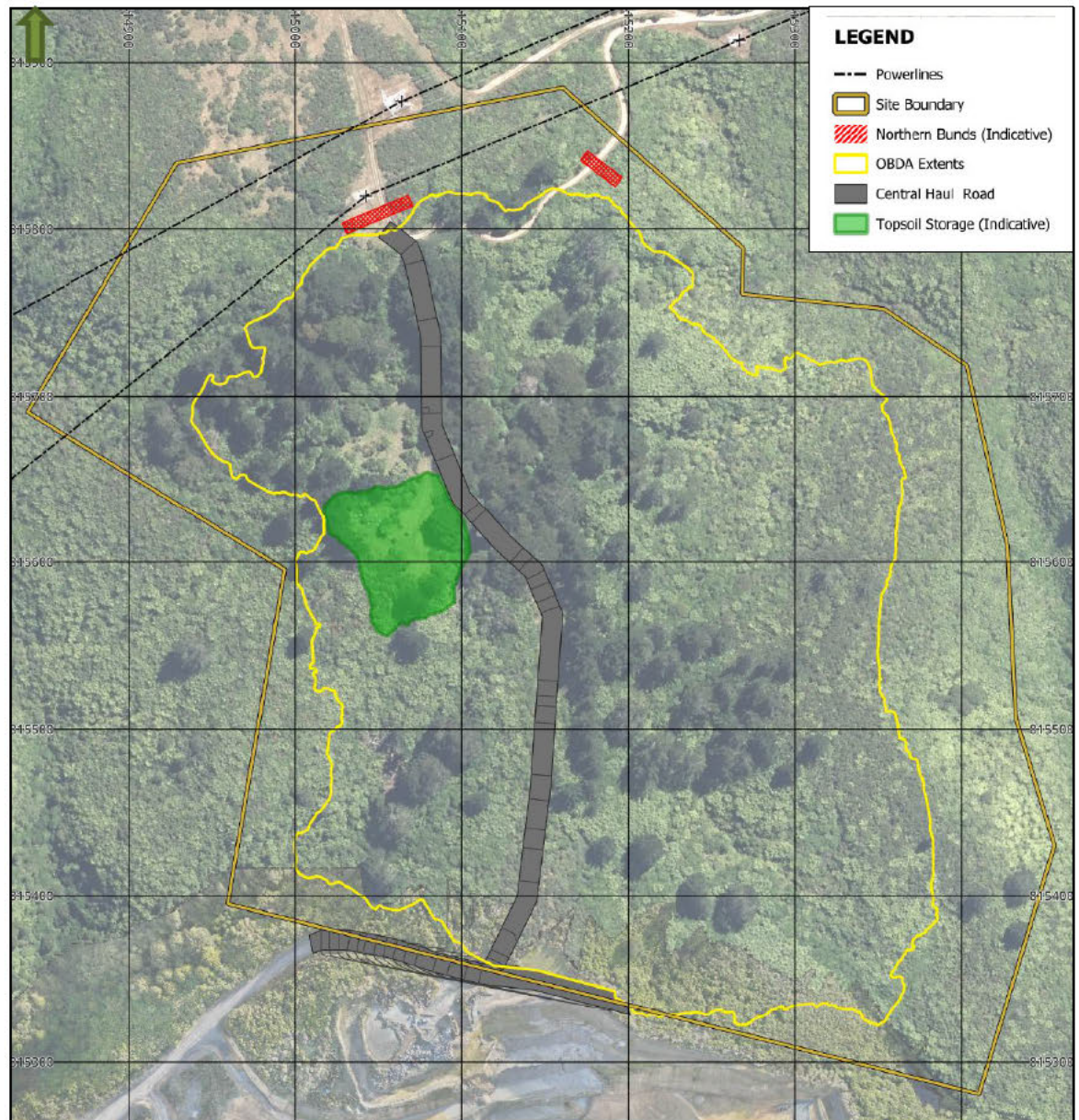


Figure 3. Plan showing the preliminary enabling works for the proposed OBDA (source: Winstone Aggregates)

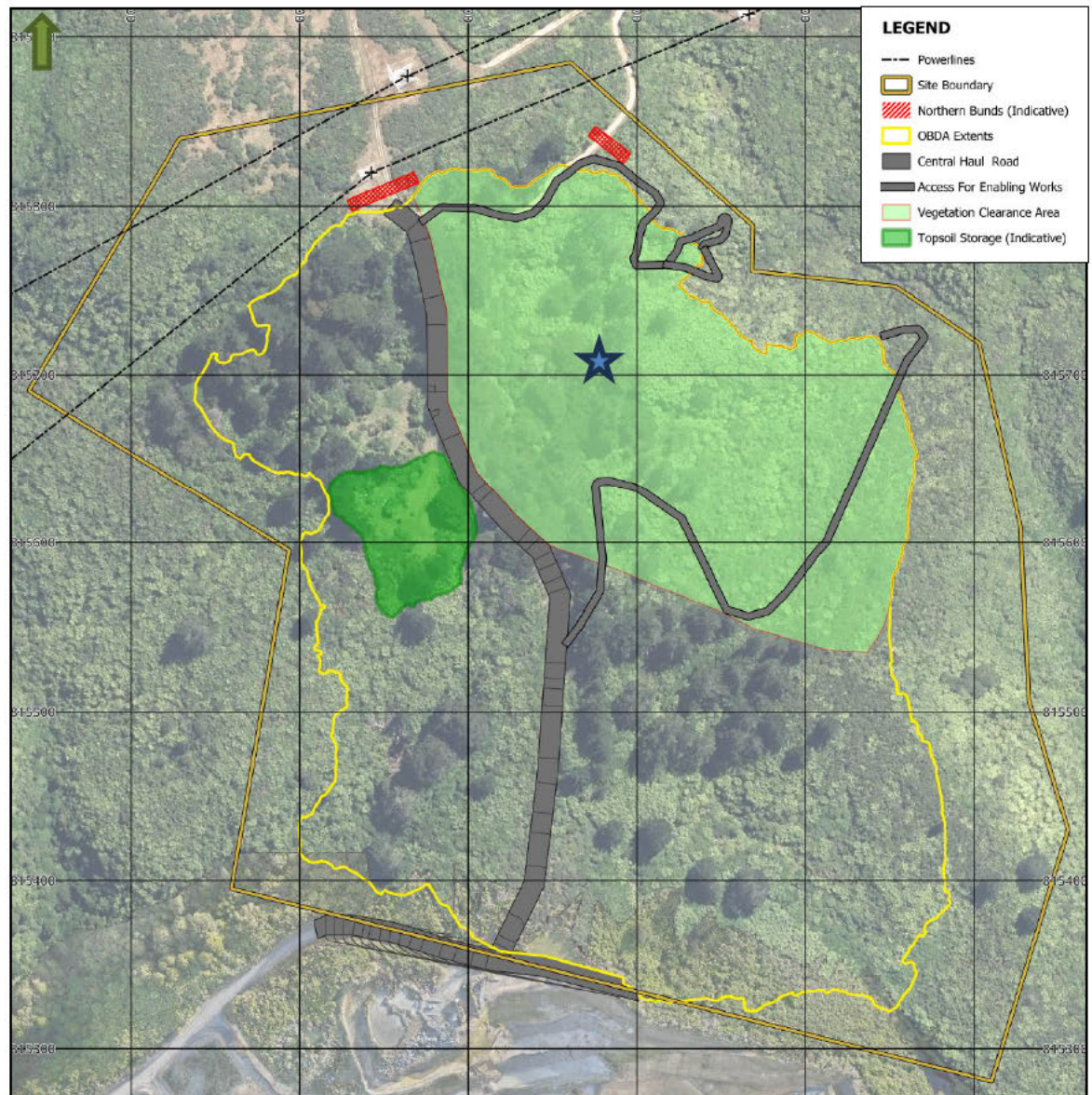


Figure 4. Plan showing the proposed enabling works for Stage 1 with location of the recorded archaeological site R27/910 indicated by star (source: Winstone Aggregates)

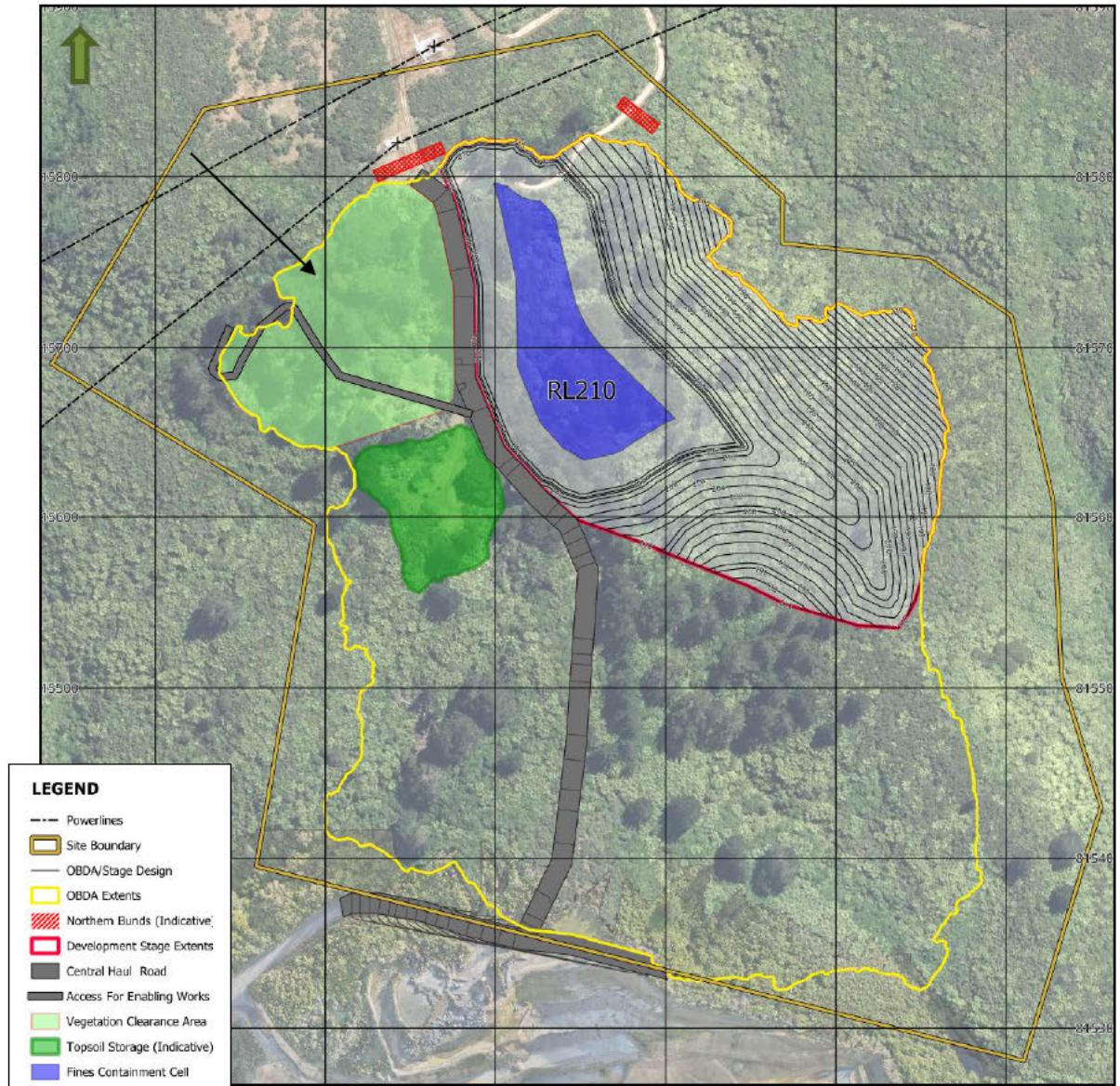


Figure 5. Plan showing the enabling works for Stage 2 with the area not previously affected in Stage 1 shaded light green and arrowed (source: Winstone Aggregates)



Figure 6. Plan showing the enabling works for Stage 3 (source: Winstone Aggregates)

