

WESTERN PARK TUNA MAU DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Adopted by the Waitematā Local Board - 11th August 2015



Section 1: Introduction and Background

1.1	Introduction	6
1.2	Western Park Development Plan Design Principles	7
1.3	Te Aranga Māori Design Principles	8
1.4	Brief History of the Park	10
1.5	Pictorial History of the Park	12
1.6	Imagery of the Park Today	14
1.7	Bringing You Up to Date	15

Section 2: Site Analysis

2.1	Existing Site Plan	18
2.2	Hydrology	20
2.4	Natural Heritage	21
2.4	Cultural Heritage: Archaeological Sites	22
2.5	Cultural Heritage: Iwi Values	23
2.6	Events Areas and Private Uses	24
2.7	Auckland Unitary Plan Proposed Zoning	25

Section 3: Design Guidance and Recommendations

3.0	Design Guidance and Recommendations	28
3.1	Pathway and Circulation Network	
3.1.1	Existing Pathway Network	32
3.1.2	Pathway Condition	33
3.1.3	Historical Routes from 1874 to Today	34
3.1.4	Proposed Circulation Routes	35
3.1.5	Proposed Pathway Materiality	36
3.1.6	Pathway & Circulation Design Guidance	39
3.2	Lighting	
3.2.1	Existing Lighting	42
3.2.2	Lighting Condition	43
3.2.3	Proposed Lighting	44
3.2.4	Lighting Design Guidance	47
3.3	Vegetation and Biodiversity	
3.3.1	Existing Vegetation	50
3.3.2	Historic Photographs - Vegetation	51
3.3.3	Vegetation Condition	52
3.3.4	Stormwater and the Tuna Mau	53
3.3.5	Proposed Vegetation and Stream Rehabilitation	54
3.3.6	Indicative Species Palette	55

3.3.7	Photovisualisation	58
3.3.8	Vegetation and Biodiversity Guidance	59
3.4	Signage and Interpretation	
3.4.1	Existing Signage and Interpretation	62
3.4.2	Signage and Interpretation Condition	63
3.4.3	Signage and Interpretation Design Guidance	66
3.5	Buildings, Playground, Fitness Equipment, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field	
3.5.1	Existing Buildings, Playground, Fitness Equipment, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field	68
3.5.2	Buildings, Playground, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field Condition	69
3.5.3	Proposed Buildings, Playground, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field	70
3.5.4	Playground, Fitness Equipment and Tennis Courts Upgrade	71
3.5.5	Buildings, Playground, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field Design Guidance	73
3.6	Park Furniture	
3.6.1	Existing Park Furniture	76
3.6.2	Park Furniture Condition	77
3.6.3	Park Furniture Design Guidance	79
3.7	Boundary Treatments	
3.7.1	Existing Boundary Treatments	82
3.7.2	Boundary Treatment Condition	83
3.7.3	Boundary Treatment Design Guidance	85
3.8	Summary of Design Recommendations	88

Appendices

A1	Action Plan Priorities	
A2	References	
A3	Western Park Evaluation of Historic Heritage	



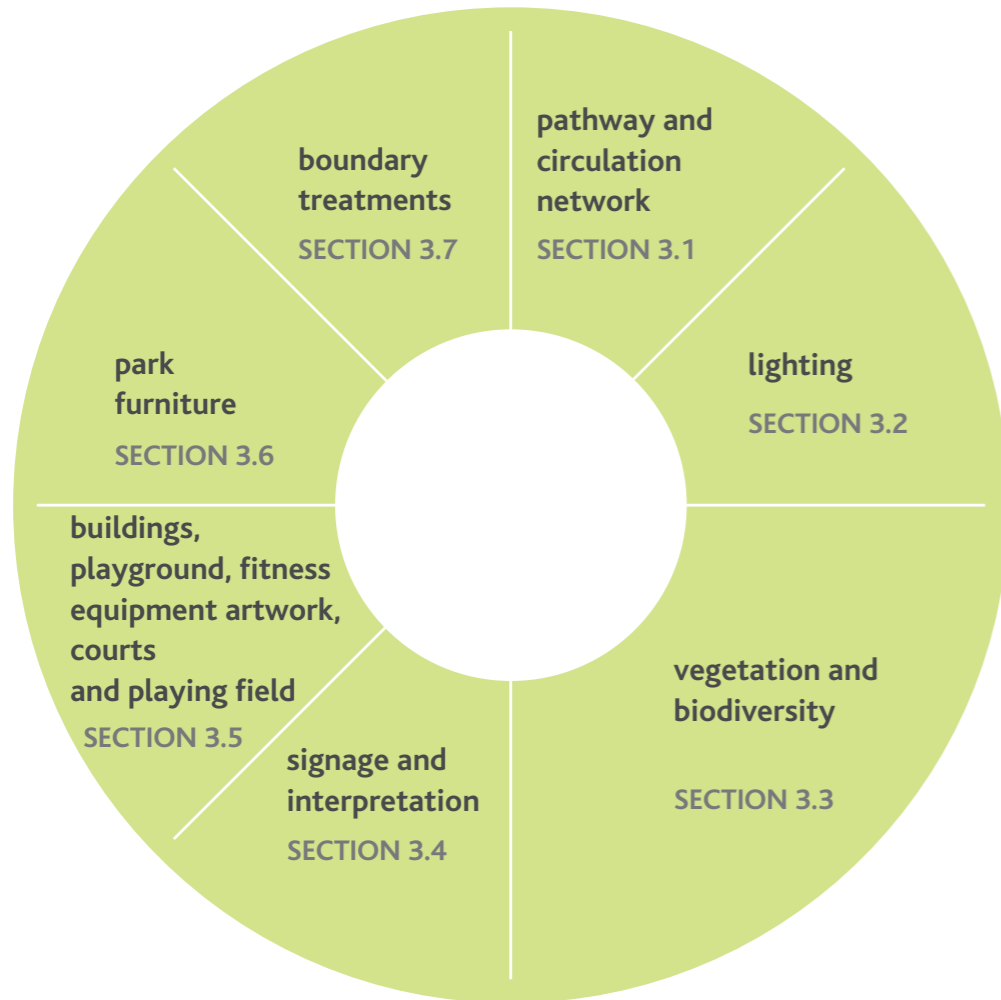
1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction

