



Monte Cecilia Park

DRAFT CONCEPT PLAN | MAY 2016

AUCKLAND COUNCIL

1 Site analysis and concept

1.1 Location

Site Extent

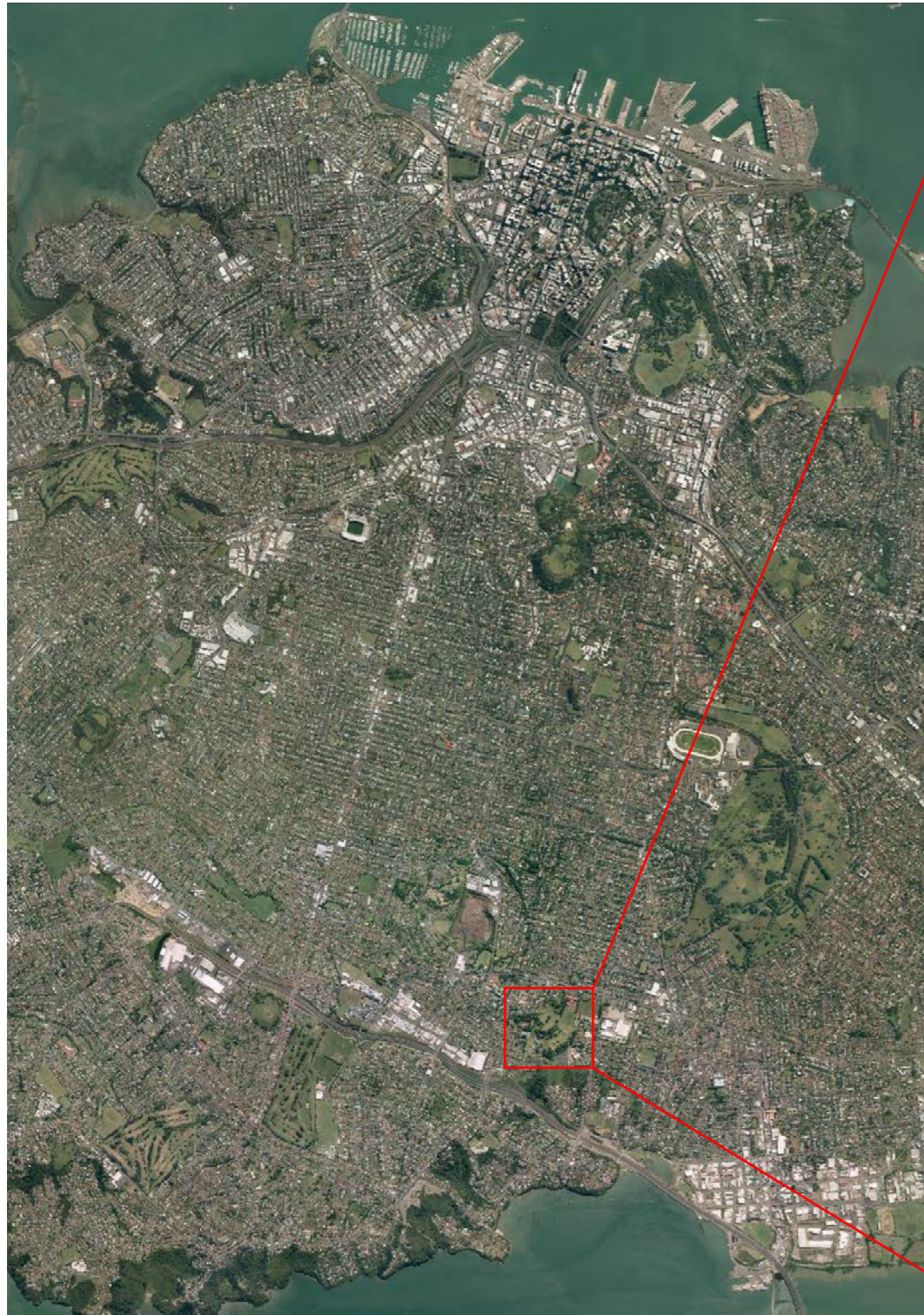


Figure 1. Auckland City



Figure 2. Monte Cecilia (aerial photo taken 2010)