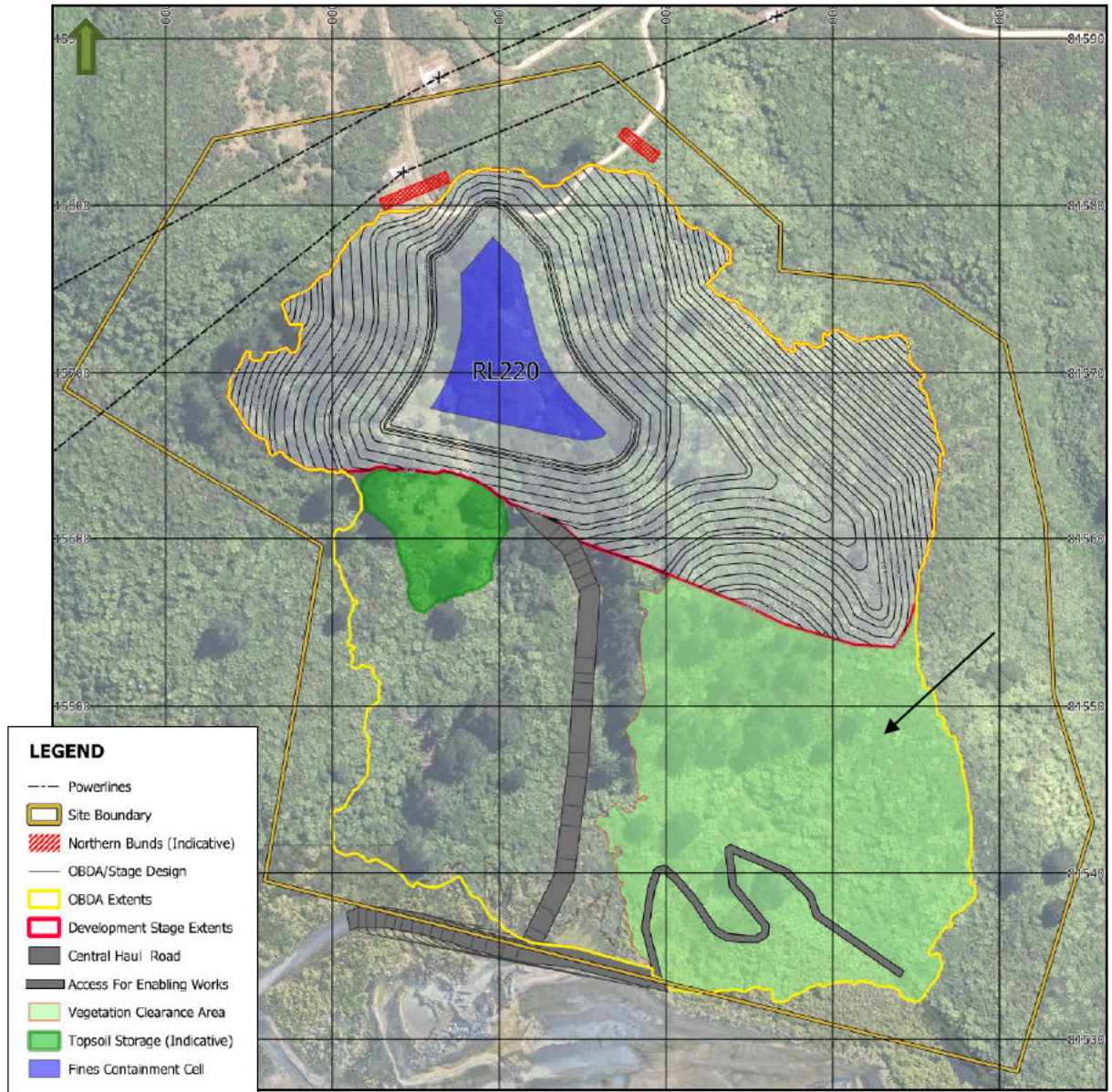


Figure 7. Plan showing the enabling works for Stage 4 with area not affected by previous stages shaded light green and arrowed (source: Winstone Aggregates)

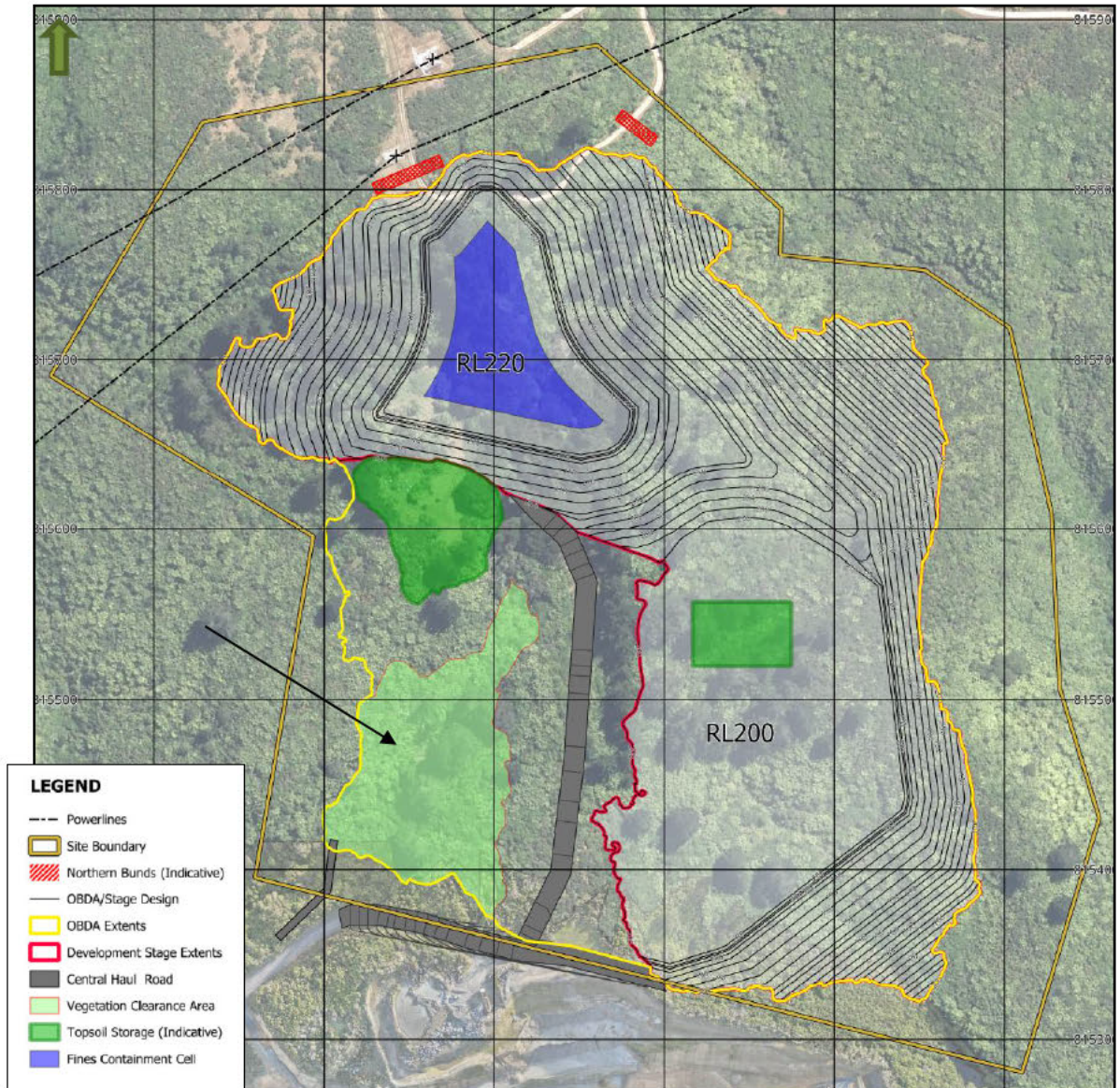


Figure 8. Plan showing the enabling works for Stage 5 with area not affected by previous stages shaded light green and arrowed (source: Winstone Aggregates)

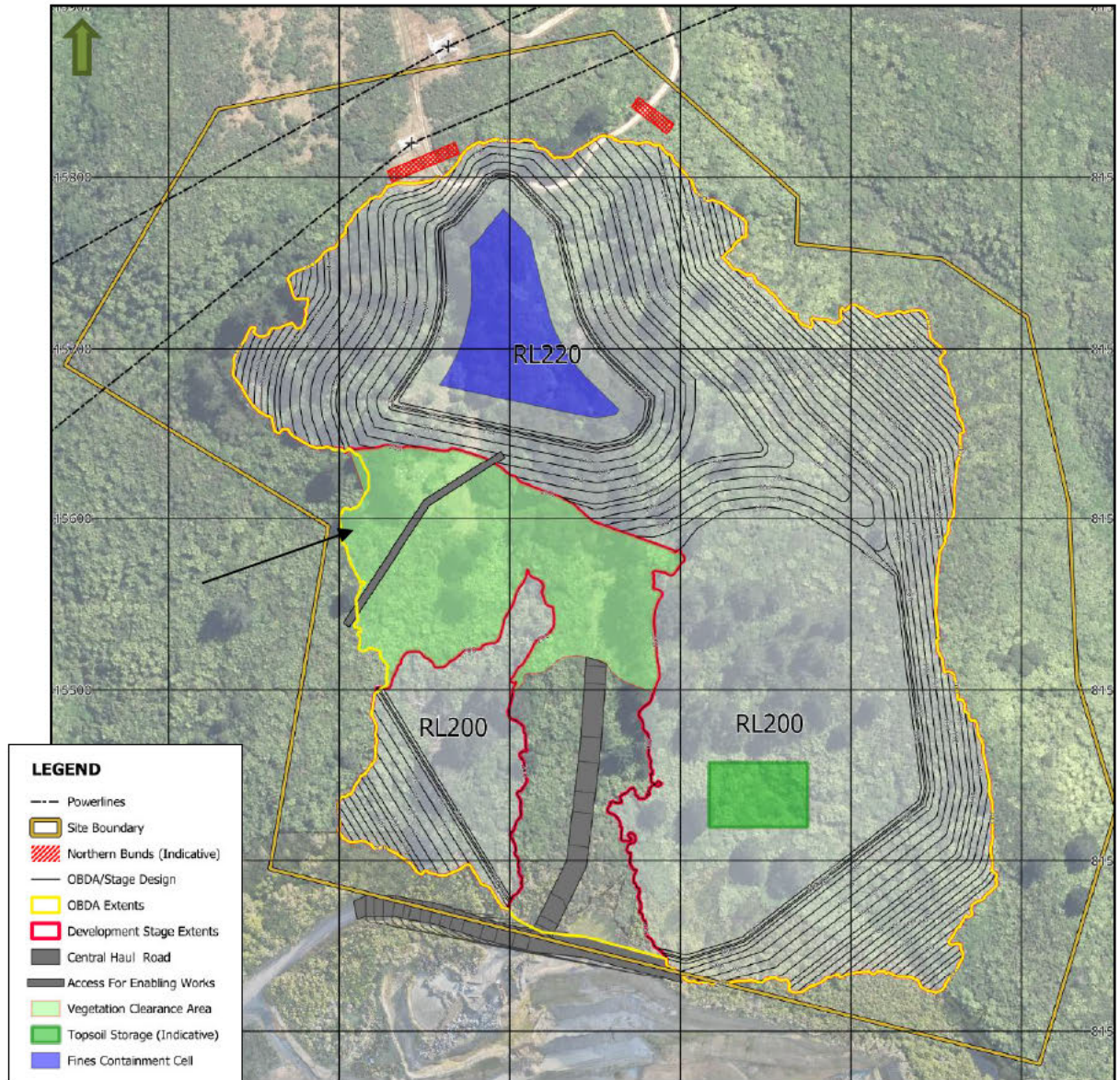


Figure 9. Plan showing the enabling works for Stage 6 with area not affected by previous stages shaded light green and arrowed (note the light green shaded area includes the topsoil storage area used in previous stages) (source: Winstone Aggregates)

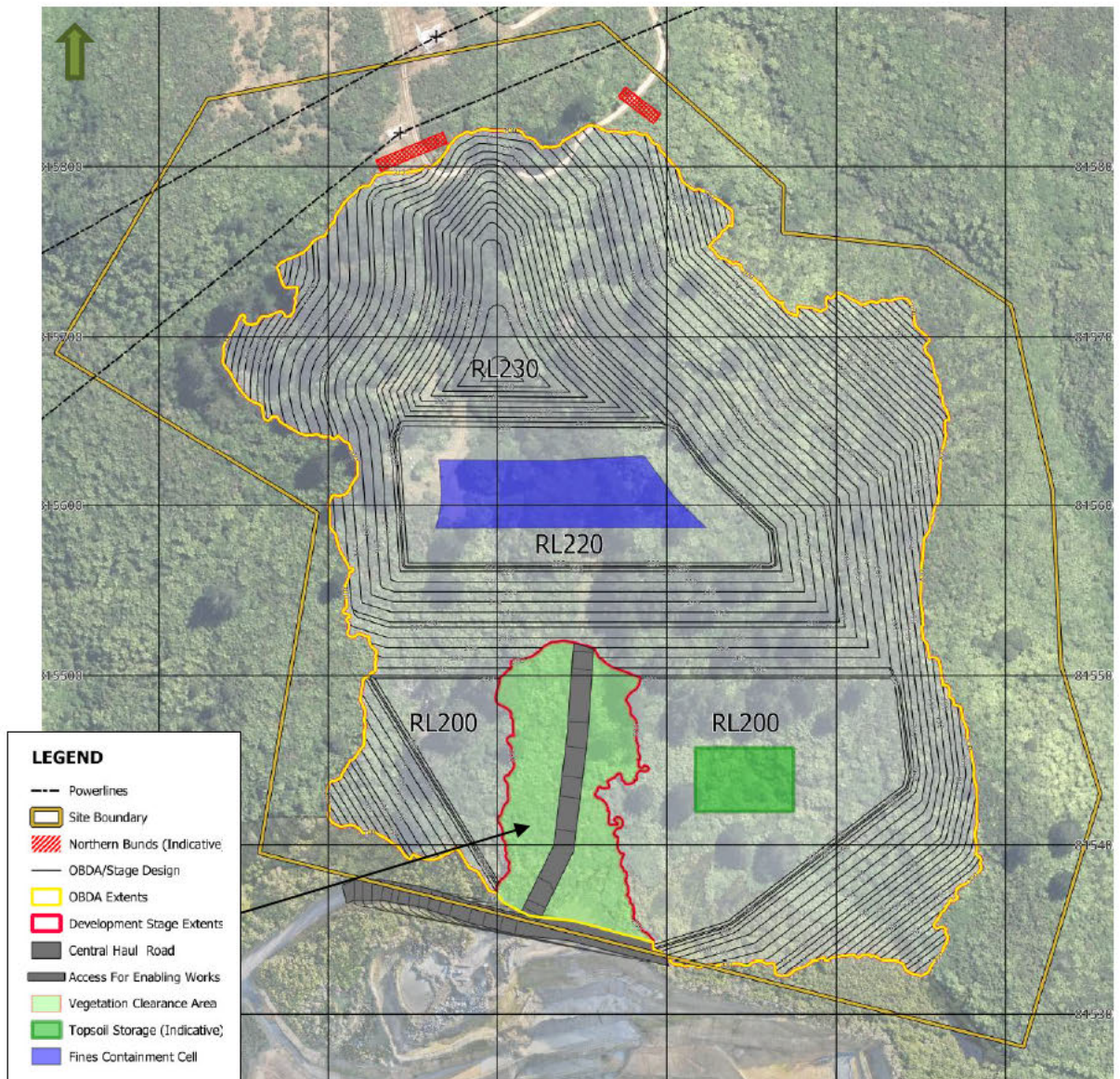


Figure 10. Plan showing the enabling works for Stage 8 with area not affected by previous stages shaded light green and arrowed (note the light green shaded area includes the previously constructed central access road) (source: Winstone Aggregates)

2. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Māori Settlement

20. Ancestral to most iwi groups in the Wellington Region is Whatonga, a Polynesian navigator whose son, Tara is the namesake of the Wellington Harbour: Te-Whanga-nui-a-Tara (the great harbour of Tara). Tara is also known as the ancestor of the Ngāi Tara people, who were spread around the shores from the Hutt to Pukerua Bay. Ngāi Tara were joined by Ngāti Ira from the East Coast, and the two were closely interconnected, living from Te- Whanga-nui-a-Tara to Paekakariki up the West Coast.
21. The early pre-European history of the Wellington region is somewhat obscured by upheavals in 1820-1840, when Ngāti Toa, situated at Kawhia, began a migration south to avoid political pressures associated with the Waikato tribes. Ngāti Toa, along with Taranaki iwi, moved into the area and the Hutt Valley was occupied by Te Āti Awa people shortly before the arrival of Europeans (Millar 1972:1-3).
22. The Hutt River was navigable and the land bordering it was thickly forested and would have provided an area rich in natural resources; villages are known to have been established along the mouth of the river and also along the river at Upper Hutt (Wadsworth and Mearns 2019: 7). The hillsides on the western side of the Hutt Valley are known to have contained traditional trackways connecting the area with Porirua. These tracks were documented by early Europeans, including James Coutts Crawford, who had travelled from Sydney to investigate trading opportunities and described a trip along a track from Porirua over the hills and then following the Korokoro Stream down to the harbour (Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007: 8-9)

European Settlement

23. In 1839 representatives of the New Zealand Company negotiated the purchase of the Wellington region from local Māori as part of the ‘Port Nicholson Purchase’. Initially the land around the mouth of the Hutt River (initially known by its Māori name Heretaunga) was divided into parcels and later the surveys extended up the length of the Hutt River into what were to become Upper and Lower Hutt, which, along with the river, were named after Mr William Hutt, one of the directors of the New Zealand Company. By the 1840s European settlers began settling on the land and a contract for the cutting of a road through the forest along the eastern side of the Hutt River was granted to two of the local settlers, Deans and White (Wadsworth and Mearns 2019:8). Development of roads on the western side of the river was mainly concerned with making a connection through to Pauatahanui and the west coast from the late 1850s (Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007: 8-9)
24. Settlement in what is now the Belmont Regional Park is generally thought to have occurred after 1857, when a small farms settlement was surveyed in the area around the Korokoro Stream (Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement

2007: 16). This was located to the east of the proposed OBDA. The remaining land in the area was settled over the next several decades and in the 1870s a new railway line was constructed as part of a national railway system with the section running through the Hutt Valley being part of the Wellington to Napier line. The railway increased the accessibility of the area and accelerated the rate of settlement (Grouden 2021: 32). During the 1870s William Fitzherbert, who was the member of parliament for Hutt from 1858 to 1879 began acquiring land in the western hills and formed the Western Hutt Sheep Station, which eventually became converted for housing purposes on land located to the southwest of the proposed OBDA (Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007: 20-21).

Quarrying

25. The need for raw materials for the roading and railway boom in the 1870s provided the impetus for the establishment of large quarrying operations in the Wellington region. References identified during the background research for this assessment indicate that moderate to large scale quarrying in the Upper and Lower Hutt area date back to the early years of the late 19th century. An example is a quarry at Normandale which is located to the southwest of the Belmont Quarry which is referenced in a 1905 newspaper article (*New Zealand Times* 27 June 1905).
26. A 1910 newspaper mentions the ‘offer of a quarry at Belmont’ for government purposes, which indicates that quarrying was ongoing at this point at Belmont (*Evening Post* 15 November 1910). As well, mentions of a quarry at Belmont are found in newspaper articles from 1913 (*Evening Post* 10 May 1913), although the official establishment of the Belmont Quarry occurred somewhat later in the 1920s (Belmont Quarry Website).

3. HISTORICAL SURVEY

Information from Early Maps and Plans

27. Early plans were reviewed to gain additional information on historical land ownership and usage. The plan in Figure 11 dating from the 1870s shows the land grants from that decade, which include the properties containing the proposed OBDA. These are Section 200A, Section 255 and Section 261. The plan also shows a track leading from the valley floor up through the hills to the proposed OBDA. Two 19th century plans that were redrawn in 1959 show the 19th century ownership of these sections (Figure 12 and Figure 13) and indicate that the land for the proposed OBDA was owned by Jas. May (Section 200A), G. Ebdon (Section 255) and S. Judd (Section 261).

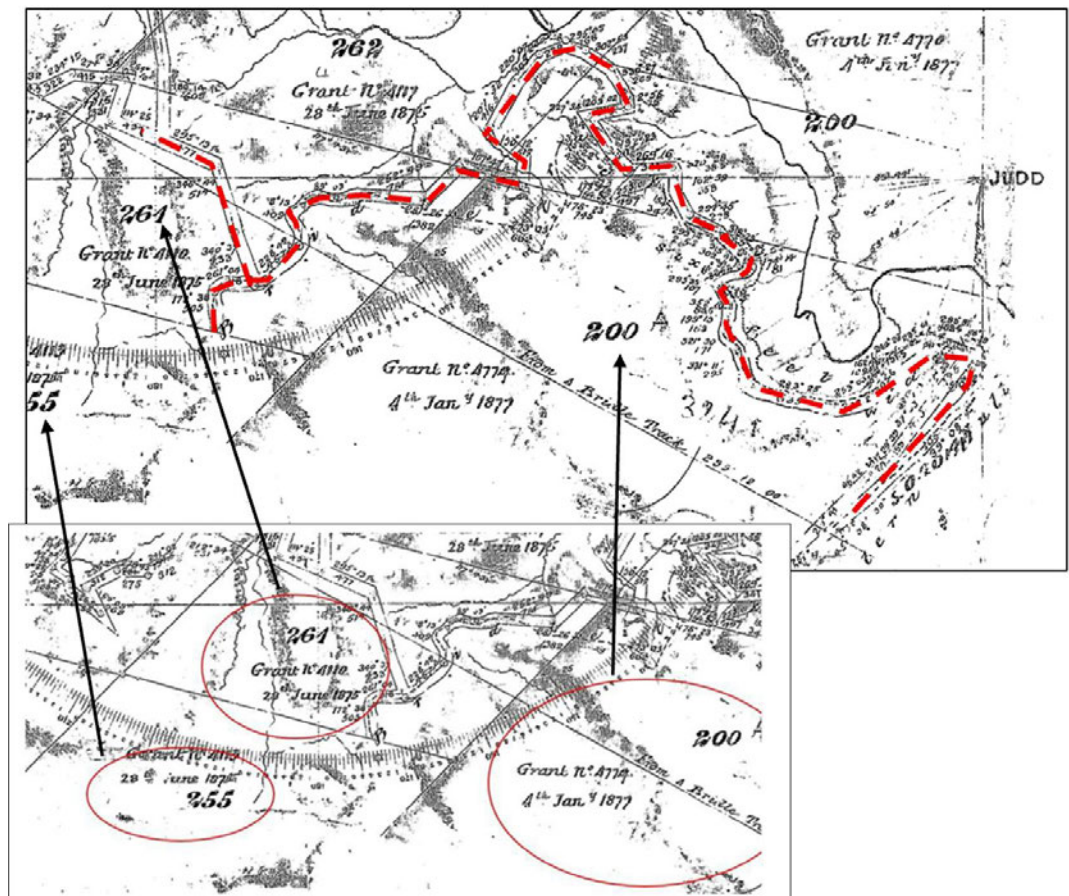


Figure 11. WN SO 11420 plan showing land grants dating to the 1870s with track leading to the proposed OBDA from the Hutt River valley shown by red dashed line in main plan; with the three properties containing the OBDA circled in upper right inset, with grant date shown (source: Quickmap)

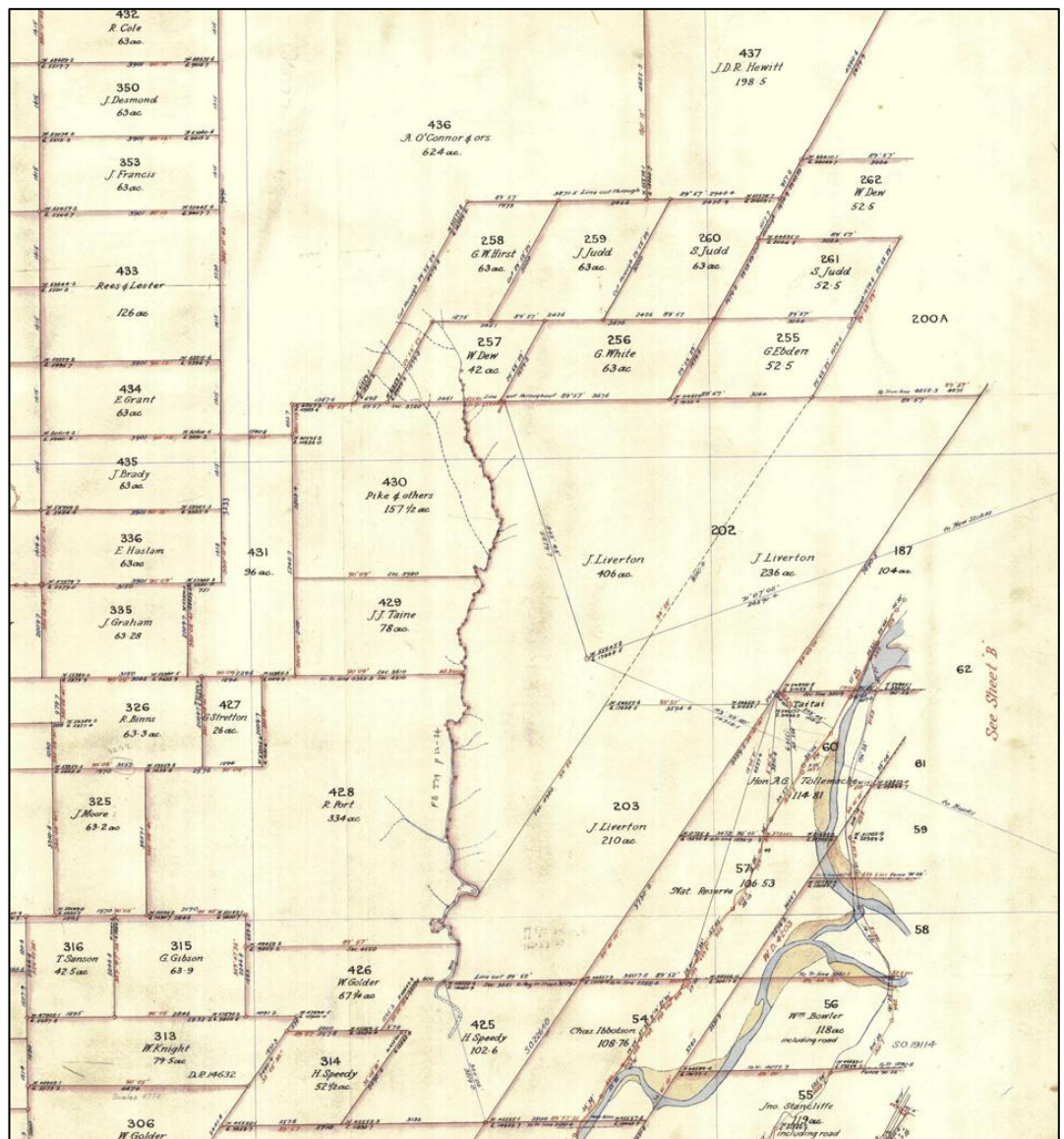


Figure 12. Detail from WN SO 10984 A showing 19th century ownership of Section 255 and Section 261 which include part of the proposed OBDA – indicated by arrows (source: Quickmap)

