

Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway Project Preserving Our Heritage

The land around the Te Ahu a Turanga: Manawatū Tararua Highway project area is rich in cultural history.

The NZ Transport Agency defines a heritage site as a place of special importance to New Zealanders which contributes to our knowledge of the history of our country, and may or may not include physical remains of past activities and artefacts.

While we must build a new state highway through this corridor for a variety of environmental, economic and social reasons, the Transport Agency is committed to preserving our history in the region as best we can.



EXAMPLES OF WHAT WE MIGHT FIND AROUND THE PROJECT SITE:

- storage pits (mainly for root crops)
- burial sites (koiwi)
- 19th century houses or homesteads
- historic industrial sites (e.g. timber mills)



Parahaki Island in the Manawatū River is of cultural and historical significance

WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?

As part of our research, we have used historical plans and maps to help us identify:

- old place names
- changes in vegetation cover
- pre-European sites
- European period structures
- possible activities (e.g. timber)

NEXT STEPS

Our experts will do their best to identify any heritage sites during the early stages of a project, but sometimes there will be unexpected discoveries.

When this is the case, we follow a precise procedure to identify who the correct owner of the site or artifact may be so we can work together to come up with a solution which works for everyone.

Find out more about our legal requirements and procedures around historical sites on the NZ Transport Agency website www.nzta.govt.nz/te-ahu-a-turanga

'X' MARKS THE SPOT

Some of the historic sites of significance we've already identified in this area (which will not be touched by road corridor) include:

- cemeteries near Ashhurst and Woodville
- grove of karaka trees
- several pa (or village) along the Manawatū River

