

APPENDIX G TREC Discovery Protocol

Archaeology | Our shared culture and heritage

Transport Rebuild East Coast
 NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY
 KIWIRAIL

What is archaeology?

An archaeological site is any place associated with pre-1900 human activity, where there is material evidence relating to the history of New Zealand, including pre-1900 buildings and other structures.

What is heritage?

Heritage items are "those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures".

Why does it matter?

Archaeological sites are important because they provide a unique window to the past. They are an important aspect of our social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing. Archaeological sites provide information vital to understanding our national identity. Many archaeological sites also have significance cultural values for Māori.

Damage or loss of archaeological sites needs to be avoided if possible. We are legally obliged to investigate and record all archaeological sites that our work may affect, under the terms of an archaeological authority issued by Heritage NZ under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. Breaches of the Act can lead to fines of up to \$300,000.



Māori Archaeology

The East Coast region has a long and rich history of Māori settlement. Many significant Māori archaeological sites are present within the project area, and by studying these objects and features we can learn about what life was like in this area hundreds of years ago. You can help us to do this!

What did you find?

Concentrated areas or layers of shell



Bones or stone tools



Middens (rubbish heaps), characterized by large amounts of shell, bone, and charcoal.

Carved bone fish hooks and spear points, flaked stone tools used for hunting and carving, and ground stone tools, used to grind, shape, and polish stone heads.

Charcoal or charcoal-stained soil

What is a cultural layer?

Cultural layers are vital archaeological evidence of past human lives and activities. The pictures below show what cultural layers can look like. Indicated in red, these layers are made up of charcoal stained soil, intermixed or modified soils, shells, and occasionally fragments of bone.



Thin band of charcoal stained sand (difficult to spot), a Māori oven (basically a centuries old hāngī!), and soil colour changes which may indicate you are digging into a cultural layer.

European Archaeology

Settlers from Europe began to arrive in the East Coast region in the 1830s and left behind evidence of their lives. It is possible that project works could expose transport network.

What did you find?

Bottles or pottery (even broken ones!)



Leather or cloth (shoes & clothes)



A clay pipe in the shape of a skull, a cache of 19th century black beer bottles, a fragment of ceramic bowl, and a ceramic ginger beer bottle.

A handmade leather shoe, an iron horseshoe, and a 19th century rubberish pit.

Structures (i.e brick, metal, timber)



A 19th century drain made out of bricks (brick-barrel) and a timber box drain, used to keep the streets clear of water in the 19th century.

Look out for construction materials like bricks, blocks or timber, which may indicate a structure used to stand on the site.

Archaeological Site Discovery Protocol

In the event of any discovery of a possible archaeological site:

- 1 Cease all works immediately within a 20m radius.
- 2 Immediately advise your site supervisor of the find.
- 3 The site supervisor will immediately contact the Environmental Advisor, who will contact the archaeologist.
- 4 Works are not to recommence without archaeologist approval.

Project Archaeologist: _____

Environmental Advisor: _____