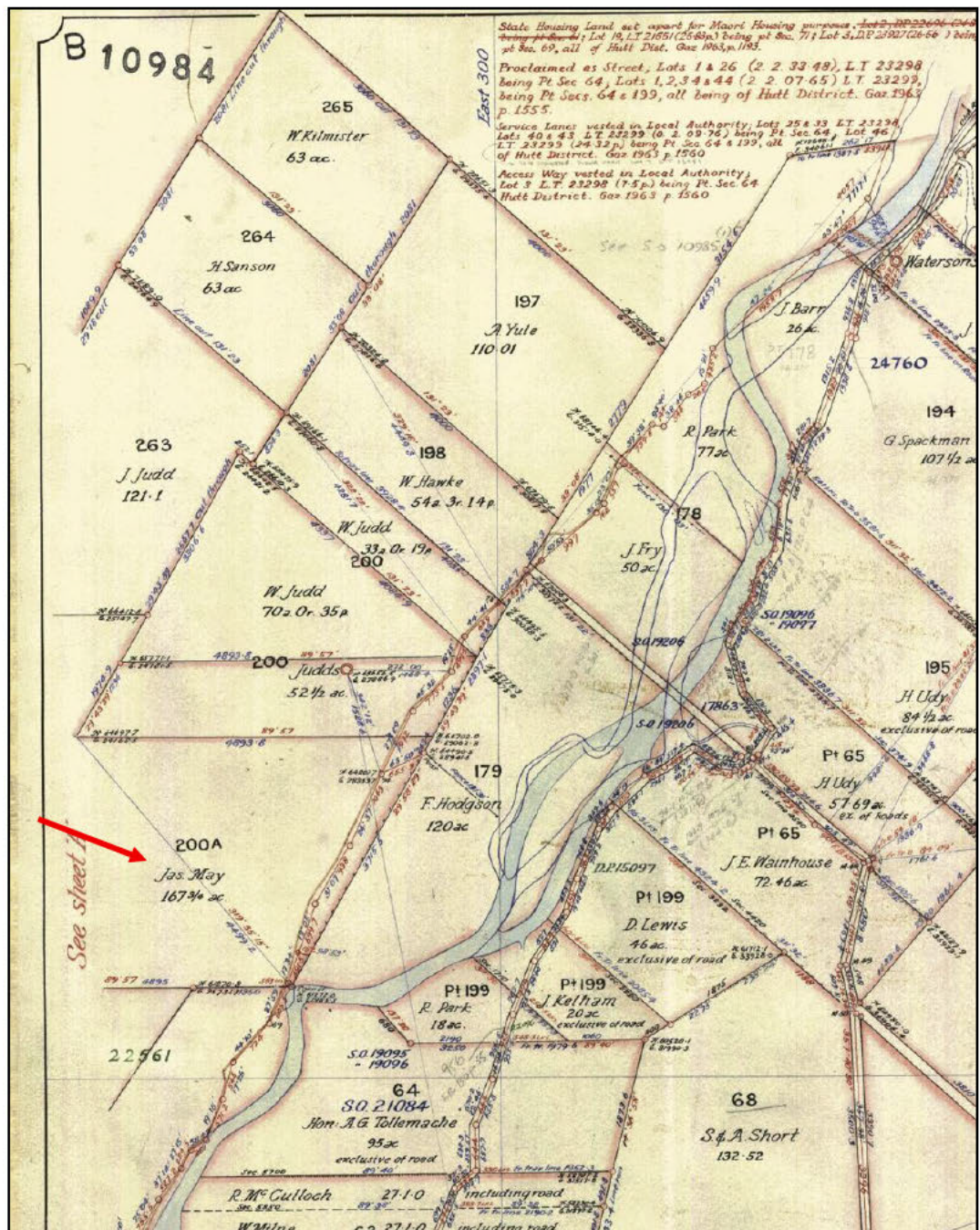


Figure 13. Detail from WN SO 10984 B showing 19th century ownership of Section 200A which contains part of the OBDA – indicated by arrow (source: Quickmap)

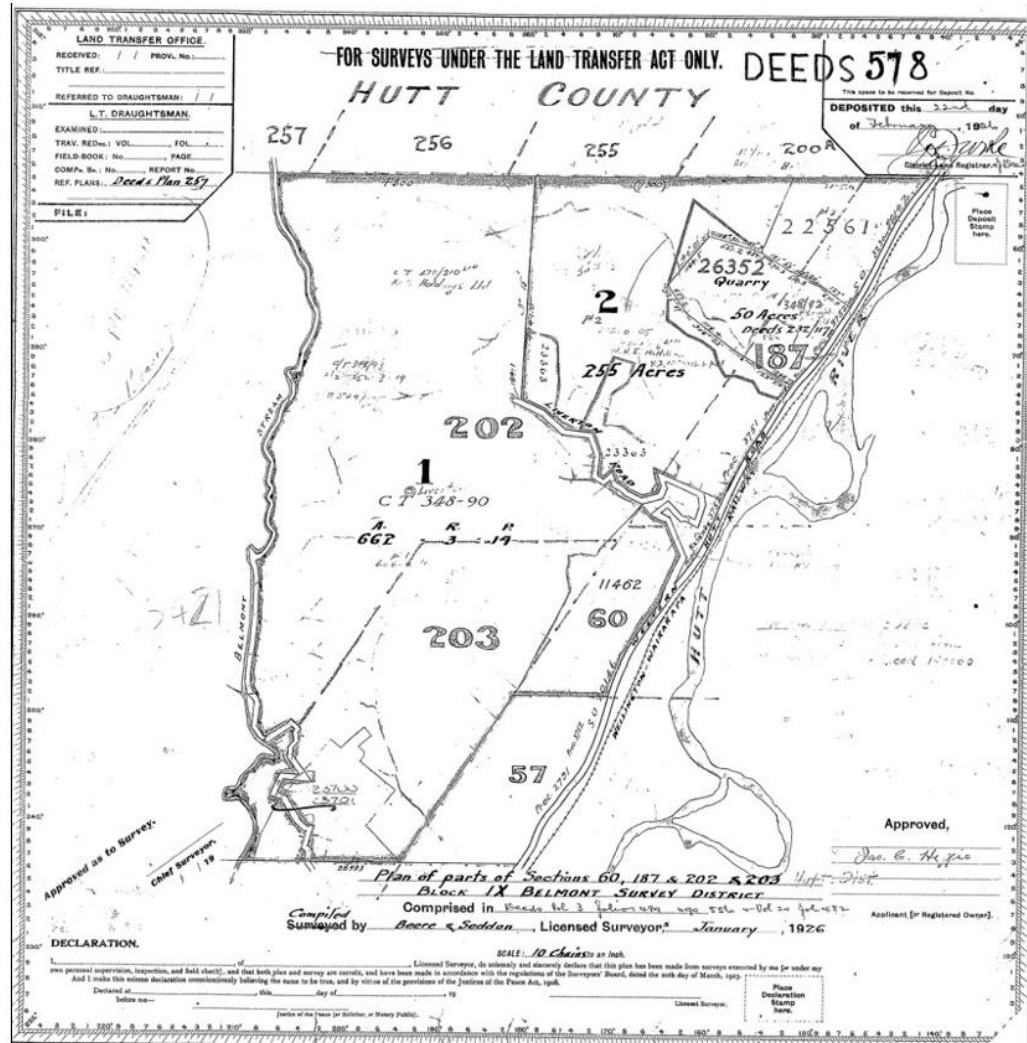


Figure 14. WN Deed 578 dated 1926 with 'quarry' marked out in Lot 2 which is included in the current Belmont Quarry with lots 255 and 200A which contain the proposed OBDA to the north (source: Quickmap)

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Recorded Sites

28. References to recorded sites below are references to archaeological sites recorded on ArchSite, a national database of recorded sites in Aotearoa New Zealand operated by the New Zealand Archaeological Association Incorporated, in partnership with Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga and the Department of Conservation.
29. For the purposes of ArchSite, an archaeological site is defined as any specific locality where there is or has been physical evidence for human occupation or activity in the past, that is or may be able to be investigated by archaeological techniques.
30. The ArchSite website notes that there is no cut-off date for sites that may be recorded in ArchSite, so it may include sites that do not meet the definition in the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.
31. For this reason, I refer below to “recorded sites” to avoid conflation with the definition of “archaeological site” in the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, which (primarily) is limited to sites are pre-1900 in origin.
32. There is one recorded site within the proposed OBDA (located within Stage 1). This is R27/910 which is recorded as a 20th century collapsed farm building (possibly a piggery), located on land owned and farmed by Hugh Duncan Buchanan after 1903.
33. There are no other recorded sites located in close proximity to the proposed OBDA. A total of five sites have been recorded at distances between c.2000-4000m outside of the boundaries of Belmont Regional Park and are described below with locations shown in Figure 15. Ten additional sites have been recorded within Belmont Regional Park with the closest being located c. 3000m to the west of the proposed OBDA. The ten sites within the park are also described below and the locations are shown in Figure 16. As well, a brief summary of the recorded sites is provided in Table 1.
34. R27/535, the former Silverstream Railway Bridge is located at a minimum distance of c.3100m to the east of the OBDA. The site consists of three wooden bridge piers from a bridge constructed in 1903 and dismantled in 1957. There are also remnant metal features eroding out of the cliff face on the western side of the river and in the river itself.
35. R27/684, the Stokes Valley School is located at a minimum distance of c.2400m to the southeast of the proposed OBDA. The school was constructed in 1893 and was used until a new school was built in 1929. The school building was modified for residential use, but the core is still believed to be intact.
36. R27/459, Christ Church is located at a minimum distance of c.2200m to the south of the proposed OBDA. The church, which was constructed in 1854, was one of the first five Anglican churches to be built in the Wellington

District. It was built in a simple style to a high standard of workmanship and is an excellent example of an English parish church designed with local materials and technology. It is included in the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero (#1325) and Appendix 14F of the Hutt City District plan in Appendix Heritage 1.

37. R27/693 (site of the former Taita Hotel) is located nearby Christ Church. The hotel was constructed in the 1890s and continued on in some form for many decades. It was demolished in 2019. Part of the site was monitored during residential development in 2020/21 and artefacts dating to the 19th and 20th centuries were identified, with additional subsurface material expected to still survive. It is located at a minimum distance of c.2500m to the south of the proposed OBDA.
38. One pā site has also been recorded c.3800m to the southwest of the proposed OBDA. This is R27/733, Motutawa Pā. It was occupied by Ngāti Tama hapū of Ngāti Awa, who left the area in 1846. It is believed to have been located directly opposite the site of the former Belmont Railway Station (Adkin 1959:44). There are no visible remains of the pā.

Recorded Sites within Belmont Regional Park

39. There are ten recorded sites within the Belmont Regional Park, and they are all of European origin. The sites are located at significant distances from the proposed OBDA but have been included in this report as they represent the overall archaeological values of the park and also because some of the sites are associated with 19th century European settlement
40. R27/195 (WWII Magazines for ammunition storage) consists of a series of magazines that were built in 1942-44. They were built as part of a countrywide programme. There are 62 magazine structures situated at regular intervals along a system of loop roads. The magazines are located on terraces cut into the upper slopes along ridges. A demolition area was added to the northeast end of the complex in 1947. The magazine area is located at a minimum distance of c.4200m to the west-northwest of the proposed OBDA.
41. R27/252 is the Old Coach Road which almost certainly follows an older traditional Māori track from Belmont to Pauatahanui. It has been widened for motorised vehicles and runs between Normandale Road and Belmont Road. It is located at a minimum distance of c.5200m to the southwest of the proposed OBDA. The site is also included in the Heritage NZ List Rārangī Kōrero Ref: 7396 (Category 1).
42. There are also four small quarry faces recorded in the area that are considered likely to be associated with road construction based on their proximity to the roadways. R27/246 is described as a small vertical quarry face with lumps of stone lying at the base. The site is located along Hill Road and there is a small stream between the quarry face and the road, with the possible remains of a small bridge structure at the stream edge. R27/249 is also quite small, measuring c.3m across, located along the Normandale Road near the park entrance. R27/250 is slightly larger than the previous

two quarry faces being c.5m across and 7m deep. It is located at the top of the Old Coach Road at the intersection with Hill Road. A quantity of loose quarried material is present at the base. R27/251 is described as a small quarry face located directly alongside of the Old Coach Road on the higher part of a ridge. The sites are located c. 4000m to the west of the proposed OBDA.

43. R27/248 is a concrete weir and spillway built across the Korokoro Stream. It was built in the late 1880s to provide water for the Wellington Woollen Manufacturing Mill. It is located at a minimum distance of c.7700m to the southwest of the proposed OBDA.
44. R27/397 is the Old Belmont Hill Road which was a formed track in use from 1846 to 1896. It was the original road between Belmont and Pauatahanui and it is believed that it had previously been a Māori track linking the Hutt Valley and the West Coast. In 2011 the track was described as overgrown but with benching and cuttings still visible. The recorded grid location on the NZAA Archsite Site Record Form is located at a minimum distance of c.3400m to the southwest of the proposed OBDA.
45. R27/438 (Pareraho Pā) is situated on top of a steep ridgeline at the confluence of the Belmont and Speedy streams. The top of the ridge is levelled off, and two terraces have been cut into the southern side facing Lower Hutt. It is a gunfighter pā and musket balls have been reported to have been found at the site. In 1886 surface features of the site were reported by the local landowner. No remains are visible today and it is located at a minimum distance of c.3300m to the southwest of the proposed OBDA.
46. R27/538 is Municipal Water Supply Dam built in 1903 (in use 1904-1962) at Korokoro. Features include a stepped spillway and incised foundation stone, water supply pipe and tramway rails. It is located c. 7600m to the southwest of the proposed OBDA.

Historic Heritage Sites

47. There are no historic heritage sites within or in proximity to the proposed OBDA. The following sites within Belmont Regional Park are identified in the Lower Hutt District Plan Appendix 14E – Significant Natural, Cultural and Archaeological Resources. Two of these are also recorded archaeological sites that have been described above. These are R27/195 (WWII Magazine Area), which is included under Significant Archaeological Resources, and the Old Coach Road linking Belmont and Pauatahanui which is recorded as R27/252, and which is included under Sites of Significance to European Culture (no.25) in the Hutt City District Plan. As well, the location of nine early settler homesteads which are not currently recorded as archaeological sites are also included in Sites of Significance to European Culture (no.26) in the Hutt City District Plan. There is also one Historic Place – Korokoro Dam which is included in Appendix 14F of the Hutt City District Plan in Appendix Heritage 2 – Heritage Buildings and Structures. The map in Figure 17 shows the locations of these heritage sites.