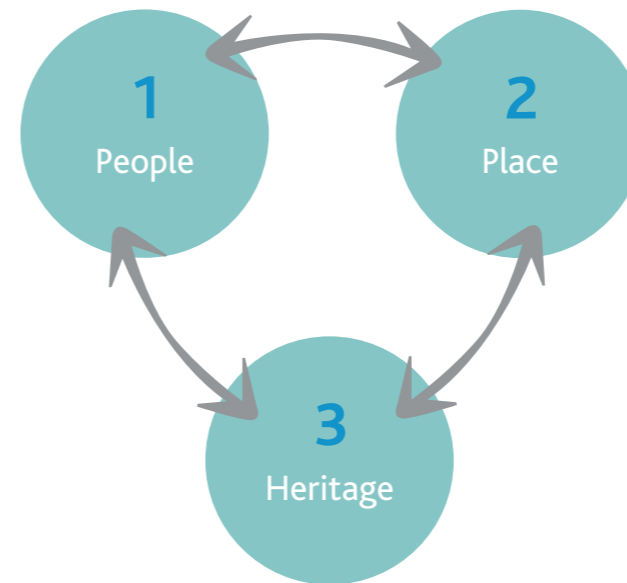
Purpose

The purpose of the Western Park Development Plan is to provide a clear design framework to guide improvements and renewals throughout the park over the next 10 years and beyond. This framework will facilitate an improved open space that meets the aspirations and goals that the community and mana whenua have for the park. The plan establishes design guidance for improvements to the park based on the park elements below. The intent is to prioritise these actions into short, medium and long term time frames.

The plan will be delivered by the Waitematā Local Board and Auckland Council in collaboration with the community and mana whenua.



The creation of the Development Plan follows the model represented by the diagram below. This model ensures that the Development Plan considers the three core components that make up the park and its values – heritage, people and place. These components are interlinked; any impact on one component impacts the others. This is important as it means that all recommended changes to the park have to be carefully and sensitively considered with the community and mana whenua.



Outcomes

The Development Plan will:

- establish design principles, a vision and prioritised action plan for Western Park to guide existing and future investment;
- enhance heritage, biodiversity and cultural values, as well as the connectivity, public access, use and amenity of Western Park;
- meet the needs and aspirations of the community and mana whenua.

The Development Plan will achieve this by:

- integrating and coordinating projects to maximise benefits for the public;
- recommending and prioritising projects;
- providing a framework to ensure park maintenance and park upgrades are coordinated.

The Western Park Development Plan has been informed by the Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan, Boffa Miskell Ltd, 1999. This plan is now superseded by the Western Park Development Plan. The Development Plan has also been informed by:

- *The (City) Western Park, Ponsonby, Auckland – Draft Historical Report*, John Adam, 1998
- *Te Rimu Tahī, Ponsonby Road Masterplan – Māori Heritage Report*, Prepared for Auckland Council by Ngarimu Blair, 2013
- *Western Park, Freeman’s Bay, Auckland: Evaluation of Historic Heritage Values*, Prepared for Auckland Council by Clough and Associates Ltd, 2014
- *Western Park Heritage Criteria*, Prepared by Katharine Sheldon, Auckland Council, 2014
- *Western Park Heritage Management Cues*, Prepared by Katharine Sheldon, Auckland Council, 2014
- *Waitematā Local Board bundled Playground Concept Designs*, Opus and Auckland Council, 2014
- *Ponsonby Road Plan*, Auckland Council, 2014
- *Waterway Rehabilitation Options in the Waitematā Local Board*, Auckland Council Biodiversity Team, 2014
- *Draft Freemans Park Flood Mitigation Options*, Auckland Council Stormwater Unit, 2015

In addition, the Western Park Development Plan has been influenced by and follows the direction of the following strategic documents:

- Waitematā Local Board Plan 2011-14
- The Auckland Plan, 2013
- The Auckland Design Manual (Parkland Design Guidelines section)

1.2 Western Park Development Plan Design Principles

The following design principles provide the basis for the ideas and designs in this Development Plan. They also provide design guidance for any future development or events that are proposed in or around the park.