1.2 Existing conditions

Photographic analysis

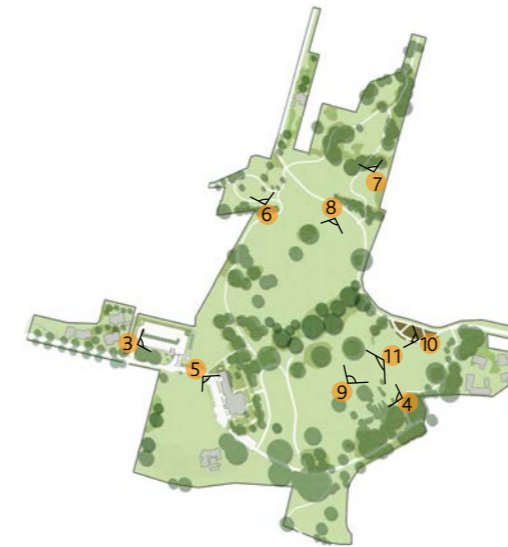
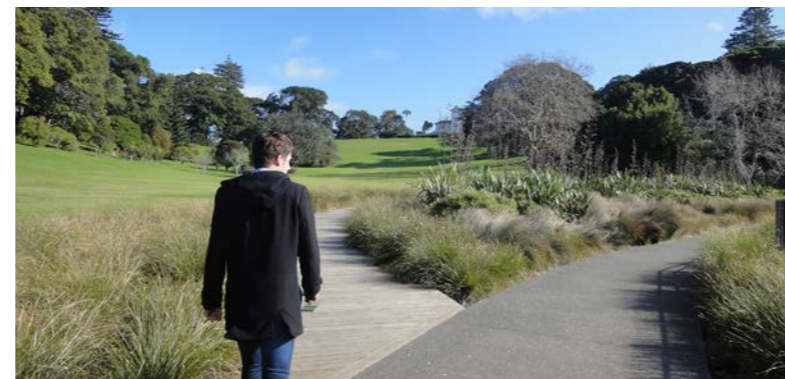
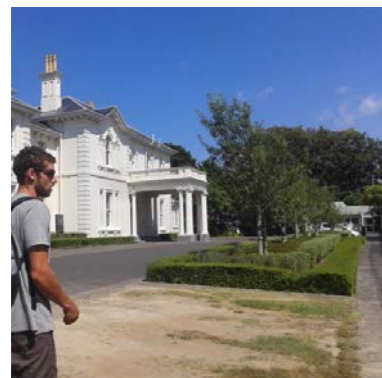


FIGURE LEGEND:

- Figure 3. Delargey Avenue carpark
- Figure 4. View towards Pah Homestead
- Figure 5. Pah Homestead
- Figure 6. View of green near Budock Road
- Figure 7. View towards northern boundary of park
- Figure 8. Mature woodland frames northern green
- Figure 9. View towards Marcellin College
- Figure 10. Wetland native planting with boardwalk
- Figure 11. Panoramic view of the central green

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11			

1.3 Existing Conditions



- LEGEND:
- Park Boundary
 - Tree Locations
 - Planter beds
 - Existing wetland
 - .5m contours
 - Directional & Heritage signage
 - Proposed sculptures
 - ⊙ Park entrance including signage
 - Footpath
 - Recent acquisitions, not yet incorporated into park
 - Monte Cecilia Primary School (acquisition by A.C. 2016)

1.4 Monte Cecilia concept





1.5 Monte Cecilia concept zoom

NOTES:

- Feature tree grove.
- Whare building to be retained, restored and utilised as a community facility.
- Central green with contoured landform and low stone walls around perimeter.
- One way loop around central green for car, bus and service vehicle pick-up / drop-off. Intersection with carriage drive denoted by feature bluestone paving and hedging. The loop road will be a low speed 'shared space' with appropriate road treatment to ensure pedestrian safety.
- Bus bay pick-up / drop-off zone (2 parallel parks).
- Footpath connection to Whare.
- Existing carparks retained.
- Formal hedging and removable bollards used for overflow carparking for events and large functions only.
- Heritage marker to recognise former site of Monte Cecilia School.

NOTE: Planning constraints will affect the masterplan's detailed design due to sensitivity of the site's cultural and natural heritage.

The local board wants to recognise the heritage of the park including the Monte Cecilia School/Diocese, Māori heritage and Pākehā/European heritage. Opportunities and ideas will be sought on how this might be done at the detailed design stage.

1.6 Mana Whenua objectives

The Puketāpapa Local Board want to recognise the heritage of the park including Māori heritage. The following features are included in the master plan to provide placeholders for further detailed design to be undertaken with mana whenua as the master plan is implemented in the years to come. See 1.7 Te Aranga Māori Design Principles Matrix for more detail

NOTES:

- ① Basalt/scoria seating walls incorporated with the slope to provide vantage point views of Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill).
- ② Playscape environment incorporating 'foot prints' from the past, referencing previous occupation of the site, including Māori pā.
- ③ Northern slopes – supplement planting with native specimen trees and groves to support native flora.
- ④ Tree collection and art trails along ridgelines to be unformed and identified by visual markers incorporating interpretive information. Markers to be designed specifically for the park and integrated into art works.
- ⑤ Open grass area offers 180° views of Manukau Harbour and Māngere maunga. Feature steps and seating walls to be incorporated into contours of the knoll if appropriate. Interpretive material, artworks and planting design to reflect Māori heritage and values attached to Whataroa Pā, the axis of ancient pathways between landmarks beyond the site.
- ⑥ Seating walls incorporated informally into the slope to appreciate significant views to Manukau Harbour and Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill).
- ⑦ Existing heritage interpretation that recognises Māori heritage, important landmarks and uses Māori place names.
- ⑧ Planned additional heritage interpretation that recognises Māori heritage, important landmarks and uses Māori place names (see *Tohu on 1.7 Te Aranga Māori Design Principles Matrix on pg. 10*).