48. The Parks Network Plan 2020-2030 (Toitū te Whenua) is a composite statutory management plan for eight regional parks, including Belmont Regional Park. With regards to historic heritage the plan identifies the following key features at Belmont Regional Park; historic cross park Māori routes, Historic water supply dams (woollen mills and Korokoro); the Old Coach Road and 64 historic WWII munition bunkers and magazines.
49. As noted above, none of these features are in the vicinity of the proposed OBDA. The Plan also highlights opportunities for education, such as museum development, storytelling and interpreted heritage trails. The master planning includes enabling heritage values and cultural heritage and landscape features goals include a conservation management plan for the WWII features and the Old Coach Road. There are no identified heritage policy goals that would affect the proposed OBDA.

Potential for Unrecorded Archaeological Sites to be Present in the proposed OBDA

50. The steep hilly nature of the proposed OBDA would not have made it attractive for Māori settlement or other activities, apart from resource collection and for trackways over the hills. The existence of a traditional track cannot be completely discounted, although it is unlikely that any evidence of such a track, if once present would have survived. Such tracks would generally be unformed, with little in the way of an archaeological footprint. As such, the possibility that the proposed OBDA contains any surviving archaeological sites associated with Māori occupation and settlement is considered very low.
51. If any additional unrecorded sites are located in the proposed OBDA, they are most likely associated with early European settlement, as the OBDA is located in properties that were granted to European settlers in the 1870s and a track leading from the valley floor up to the proposed OBDA is also shown on a plan from that period. As such, it is possible that archaeological sites associated with late 19th century use of the area may be present. It should be noted that no evidence has been found during the research or during the field survey for this assessment that a homestead or any other structures were located in the proposed OBDA prior to 1900. As such, any sites if present would, likely not include structural remains. As mentioned earlier, a track was noted leading up from the river valley to higher elevations including the ridge containing the proposed OBDA. It is considered likely that the track would have been used for timber extraction and later possibly as access for grazing stock, rather than a homestead.
52. It should also be noted that there is no evidence that a tramway for timber extraction was ever present in the proposed OBDA. Based on historical plans it is considered possible that a tramway was present in nearby properties, however, the plans containing the proposed OBDA do not indicate such a feature as being present.

53. It is noted that the locations of early settler house sites have been identified in Belmont Regional Park along the Old Coach Road, which is located c. 5km to the southwest of the proposed OBDA. No surface remains have been identified, although these sites often contain stands of large macrocarpa and evidence of introduced flowers such as daffodils, which have been noted by park rangers (Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007:16). It is also noted that possible homestead sites may be located to the southeast of the proposed OBDA, much closer to the river valley.
54. The plan shown in Figure 17, taken from the Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement (2007) shows the location of the Old Coach Road and possible homestead sites to the southeast of the Proposed OBDA.

Table 1. Brief Description of the recorded sites within and in the general vicinity of the proposed OBDA (with sites within the Belmont Regional Park shaded grey)

NZAA Ref	HCDP ref (NZ List ref)	Site Type	Description	NZTM Easting	NZTM Northing
R27/195	Significant Archaeological Resources Appendix 14E	Military/ Non - Māori	WWII magazines occupying a large area (c.1.4 km long and c.1.2km wide).	1759779	5441686
R27/246	n/a	Quarry/ Industrial	Quarried lumps of stone lying at base of vertical face near stream with possible remains of a bridge.	2666041	5997908
R27/248	n/a	Weir	Concrete weir and spillway built across stream – dated 1880s to provide water to the Wellington Woollen Mill.	1755994	5436000
R27/249	n/a	Quarry/ Industrial	Small vertical quarry face (c.3m across) beside Normandale Road near park entrance.	2669343	5997908
R27/250	n/a	Quarry/ Industrial	Small vertical quarry face (c.5m across and 7m deep) at top of Old Coach Road near intersection with Hill Road.	2669443	6002229
R27/251	n/a	Quarry/ Industrial	Small vertical quarry face (c.3m across) beside Old Coach Road.	2669381	6002431
R27/252	No.25 Appendix 14E Sites of Significance to European Culture (7396 Cat 1)	Transport/ Communication	Old Coach Road which almost certainly follows part of an original Māori track from Belmont to Pauatahanui.	1759220	5438896
R27/397	n/a	Transport/ Communication	Old Belmont Hill Road – original road between Belmont and Pauatahanui – phased out in the 1890s.	1761050	5439000
R27/438	n/a	Pā- gunfighter	Pareraho Pā – Levelled spur top on a steep ridge with two terraces.	1761454	5438664
R27/459	Appendix 14F Heritage 1- Heritage Buildings and Structures. (1325 Cat 1)	Religious/ Ecclesiastical Historic Building	Christ Church (Anglican) – one of the first Anglican churches to be built in Wellington District.	1757181	5437605
R27/535	n/a	Transport/ Communication	Former Silverstream Railway Bridge – three wooden bridge piers and railway irons still visible.	1767103	5442844

NZAA Ref	HCDP ref (NZ List ref)	Site Type	Description	NZTM Easting	NZTM Northing
R27/538	n/a	Industrial	Municipal Water Supply Dam built in 1903 (in use 1904-1962) at Korokoro.	1757181	5437605
R27/684	n/a	Educational	Stokes Valley School House (former) – built in 1893. Original core remains – adapted for residential use.	1766546	5440951
R27/693	n/a	Commercial	Site of the Taita Hotel – limited excavation was monitored with artefacts (19th and early 20th century) recovered.	1764034	5438838
R27/733	n/a	Pā	Motutawa Pā – location estimated from written descriptions on eastern side of Hutt River near former Belmont Railway Station.	1761948	5438091
R27/910	n/a	Agricultural/ Pastoral	Collapsed 20 th century farm building- possibly a piggery.	1764191	5441635
n/a	Appendix 14F Heritage 2 – Heritage Buildings and Structures	Historic Place	Korokoro Dam.	1756005	5435288
n/a	No.26 Appendix 14E – Sites of Significance to European Culture	Domestic	Locations of early settler houses.	1759220	5438896



Figure 15. Map showing the locations of recorded sites (blue stars) within the proposed OBDA and in the general area (between c.2000m and c. 4000m) outside of Belmont Regional Park with proposed OBDA outlined in yellow (source: NZAA Archsite Website)



Figure 16. Aerial plan showing the recorded site within the proposed OBDA which is outlined in yellow and the additional ten recorded sites (indicated by blue stars) within the Belmont Regional Park (source: Google Maps)

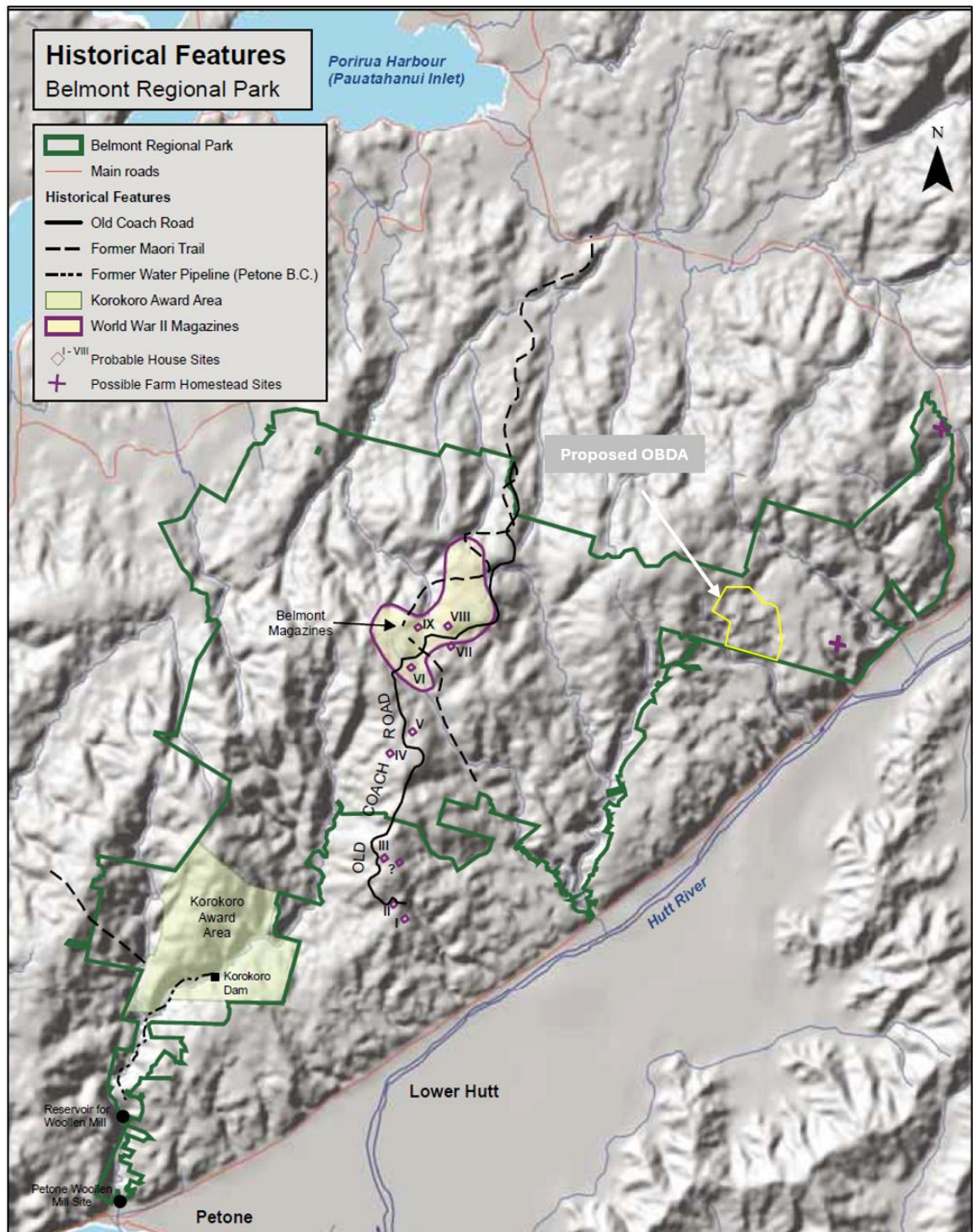


Figure 17. Map showing the locations of the WWII Belmont Magazines, Korokoro Dam, the Old Coach Road and the probable locations of early settler homesteads along the Old Coach Road and former Māori track – with the possible farm homesteads near the Belmont Quarry indicated by the purple cross and the location of the proposed OBDA outlined in yellow (source: Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007: 4)

5. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Geology and Geomorphology

55. The Wellington region contains a number of geological faults that over time have pushed up the ranges in the area. The Wellington fault, which is still currently active, played an important role in the shaping of the geology of the Hutt area. The Belmont Hills, which lie to the west of the fault line, were pushed up, while the area to the east of the fault line was tilted down, creating the Hutt Valley (Boffa Miskell 2012:74). There are two main groups of sedimentation episodes in the Hutt Valley, the Mesozoic greywackes and the Quaternary terrestrial and estuarine sediments (Grant-Taylor 1958 31: GNS Science Website). The soils of the Hutt District range from those present on the river flats, to sand dunes, low-lying rolling hills and moderately steep ranges. The soils in the OBDA comprise two soil types (Figure 18). The Korokoro series are found on moderately steep to steep slopes and some rolling ridge crests that have developed for the most part in greywacke colluvium. The silt loam surface horizon lies above a silt loam or clay loam subsoil overlying weathered greywacke at 50-90cm (Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007: 45). As well, Ngaio series soils are present in the proposed OBDA. This silty loam soil developed in silty loess and slope deposits on weathered greywacke or greywacke gravels (ibid.: 46). These thin soils, which are derived from the weathering of the predominantly underlying greywacke rock, are vulnerable to erosion and slips, especially when vegetation cover is removed (Boffa Miskell 2012:78). The Greywacke in the Belmont area has been quarried for many decades and quarrying continues today.

Topography, Vegetation and Landuse

56. The proposed OBDA is situated in steep to rolling hill country running down into the Hutt Valley, the geological process of repeated uplifting and ongoing erosion creating the character of the hills that is seen today. The valleys or basins have been shaped by alluvial processes which have formed relatively flat land. It is noted that although much of the hill country is characterised by jagged ridges in the north, the hills in the Belmont Ranges are described as being more rounded, with a series of steep gullies and valleys (Boffa Miskell 2012:19). Much of the hill country was cleared with the intention of farming; however, the poor quality of the soil did not suit intensive grazing and much of it was left to revert to native scrubland or gorse before development into residential lifestyle blocks or incorporation into the Belmont Regional Park (ibid.).
57. Aerial photographs were reviewed to provide additional information on the land use and extent of quarrying in the proposed OBDA. The aerial photograph dated 1941 in Figure 19 shows the proposed OBDA for the most part consists as open high ground with vegetated gullies. There are also one or possibly two structures visible, although the nature of the buildings cannot be discerned from the image. The 1966 aerial photograph in Figure 20 shows the same areas with little change in the proposed OBDA. The

2005 aerial photograph in Figure 21 shows that the structures in the proposed OBDA have been removed and a small area of ground disturbance is visible in the southern part of the OBDA.

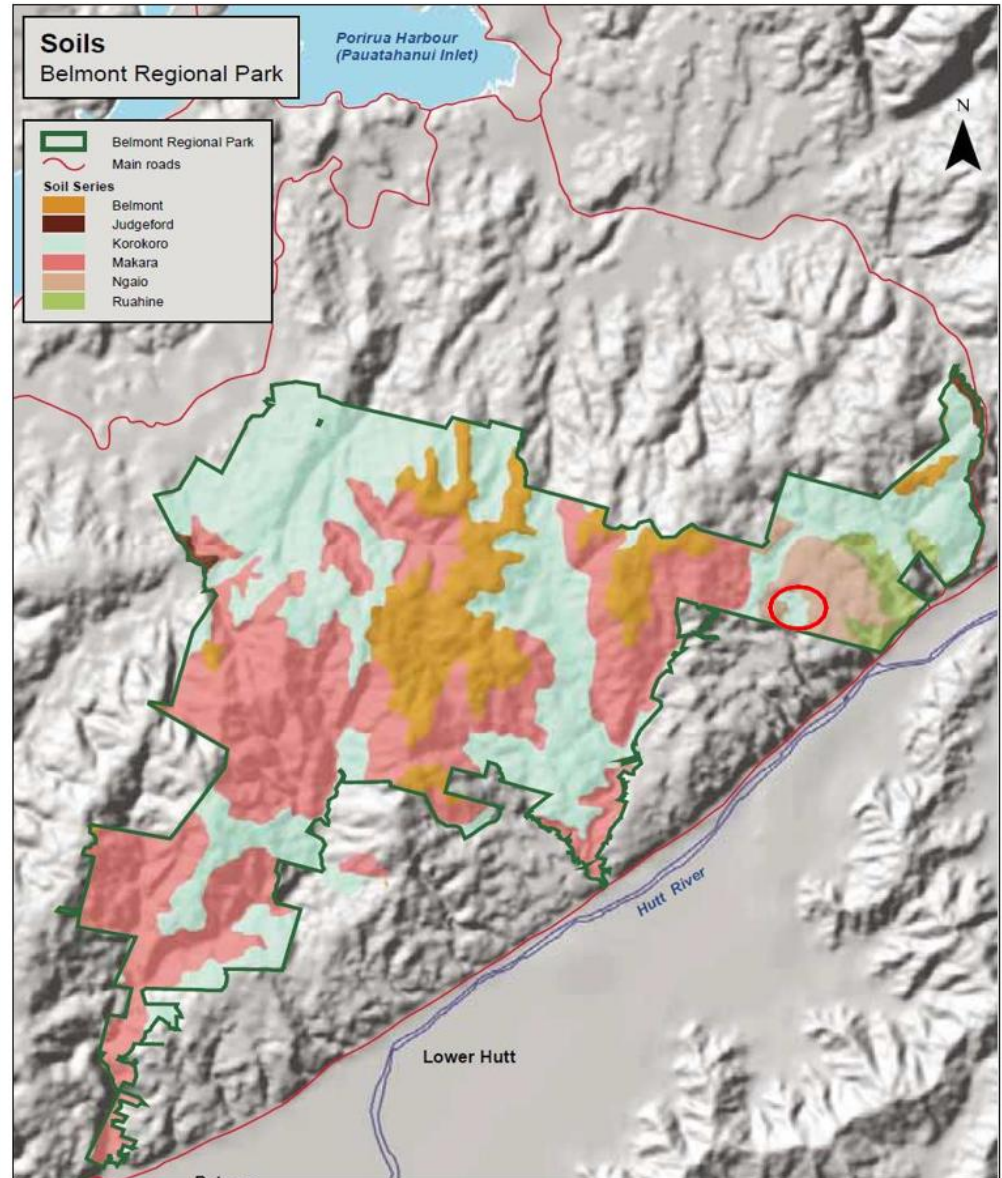


Figure 18. Map showing the soils of Belmont Regional Park with the approximate location of the proposed OBDA circled (source: Belmont Regional Park Resource Statement 2007: 47)



Figure 19. Aerial photograph dated 1941 (Crown 163 182 19) showing the proposed OBDA (yellow dashed outline) with buildings visible (sourced from: <http://retrolens.nz> and licensed by LINZ CC-BY 3.0)



Figure 20. Aerial photograph dated 1966 (Crown 1407 3292 42) showing the proposed OBDA (yellow dashed outline) with buildings still visible (sourced from: <http://retrolens.nz> and licensed by LINZ CC-BY 3.0)



Figure 21. Aerial photograph dated 2005 showing the proposed OBDA (outlined by yellow dashed line) with buildings no longer visible (source from: Google Earth)

6. FIELD ASSESSMENT

Field Survey Results

58. A preliminary site visit was undertaken on 25 November 2022. Only limited access to the northern part of the proposed OBDA was able to be achieved. A second site visit was carried out on 27 June 2025 and the northern part of the proposed OBDA where structures were visible on a 1941 aerial photograph was able to be accessed. Both site visits consisted of a visual inspection and walkover where possible. A field survey was also carried out on 18 March 2026 to provide a more detailed visual inspection along with limited subsurface testing and to visit the newly recorded site. No evidence of pre-1900 archaeological remains were identified in the two site visits or during the field survey.

Results of the 2022 Site Visit

59. Entry to the OBDA was attempted from the northern point of the quarry through an area of grassed land that had been previously modified (Figure 22, left). The surrounding area was found to be covered by very thick scrub and also with very steep hillsides, also shown in Figure 22 (right), and it was decided that a full walkover survey could not be safely undertaken.



Figure 22. Left photograph showing the modified area where entry to the proposed OBDA was accessed, looking southwest; and right photograph taken during the survey showing the thick vegetation cover, looking east

Results of the 2025 Site Visit

60. The OBDA was entered from the north along the ridge and the area where structures were observed in early aerial photographs was visited. The area was accessed by a grassed vehicle track with large trees on either side. This opened onto some cleared areas containing tall grass and areas of scrubby vegetation. The area was walked over but no evidence of the former structures was observed. As well, no evidence of features or deposits on the ground surface were visible. However, it is noted that the thick vegetation cover hindered visibility over much of the survey area. Finally, it was noted that one of the open grassed areas contained beehive boxes, and this area was only observed from a distance. Photographs taken during the site visit are shown in Figure 23 – Figure 26.



Figure 23. View of the grassed access track in the proposed OBDA looking north taken during the 2025 site visit



Figure 24. View of the southern end of the access track leading to the open area in the proposed OBDA, looking south taken during the 2025 site visit



Figure 25. View of an area covered by thick grass and surrounding vegetation in the proposed OBDA, looking south taken during the 2025 site visit



Figure 26. View of an open area with thick grass and surrounding thick vegetation in the proposed OBDA, looking west taken during the 2025 site visit

Results of the 2026 Field Survey

61. The proposed OBDA was visited on 18 March 2026 in good weather conditions. The location of the recorded archaeological site was inspected first. On arrival corrugated iron was found spread across the site as well as inside the collapsed building. The building was found to have a concrete foundation made from mixed grade poured in layers. Corrugated iron cladding surrounded the concrete. The location is accurately marked on the R27/910 site record form. Based on the inspection of the material used in the construction, the structure is post 1900. Just to the east of the building an alternating reinforced concrete and wood post fence was identified, also of post 1900 construction. Photographs are shown in Figure 27- Figure 30.
62. The area around the structure was also inspected for artefacts and objects found included, plastic water bottles, shotgun shells, plastic wrapping, and glass bottles. The glass bottles were modern and had aluminium cap rings.
63. Three test pits were undertaken during the survey with detailed photographs shown in Figure 31 – Figure 33 and locations shown in Figure 34. Test pits 1 and 3 showed a medium brown silty topsoil with a lighter brown silty subsoil underneath. Test pit 2 showed similar soils but also contained gravel/ aggregate inclusions which may represent the track leading to the collapsed building.
64. The remainder of the ridge was also inspected, and no evidence of any other structures was found to be present and no evidence of pre-1900 archaeological remains was identified.



Figure 27. View of corrugated metal sheeting at site R27/910, looking west



Figure 28. View of the collapsed farm building (R27/910), looking south



Figure 29. View of the corrugated metal roof of the collapsed farm building, looking east



Figure 30. View showing the fence near site R27/910 with concrete post in the foreground, looking north



Figure 31. Detail of test pit 1 located to the west of the collapsed farm building



Figure 32. Detail of test pit 2 located to the south of the collapsed farm building



Figure 33. Detail of test pit 3 showing clean soil



Figure 34. Aerial plan showing the locations of the three test pits undertaken during the 2026 field survey

7. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Summary of Results

65. One recorded site has been recorded in the proposed OBDA (within the Stage 1 works area). The site is a 20th century collapsed farm building, possibly a piggery. The site was visited as part of this assessment and no evidence of pre-1900 material was identified anywhere in the vicinity. Archaeological sites associated with 19th century European settlement have been recorded in Belmont Regional Park, but none are located in proximity to the proposed OBDA and are for the most part located at least c. 3000m to the west with sites outside of the park located along the Hutt River valley to the south of the proposed OBDA.
66. It is noted that a track leading from the river valley up to the area that contains the proposed OBDA is indicated on a 19th century plan, however, historical research and the survey for this assessment have not identified any evidence of a homestead or associated buildings in the proposed OBDA or any specific use of the properties prior to 1900. Although, the likelihood of any pre-1900 archaeological remains associated with European settlement is considered unlikely, it cannot be completely excluded, based on the known history of 19th century land ownership and the known use of the property by Hugh Duncan Buchanan in the early 20th century (from 1903 onwards).
67. Recorded archaeological sites associated with Māori settlement and occupation in the general area are usually located closer to major waterways or along the coast, apart from traditional trackways, remains of which would be unlikely to have survived. As such, the presence of archaeological sites associated with Māori occupation and settlement to be present in the proposed OBDA is considered to be very low, although it cannot be completely excluded.

Māori Cultural Values

68. This is an assessment of effects on archaeological values and does not include an assessment of effects on Māori cultural values. Such assessments should only be made by the tangata whenua. Māori cultural concerns may encompass a wider range of values than those associated with archaeological sites. The historical association of the general area with the tangata whenua is evident from the recorded sites, traditional histories and known Māori place names.
69. Ongoing liaison and engagement with Taranaki Whanui and Ngāti Toa have been undertaken for the development of the proposed OBDA and will continue throughout the remainder of the project and implementation.

Survey Limitations

70. 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 Māori, especially where these have no physical remains.

71. The ground surface in some parts of the proposed OBDA was obscured by thick vegetation, hindering the inspection of the ground surface.

Archaeological Value and Significance

72. The recorded site in the proposed OBDA (R27/910) is not scheduled on the District or Regional Plan and has not been listed by Heritage NZ.
73. The Greater Wellington Operative Regional Policy Statement identifies the criteria for evaluating the significance of Historic Heritage Items (Policy 21). In addition, Heritage NZ has provided guidelines setting out criteria that are specific to archaeological sites (condition, rarity, contextual value, information potential, amenity value and cultural associations) (Heritage NZ 2019: 9-10). Both sets of criteria have been used to evaluate the value and significance of archaeological site R27/910.
74. 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 pā 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.
75. Overall, archaeological site R27/910 is considered to have limited local archaeological and historic heritage values, as it represents a relatively late use of the property for farming and does not contain any significant physical remains.
76. It is noted that the possibility of 19th century archaeological remains associated with European settlement (most likely in the form of rubbish deposits) and with pre-European Māori use of traditional trackways (most likely in the form of remnant shell midden) being present within the proposed OBDA cannot be completely excluded. This is based on the evidence that the land was granted to European settlers in the late 19th century and the general area contained traditional trackways used by Māori in pre-European times. There is no evidence that any homesteads, settlements or structures were present. As such, the value of any sites would likely be limited, although the value could only be confirmed after a site has been identified.

Table 2. Assessment of the archaeological values of site R27/910 based on Heritage NZ criteria (Heritage NZ 2019: 9-10)

Value	Assessment
Condition	The site is in poor condition with the building having collapsed.
Rarity	The presence of 20th farm buildings is not uncommon in the area.
Contextual value	The remains have some contextual value as the property is associated with European land ownership and use prior to the property becoming part of Belmont Regional Park.
Information potential	The remains of the building show modern construction techniques and have limited information potential. As well, the remains are unlikely to provide any information on the lifestyles of the people who owned/ used the building.
Amenity value	The site has limited amenity value, although the presence of the site is known locally and would have some value to people in the local community.
Cultural associations	There are no specific cultural associations with the site, although there would be some value to people in the local community who have associations with it.
Other	No other values have been identified.

Table 3. Assessment of the Heritage Significance of site R27/910 based on the Greater Wellington Regional Policy Statement (Policy 21)

Historic Values	
Themes	The site has some value from association with European settlement, specifically for farming/ agriculture in the general area which extends back to the 19th century, although the site itself is of 20th century date.
Events	The site has no association with a significant historical event.
People	The site has some value for the local community as the location was farmed by a local family prior to becoming part of Belmont Regional Park.
Social	The site does not have any elements that contribute to knowledge of social history.
Physical Values	
Archaeological	The site contains structural remains of a 20th century building and objects identified on the ground surface are also of 20th century date. The site does not contain features that would contribute to our understanding of historical farming techniques or lifestyles of early European settlement. The presence/ condition of subsurface remains is not currently known.
Architectural	The site does not contain features that would contribute to our understanding of historical farm buildings/ building techniques.
Technological	The site does not contain any evidence of technological or scientific achievements.
Integrity	The site does represent an authentic example of a 20th century farm building and does not show evidence of any alterations or reuse
Group or Townscape Values	The site has limited value as a farm site in use in the 20th century but is not in proximity to any known homestead/ early settlement sites and does not represent a significant element in the early European

	settlement remains in the area.
Social Values	
Sentiment	The site has some value from association with the local community who have connections with early European settlement in the area.
Recognition	The place has limited recognition and is known to some members of the local community.
Tangata Whenua	Not assessed. To be evaluated by tangata whenua.
Surroundings	The site is currently in a regional park.
Rarity	20th century farm buildings are not rare, although they are often not recorded as archaeological sites, as they post-date 1900, which is the requirement for archaeological sites under the HNZPTA.
Representativeness	The site represents the farming history of the area, which has continued in the regional park, although this may be phased out in the future.