NOTE: Planning constraints will affect the masterplan's detailed design due to sensitivity of the site's cultural and natural heritage.



1.7 Te Aranga Māori Design Principles Matrix

The key objective of the Te Aranga Māori Design Values and Principles is to enhance the protection, reinstatement, development and articulation of mana whenua cultural landscapes and to enable all of us (mana whenua, mataāwaka, tauiwi and manuhiri) to connect with and to deepen our collective appreciation and 'sense of place'. The following core Māori values have informed the development of the Te Aranga Māori design principles. The outcome-oriented principles are underpinned and guided by these values: **Rangatiratanga • Kaitiakitanga • Manaakitanga • Wairuatanga • Kotahitanga • Whanaungatanga • Mātauranga**

The Te Aranga Design Principles framework provides the opportunity for mana whenua to ensure the incorporation of an appropriate narrative that will enhance the intrinsic and cultural fabric, engender a sense of place, recapture those aspects of their cultural history that are embedded in the whenua and upon the korowai of their people, past, present and future.

The Monte Cecilia Park site is culturally significant. Mana whenua values need to be recognised and provided for through the design and development of the park. The following Te Aranga matrix has been developed by Auckland Council staff based on mana whenua reports and meetings and will be finalised and refined during the detailed design phase.

Te Aranga Principles	Definition Interpretation	Mana Whenua Outcomes	Place Based Application
Mana	Rangatiratanga, authority.	The status of Iwi and Hapū as mana whenua is recognized and respected as a council partner. Honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Self-determination, Identity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing mana whenua engagement and effective collaboration is key to developing cultural narratives that are expressed in the park. 12 mana whenua iwi were invited to meetings (10/6/15) (26/2/16) to discuss the draft master plan. Further workshops will be held to explore mana whenua heritage of the site, cultural narrative and visual identity and incorporate the TADP's into the detailed design of projects in the master plan. A summary of the Māori habitation and history of the park site is provided by Graeme Murdoch in the book Monte Cecilia – Our History.
Whakapapa	Mātauranga, names and naming.	Māori names are celebrated. Consultation and research on use of correct ancestral names. Recognition of traditional places names and heritage through signage and way finding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on whakapapa and traditional places has been given in the report "A Cultural Heritage Overview" by Ngāti Whātua o Orakei in 2004. The name of the park 'Monte Cecilia Park' is recent and a result of public consultation. Changing the name is not currently supported by the local board. However, there are opportunities for dual naming/bilingual signs or naming important parts of the park, such as the Herd Road lookout which overlooks the (Te To Waka) portage at Otahuhu. The school hall, which has been called 'The whare' could have a Māori name. An interpretation panel specifically about Whataroa Pā could be produced and installed near its location. Native trees could be identified with their Māori, botanical and common name. Further workshops need to be held to agree on dual naming/bilingual signs
Tohu	Whanaungatanga, the wider cultural landscape	Mana whenua significant sites and cultural landmarks are acknowledged. Site orientation to important landmarks present/past and site lines preserved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An important site in the park is the Whataroa Pā site which is probably covered by the Pah Homestead. If mana whenua wanted an interpretation panel about Whataroa Pā it would be placed near the Pah homestead . The view shaft to Maungakiekie from the north of the homestead will be protected. The Herd Road entrance has views to the Manukau Harbour portage Te To Waka at Otahuhu and will be protected. This would be an appropriate place for an interpretation panel to acknowledge the important landmark. Provide interpretation signage or art to mark these important landmarks, raise awareness and informs locals and visitors. The master plan recommends the re-use of the school hall for the wider community and the arts.
Taiao	Kaitiakitanga, the natural environment.	The natural environment is protected, restored and enhanced. Guardianship, stewardship, safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plant palate recommends multiple uses of ecosourced native plants to re-establish local biodiversity and restore natural areas . Add kohekohe trees to reference the name Koheraunui. Selection of plant and tree species as seasonal markers and attractors of native bird life. The wetland has been replanted with traditional wetland species which are available for harvesting and kaitiakitanga.
Mauri Tu	Mauritanga and Wairuatanga; environmental health, essence, life-force, wellbeing.	Environmental health is protected, maintained and enhanced.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing native trees will be protected. More will be planted. Protect the overall landform and any other culturally significant areas. Promote the site for events such as Matariki. The orchard will be of benefit to the wider community. Treat carpark stormwater where possible.
Mahi Toi	Rangātiratanga, Whanaungatanga, creative expression.	Ancestral names, local tohu and Iwi narratives are creatively reinscribed into the design environment including: landscape; architecture; interior design and public art Iwi/Hapū mandated design professionals and artists are appropriately engaged in such processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are opportunities for future art projects to promote cultural heritage and mana whenua creative expression on the site, especially sculptures. A sculpture site at the entrance could be dedicated to an iwi artist. The detailed design of the playground provides another opportunity for mahi toi.
Ahi Kā	Rangātiratanga, Kotahitanga, visibility, living presence.	Mana whenua live, work and play within their own rohe. Iwi/Hapū have a living and enduring presence and are secure and valued within their rohe. Acknowledges the post Treaty of Waitangi settlement environment where Iwi living presences can include customary, cultural and commercial dimensions. Living Iwi/hapū presences and associated kaitiaki roles are resumed within urban areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wetland has been replanted with traditional wetland species which are available for harvesting. Maintain community access to natural resources e.g. waterways to facilitate, maintain and enhance mana whenua ahi ka and kaitiakitanga. Joint ventures to develop the park ensure relationships are recognized and enhanced.

1.8 Plant Palette - Feature Areas

The indicative plant palette draws upon the existing character of the park. Orchards are suggested to keep in with the homestead atmosphere. Formal hedges and feature tree groves are proposed to compliment the proposed central green and bus-bay. The planting selection should be sensitive to the park heritage and compliment the existing species.

Use native hedging for formal gardens adding native specimen trees and groves to support native flora (e.g. totara, puriri, kohekohe, tawa, karaka, taraire, kaikomako). Manage gardens to minimise weed habitat and hence weed growth and the need for herbicides.



Figure 12. Orchards



Figure 13. Colourful amenity planting - Monte Cecilia



Figure 14. Feature tree groves - Monte Cecilia



Figure 15. Tui in native planting



Figure 16. Mix of native planting - Monte Cecilia



Figure 17. Native hedging - Botanical Gardens

1.9 Plant Palette - Native Underplanting

The indicative plant palette seeks to improve native biodiversity while adding interest and colour to the understory. Crown uplifting, the removal of weeds and underplanting will add colour and neaten the newly aquired plots. Ensure continuity with the rest of the park in the planting design. Low-growing, hardy and evergreen natives such as ferns, carexes and astelias are suggested. Add native edible plants (e.g. ramarama, horopito, herbs and ferns), which would ecosourced and planted diversely to support native fauna. Manage gardens to minimise weed habitat and hence weed growth and the need for herbicides.



Figure 18. *Arthropodium cirratum* 'Matapouri Bay' Rengarenga



Figure 19. *Asplenium bulbiferum* Pikopiko



Figure 20. *Asplenium oblongifolium* Pānako



Figure 21. *Astelia solandrii* Kaiwharawhara



Figure 22. *Elatostema rugosum* Parataniwha



Figure 23. *Carex dissita* Purei



Figure 25. *Fuchsia procumbens* Tōtara



Figure 24. *Libertia ixioides* Mikoikoi

2 Playground

2.1 Playground Design Principles

Possible concepts of playscape to be explored are 'footprints' left from traces of former occupations of the park, nature and woodlands. The natural setting is to be embraced by incorporating natural play through the landscape. Interactive play elements that aim to provide the widest possible variety of activities and a full range of play experiences are to be used. A strong emphasis on the heritage of the park will be a major influential factor in the design process.



Figure 26. 'Woodland' playground



Figure 27. Simple effective interventions



Figure 28. Interactive elements



Figure 29. Natural play elements



Figure 30. Merging the landscape with play



Figure 31. Landform contouring



Figure 32. Bringing play into design



Figure 33. Incorporating nature into detailed design



Figure 34. Playground location option 3

2.2 Playground Location

NOTES:

- Playground as shown would roughly be 250 - 300m².
- Similar area to the playground in Shore Road playground (Remuera).
- The concept, size and shape of the playground will be further developed at the detailed design stage and is indicative only.
- Option for parking/circulation is shown for reference. The choice of option for parking and circulation would not affect the success of the playground at this location.
- Close to all main park facilities; allows parents to get food/drink from the cafe.
- Near car park.
- Flat, unencumbered area.
- Close to trees and proposed planting for shading.

2.3 Playground Precedent Images - Potential Play Experiences

Rocking/Swinging



Balance/Climbing



Scotering/Biking



Sliding/Spinning