Effects of the Proposal

Preliminary Enabling Works and Stage 1 and Stage 2 Works

77. The earthworks for the proposed OBDA will require the modification of site R27/910 as the works will require the removal of the structure and also vegetation removal and topsoil stripping which would likely destroy any remains that are present. The works that will affect the site are in Stage 1 with the initial works for the construction of the central haul road and the Stage 2 works being located to the west of the site. The site is associated with the 20th century use of the property containing the proposed OBDA and an Authority therefore is not required to modify or destroy it. However, as the presence of subsurface archaeological remains cannot be completely excluded, it is recommended that the vegetation clearance and topsoil stripping is undertaken under archaeological supervision in the area containing the site as shown in Figure 35, to identify and record any archaeological remains that may be present.
78. Based on the limited archaeological value of the affected site and any currently unrecorded sites, the effects on archaeological values are considered to be minor. In addition, the effects to any subsurface archaeological remains, if present are also considered to be minor, as no evidence of a 19th century homestead or other activities have been identified in the proposed OBDA and complex sites are not expected. The archaeological remains that may be encountered (however, unlikely that may be) would likely consist of late 19th century rubbish pits associated with European settlement or possibly remnant remains such as shell midden related to traditional trackways used by Māori in pre-European times.

Later Stages (Stage 3 through Stage 10)

79. The enabling works for later stages will also consist of vegetation removal and topsoil stripping along with the construction of access tracks. Stage 3 is located to the west of Stage 1 in the northwestern part of the proposed OBDA and is for the most part included in the area covered in Stage 2. The works in Stage 4 cover the southeastern side of the proposed OBDA, Stage

5 covers the southwestern part of the proposed OBDA, with Stage 6 covering the area between Stage 5 and Stage 2. The works in Stage 8 cover the area between Stage 4 and Stage 5. Finally, the works in Stages, 7, 9 and 10 are located in areas where enabling works have taken place previously.

80. There are no identified effects to archaeological or other historic heritage values in the Stages 3 through 10.

Management of Effects

81. As the recorded site R27/910 is of post 1900 date, an Archaeological Authority is not required for the proposed development. However, as the possibility that unrecorded archaeological remains may be exposed cannot be completely excluded, an Authority to cover the proposed works is being sought by Winstone Aggregates as a precaution for risk management purposes for the preliminary enabling works and for the works in Stage 1 and Stage 2 works, which include the location of and are in the vicinity of the site. It is suggested that the conditions include archaeological monitoring of vegetation removal and topsoil stripping in the area containing the archaeological site R27/910.
82. An archaeological management plan has been prepared which contains guidelines for the archaeological monitoring to be undertaken as part of this project to ensure that any archaeological remains will be dealt with appropriately and avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse residual effects from accidental discoveries. The archaeological management plan will cover the preliminary enabling works and works for Stage 1 and Stage 2.
83. The plan in Figure 35 shows the area where archaeological monitoring is recommended during vegetation clearance and topsoil stripping) in Stage 1.
84. It is noted that if any pre-1900 archaeological sites are present within the proposed OBDA they are likely to consist of rubbish pits associated with European settlement or remnant shell midden associated with Māori use of traditional tracks, which would be of limited value.
85. The effects to Stages 3 through 10 will be managed either through a separate Authority application and associated management plan or if an Authority is not in place through Accidental Discovery Protocols.

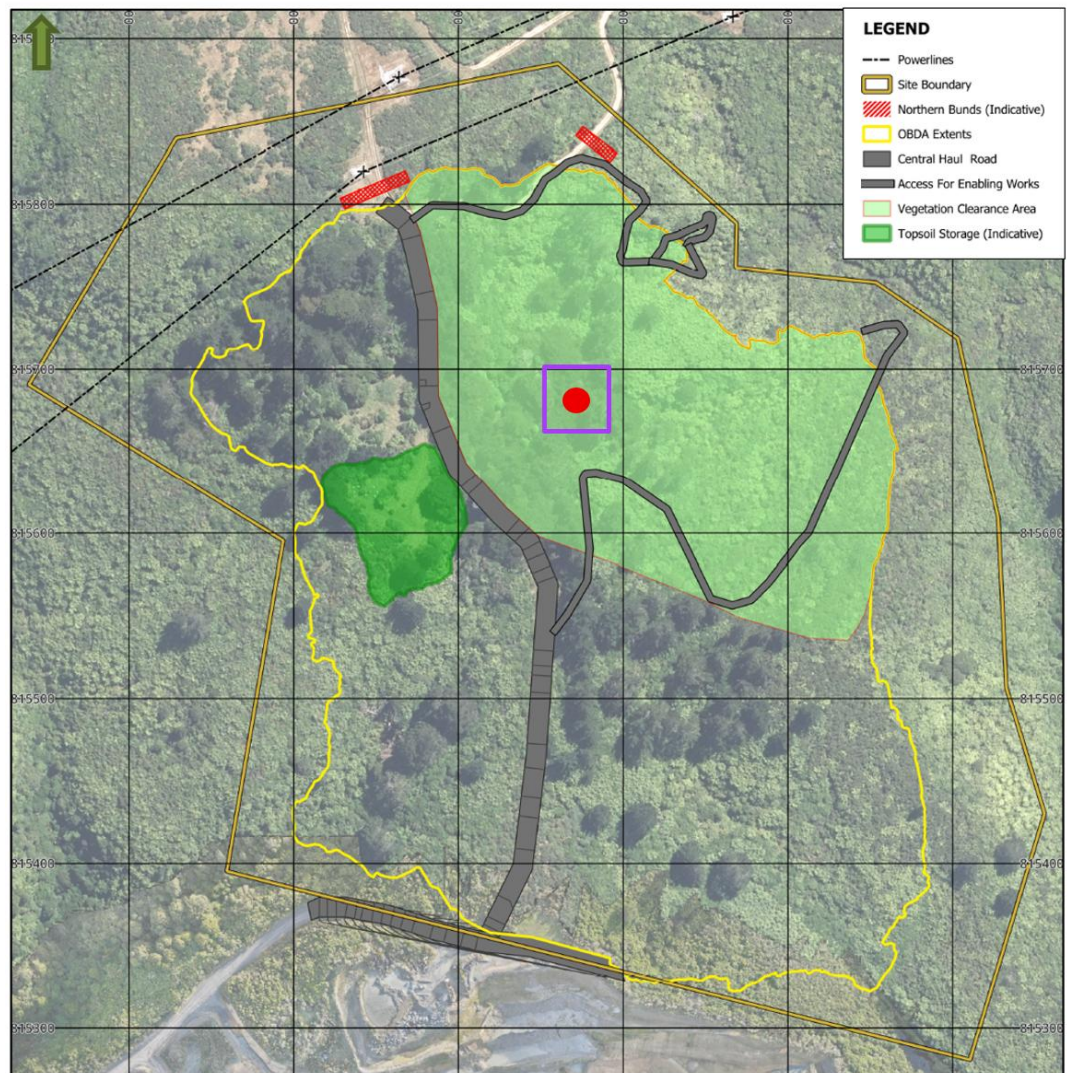


Figure 35. Aerial plan showing the Stage 1 works with site R27/910 indicated by red circle and area for archaeological monitoring outlined in purple (source: Winstone Aggregates)

Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 Requirements

86. Under the Act in Section 42 (1), an authorised person for a listed project or a referred project may lodge an application for Archaeological Authority with the EPA. Under section 42(3)(a) the applicant must be eligible to apply for any corresponding approval under a specified Act. A substantive application may also seek: under Section 42(4)(a) a resource consent that would otherwise be applied for under the Resource Management Act 1991.
87. Clause 4(1) of Schedule 8, of the FTAA states that the Panel, when considering an application for an archaeological authority, must take into account the following matters:
- (a) The purpose of the FTAA; and
 - (b) The matters set out in s 59 (1)(a) of the HNZPTA Act;
 - (c) The matters set out in section 47(1)(a)(ii) and 5 of the HNZPT Act; and

- (d) a relevant statement of the general policy confirmed or adopted under the HNZPT Act.
88. The greatest weight must be given to the purpose of the FTAA in that consideration.
89. Clause 9 of Schedule 8 of the FTAA states that an authority granted under the FTAA-
- (a) Has the same force and effect as it were granted under section 48 of the HNZPT Act; and
 - (b) For the purpose of the HNZPT Act, must be treated as if it were an authority granted under that ACT.
90. This report has acknowledged the considerations that the Panel will take into account as set out in clause 4 of Schedule 8 of the FTAA as follows;
- a. Pursuant to s59(1)(a), regard must be had to any matter the panel considers appropriate, including:
 - i. the historical and cultural heritage value of the archaeological site and any other factors justifying protection of the site:
 - ii. the purpose and principles of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014:
 - iii. the extent to which the protection of the archaeological site prevents or restricts the existing or reasonable future use of the site for any lawful purpose:
 - iv. the interests of any person directly affected by the decision of Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga:
 - v. a statutory acknowledgement that relates to the archaeological site or sites concerned:
 - vi. the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taonga.
91. Although no known pre-1900 sites will be affected and it is unlikely that any undetected sites are present, the potential for archaeological remains cannot be completely excluded, so an Authority to cover enabling works and works in Stage 1 and Stage 2 is being sought by Winstone under the FTAA for risk management purposes pursuant to s44.
92. An archaeological Authority granted under the FTAA has the same force and effect as an Authority granted under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 and for purposes of the HNZPTA, must be treated as if it were an authority under that Act (Schedule 7 Section 12A (a) and (b)).
93. This assessment has established that one known recorded site will be affected by the development. As the site is of post1900 date, an authority is not required to modify it. However, as the possibility of archaeological remains of pre-1900 date cannot be completely excluded, an Authority for will be sought for risk management purposes.

94. This assessment meets the relevant requirements for information that must be provided with an application for authority in Section 46 of the HNZPTA as stated in Section 47 (1)(a)(i).

Table 4. Fast Track requirements cross-referenced with assessment report.

Fast Track Requirement	Report Cross Reference
Clause 2 of Schedule 8 Information required in application for archaeological authority (to include information required under section 46 of the HNZPTA) 1) For the purposes of section 43(3)(i), an application for an archaeological authority must include the following information: (a) a legal description of the land or, if one is not available, a description that is sufficient to identify the land to which the application relates; and (b) the name of the owner of the relevant land, if the applicant is not the owner of the land; and (c) proof of consent, if the owner has consented to the proposed activity; and (d) confirmation that the application complies with section 46(2)(a),(b) and (d) (e) a description of each archaeological site to which the application relates and the location of each site; and (f) a description of the activity for which the authority is sought; and (g) a description of how the proposed activity will modify or destroy each archaeological site; and (h) except in the case of an approval described in section 44(b) of the HNZPT Act, an assessment of— (i) the archaeological, Māori, and other relevant values of the archaeological site in the detail that is appropriate to the scale and significance of the proposed activity and the proposed modification or destruction of the archaeological site; and Schedule 8 cl (4) (1) (b) (c) (d)	Paragraph 5; Figure 1 Paragraph 5 n/a n/a n/a Paragraphs 9-14 Paragraph 78 Paragraph 77/ Table 2 and 3 Paragraph 75 Paragraph 77 & 100 Paragraph 107

Resource Management Act 1991 Requirements

95. Section 6 of the RMA recognises as matters of national importance: ‘the relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga’ (S6(e)); and ‘the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development’ (S6(f)).
96. 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 (section 17), including historic heritage.
97. Historic heritage is defined (Section 2) as:

‘those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand’s history and cultures, deriving from any of the following qualities: (i) archaeological; (ii) architectural; (iii) cultural; (iv) historic; (v) scientific; (vi) technological’. Historic heritage includes: ‘(i) historic sites, structures, places, and areas; (ii) archaeological sites; (iii) sites of significance to Māori, including wahi tapu; (iv) surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources’.
98. 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 Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The Auckland Council Auckland Unitary Plan (Operative in Part) is relevant to the proposed activity. There are no scheduled historic heritage sites located within the proposed quarry development area.
99. This assessment has established that the proposed activity will affect one recorded site, R27/910 which is of 20th century date and has little potential to affect unrecorded subsurface remains, although the possibility cannot be completely excluded, particularly in the area containing the archaeological site. As such, an Archaeological Authority will be applied for to cover the preliminary enabling works and the works in Stage 1 and Stage 2 works. Therefore, it is recommended that archaeological monitoring is carried out in the area shown in Figure 35 to identify if any archaeological remains are present. It is also recommended that an advice note regarding the provisions of the HNZPTA is included.
100. Based on the findings of this assessment, complex archaeological sites are not expected and any adverse effects on unidentified archaeological sites are considered likely to be minor and can be appropriately mitigated under the archaeological provisions of the HNZPTA
101. As the authority application will not cover Stages 3 -10 a general condition relating to accidental discovery of archaeological remains could be included as a condition of the land use consent for those activities, requiring that if any archaeological remains are exposed during development in these stages, the accidental discovery protocols must be complied with. This would likely

include requirements that works must cease within 20m of the discovery and the Council, Heritage NZ, Mana Whenua and (in the case of human remains) NZ Police must be informed.

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 Requirements

102. 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 modify an archaeological site has been issued by Heritage NZ (Section 42).
103. 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)’
104. 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.
105. 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 recorded archaeological site where the effects will be no more than minor (Section 44(b)), or for the purpose of conducting a scientific investigation (Section 44(c)). Applications that relate to sites of Māori interest require consultation with (and in the case of scientific investigations the consent of) the appropriate iwi or hapū and are subject to the recommendations of the Māori Heritage Council of Heritage NZ. In addition, an application may be made to carry out an exploratory investigation of any site or locality under Section 56, to confirm the presence, extent and nature of a site or suspected site.
106. One site of post 1900 date has been recorded in the proposed OBDA. The site has been evaluated as having limited archaeological value and it is considered unlikely that any unrecorded sites are located in the proposed OBDA. As such, the effects to the recorded and any unrecorded sites can be managed in accordance with an Authority issued under the FTAA (through Winstone’s substantive fast track application) and the HNZPTA. Accordingly, regard has been had to the matters specified in s59(1)9a), all of which are consistent with the quarry development.
107. The Archaeology Statement in the General Policy Statement produced under the HNZPTA seeks to strengthen the management of Aotearoa New Zealand’s archaeological heritage through protection of cultural heritage places

that have archaeological values and compliance with the archaeological authority process, providing information recovered from sites and delivering professional leadership in archaeological practice working with hapū, iwi, and communities where appropriate. This assessment addresses the effects of modification of the recorded site R27/910 and also the possibility of modification of any unrecorded archaeological sites through the application for an authority for risk management purposes. It therefore aligns with the Archaeology Statement in the General Policy Statement.

Conclusions

108. There is one recorded site (R27/910), a collapsed 20th century farm building located in the proposed OBDA. As a post 1900 structure, the site does not meet the definition of an archaeological site under the HNZPTA. There are also no known pre-1900 sites in the proposed OBDA and there is little potential for any unidentified subsurface pre-1900 archaeological remains to be present. An Archaeological Authority is therefore not required for the proposed OBDA development.
109. However, as the presence of pre-1900 sites cannot be completely excluded, based on the 19th century European land ownership of the properties and the use of land in the proposed OBDA from 1903 by Hugh Duncan Buchanan, an Authority to cover the preliminary enabling works and the Stage 1 and Stage 2 works (which include and are in the vicinity of the archaeological site) as a precaution, will be applied for, for risk management purposes.
110. Based on the research and the results of the site visits and survey for this assessment the presence of complex or extensive sites is considered unlikely. The recorded site R27/910 is considered to have limited archaeological or historic heritage value, and any unrecorded sites that may be present are also considered likely to have similar values with effects on archaeological values likely to be no more than minor.
111. Winstone is seeking an Archaeological Authority, for risk management purposes for the proposed OBDA development to cover preliminary enabling works and for the Stage 1 and Stage 2 works, as the presence of unrecorded subsurface remains particularly in the vicinity of the archaeological site R27/910 cannot be completely excluded. This approach has the advantage of allowing any archaeology uncovered during the development of these stages to be dealt with immediately, avoiding delays that would otherwise occur if an Authority was not applied for in advance of preliminary works.
112. The application is therefore consistent with the purpose of the FTAA, which is to provide a streamlined decision-making process to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. The Act covers the approval for an Archaeological Authority under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014.

Recommendations

113. There are no major constraints on the proposed quarry development on archaeological/ historic heritage grounds as the 20th century archaeological site affected by the proposed activity is of limited archaeological/ historic heritage value and effects to the site can be appropriately mitigated through recording of the site during the enabling works. Therefore, it is considered that the project can proceed if the following recommendations are adopted by Winstone:
114. As the possibility of exposing subsurface archaeological remains cannot be completely excluded, particularly in the vicinity of the recorded site, an Authority is recommended to be sought for risk management purposes for the preliminary enabling works and for the Stage 1 and Stage 2 works, to minimise delays if archaeological remains are identified once works are underway.
115. Once an Authority is obtained, vegetation clearance and top soil stripping at the location of site R27/910, should be carried out under archaeological supervision to identify if any archaeological remains are present and to document the site by mapping and photographic recording. In other areas, vegetation clearance and earthworks can occur without archaeological supervision.
116. As the authority application will not cover Stages 3-10, these works can either be covered under accidental discovery protocols, or an Authority can be applied for prior to the commencement of works for these stages. A condition of consent requiring compliance with the accidental discovery protocols (in the absence of an Authority) is recommended to address this.

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Archives New Zealand:

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9. APPENDIX A: SITE RECORD FORMS

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Site Record Form



NZAA Site Number: R27/910

Imperial Site Number:

Site Type: Agricultural/ pastoral

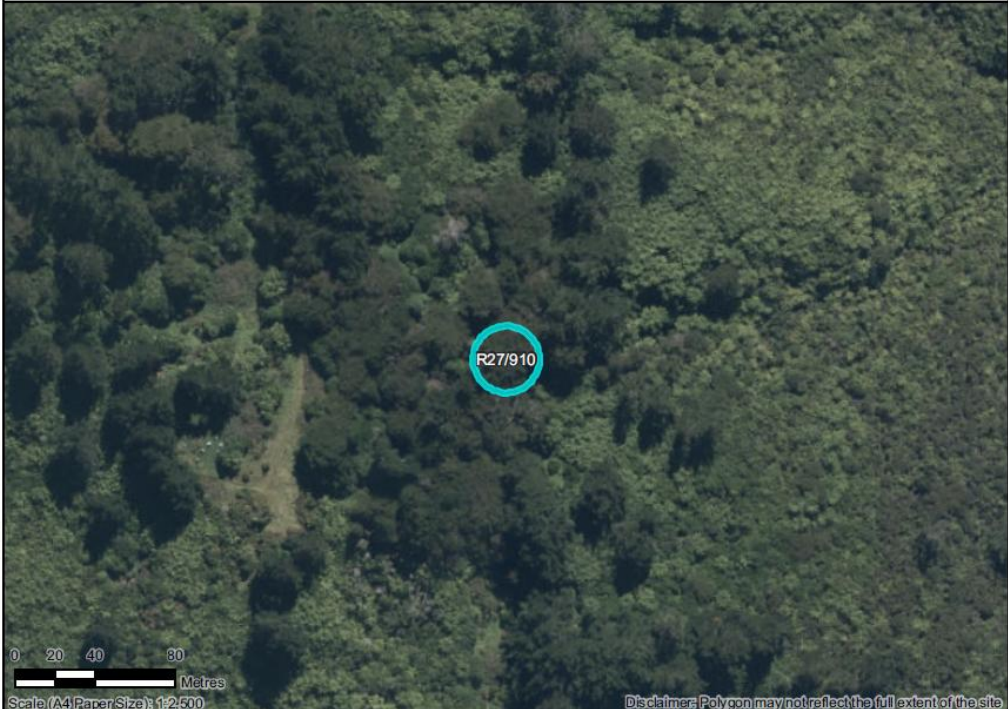
Site Name(s):

Site Coordinates (NZTM)

Easting: 1764191

Northing: 5441635

Source: On Screen



0 20 40 80
Metres
Scale (A4 Paper Size): 1:2,500

Disclaimer: Polygon may not reflect the full extent of the site

Finding Aids to the Location of the Site:
Belmont Regional Park. Just off Buchanan's Road Tramping Track, accessed from Dry Creek Carpark entrance to Belmont Regional Park

Brief Description:
Remains of farm building; historic artefacts

Condition of Site when last visited:
Poor

Printed by: P1 P11 E800Common ArchSite File Based Created: 4/19/2016

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

Site Periods:

Modern 1900-

Ethnicity:

Non Maori

Site Features:

Building - farm, Artefact - historic

Associated Sites:

Description:

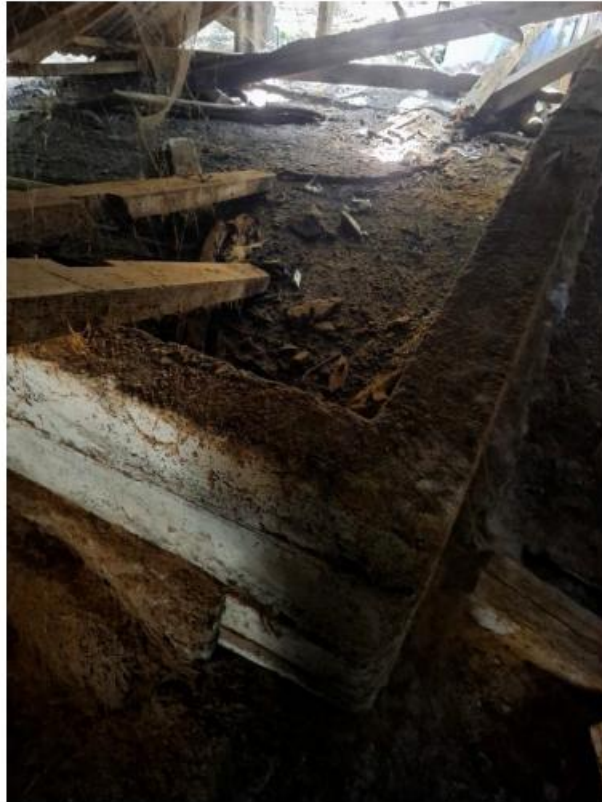
Updated 13/02/2026 (Other), submitted by: ArchSite_CentralFilekeeper

Remains of a farm building: wooden beams, corrugated iron roof, concrete floor, enclosure of concrete nib wall, bottles, strainer fencepost, patch of flowering daffodils. Possibly a pigery.

Hugh Duncan Buchanan owned land which he farmed at Haywards from 1903. Some of his land was gifted to the Government highway development in 1939, and in 1948 a proclamation was put on some of his property for the substation (A Carey "Lower Hutt Street Names" p9).

Condition Notes:

Date Record Created: 11/03/2006







10. CV OF ELLEN CAMERON



Ellen CAMERON

Name:	Ellen CAMERON
Present Position:	Co-Director Clough & Associates New Zealand
Nationality:	Canada/ New Zealand
Profession:	Archaeologist
Specialisation:	Archaeological Assessment/ Archaeological Monitoring
Qualifications:	BA, Sociology and Anthropology, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada 1987 MSc, Environmental Archaeology and Palaeoeconomy, University of Sheffield, UK, 1991
Professional Association Membership:	NZAA; IPPA.
Years of Experience	27

Profile

Ellen is a qualified archaeologist and cultural resource manager with over twenty years' experience in Hong Kong and 11 years' experience in New Zealand, where she has been based since 2014. Ellen has worked on numerous archaeological projects including excavations and impact assessment projects both in Hong Kong and New Zealand. She is also involved in the development of mitigation strategies for protection from various types of construction and development activities. Ellen is currently working on commercial archaeological projects in New Zealand including planning studies, assessments and archaeological monitoring and investigation. Recently, Ellen has also been involved with a number of projects under the Fast Track Approvals Act (2024).

Recent Relevant Experience

Cameron, E. and B. Larsen. 2025. Foxton Solar Farm, Foxton, Fast Track Approvals Act: Archaeological Assessment. Project archaeologist responsible for the report preparation and background research for the Fast Track substantive application submission.

Shakles, R., S. Phear and E. Cameron, (2024). Otaika Quarry, Phase 2 Enabling Works: Addendum report. Input to the reporting and review. Responsible for the reparation of an Archaeological Management Plan and Authority application. Currently section 45 archaeologist for the ongoing enabling works.

Cameron, E. and J. Low (2024). Sunfield, Auckland, proposed Future Development: Preliminary Archaeological Assessment. Responsibilities included background research of the history of the area and survey and preparation of the report for Fast Track substantive application submission. Recommendations for further detailed assessment were made for the proposed development.

Cameron, E. (2024). 65 and 73 Ratanui Road, Paraparaumu, proposed Plan Change: Archaeological Assessment. Project archaeologist with scope including background research and site surveys to determine if any archaeological sites could be identified in the Plan Change area. Recommendations for further detailed assessment were made for the proposed development.

Ellen CAMERON

Roth, K., J. Low and E. Cameron. (2024) 61 Hampton Downs Road, Waikato: Archaeological Assessment. Project archaeologist overseeing the reporting and preparation of the input for the Fast Track substantive application.

Cameron, E. and J. Low (2023) Belmont Quarry Expansion, Wellington: Preliminary Archaeological Assessment (2022) – Project archaeologist responsible for preparing report, historical research and site survey to determine the archaeological values of the proposed OBDA at that time.

Cameron, E. and R. Clough (2023). Cambridge Whitehall, proposed Quarry Expansion and Overburden Deposition Area: Archaeological Assessment. Project archaeologist with report input including background research and survey. Preparation of an Archaeological Management Plan and Authority application. Currently, the section 45 archaeologist for the project. Involvement with quarry projects at Whitehall date back to 2019.

Cameron, E. (2023). 20 Musick Point Road and 4 Clovelly Road Replacement of Transformer and Switch Removal: Archaeological Assessment. Project archaeologist for the project. Background research for the project included details of heritage sites located in the project area, including sites included on heritage schedules and on the Heritage NZ List/ Rārangī Kōrero and providing information on statutory requirements and mitigation recommendations.

Cameron, E. and R. Clough (2022). Mt Welcome Station: Archaeological Appraisal for Variation to the Proposed Porirua District Plan. Scope included the updating of a previous preliminary appraisal based on the potential effects of future development. The report included recommendations for the detailed planning stage to determine if an Authority would be required for future development.

Cameron, E. (2022). Proposed Drury Town Centre development, Stage 1: Archaeological Assessment. Preparation of assessment report and Archaeological Management Plan. Also was project archaeologist for previous private plan change. The scope included preparing and presenting evidence for hearings based on assessments for the plan change.

Cameron, E. and R. Clough. (2019). Proposed Drury East Residential Plan Change: Preliminary Archaeological Assessment. Report preparation for the proposed plan change. Historical research was carried out to identify the presence of archaeological site R12/1122, a 19th century horse drawn tramway and later railway. A preliminary field survey was carried out and assessment findings included the preliminary mitigation for future development. The scope included preparing and presenting evidence for hearings based on assessments for the plan change.

Employment History

2014 to date	Senior Archaeologist (Co-Director from 2022) at Clough & Associates
1999 to 2014	Senior Archaeologist (Co-Director from 2005) at Archaeological Assessments Ltd Hong Kong
1992 to 1996	Freelance Archaeologist in Hong Kong