1. Design in accordance with Te Aranga Māori Design Principles (refer page 8)

- Mana - Rangatiratanga, authority
- Whakapapa - Names and naming
- Tohu - The wider cultural landscape
- Taiao - The natural environment
- Mauri Tu - Environmental health
- Mahi Toi - Creative expression
- Ahi Kā - The living presence



3. Maintain and enhance the natural environment including the Tuna Mau (stream)

- improve biodiversity in the park through native plantings and rehabilitation of the Tuna Mau (stream);
- promote educational opportunities and community days for the public to learn and appreciate the natural environment;
- remove invasive weed species and consider pest management in the park.



5. Facilitate passive and active recreational opportunities through design

- improve opportunities within the park for passive and active recreation;
- encourage events that utilise the park as a whole;
- provide an improved natural play space that is challenging and suitable for a range of ages and abilities;
- provide opportunities for exploration and discovery within the play space and throughout the park to educate on natural and heritage values.



2. Improve the safety, accessibility and perception of the park

- provide unimpeded connections;
- improve design for all abilities;
- reduce anti-social behaviour;
- increase passive surveillance opportunities.



4. Conserve the historic park layout and features

- consider adaptive reuse of heritage buildings;
- promote conservation of the historic fabric of the park;
- protect mature tree species;
- improve the original vision for the park through careful selection of design materials and techniques;
- provide interpretation of cultural heritage and values, natural heritage and built heritage within the park.

1.3 Te Aranga Māori Design Principles

The New Zealand Urban Design Protocol (UDP) was published by the Ministry for the Environment in March 2005. It was recognised that a clear Māori voice and meaningful involvement in the creation of the UDP had been absent, and that the process undertaken in the development of the protocols did not adequately engage with Māori interests. In response to this lack of consultation, and with the support of the Ministry for the Environment and Te Puni Kōkiri, a hui of Māori professionals working across the design disciplines, the resource management sector and representatives of iwi/hapū organisations from across Aotearoa/New Zealand gathered first at Waitākere in June 2006 and then in November the same year at Te Aranga Marae in Flaxmere to discuss and formulate a draft National Māori Cultural Landscape Strategy. The resulting Te Aranga Māori Cultural Landscape Strategy represented the first concerted and cohesive effort by Māori to articulate Māori interests and design aspirations in the built environment.

The Te Aranga Māori Design Principles are a set of outcome-based principles founded on intrinsic Māori cultural values and designed to provide practical guidance for enhancing outcomes for the built environment. The principles have arisen from a widely held desire to enhance mana whenua presence, visibility and participation in the design of the physical realm.

The Western Park Te Aranga Māori Design Principles are an outcome of further partnership with local iwi to identify the values, interests and cultural history associated with Western Park.

Core Māori Values

These core values underpin the more the outcome-oriented Te Aranga Māori Design Principles.

- **Rangatiratanga:** the right to exercise authority and self determination within ones own iwi / hapu realm
- **Kaitiakitanga:** managing and conserving the environment as part of a reciprocal relationship, based on the Māori world view that we as humans are part of the natural world
- **Manaakitanga:** the ethic of holistic hospitality whereby mana whenua have inherited obligations to be the best hosts they can be
- **Wairuatanga:** the immutable spiritual connection between people and their environments
- **Kotahitanga:** unity, cohesion and collaboration
- **Whanaungatanga:** a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging
- **Matauranga:** Māori / mana whenua knowledge and understanding

Western Park - Te Aranga Māori Design Principles

Mana *Rangatiratanga, Authority*

Outcome:
The status of iwi and hapu as mana whenua and as council partners is recognised and respected.

- Mana whenua collaborative partnership groups:

Representative: Iwi:

Eruera Wilton - Ngati Whatua Orakei

Geoff Cook - Ngati Maru and Ngati Tamatera

Jeff Lee - Ngai Tai ki Tamaki

Karen Wilson - Te Akitai Waiohua Iwi Authority

Aspirations:

- initial mana whenua interests in given development:
 - walkways through Western Park to connect to wider landscape
 - daylighting Tuna Mau
 - native biodiversity enhancement
 - Māori heritage protection and interpretation

Whakapapa *Names & Naming*

Outcome:
The rich cultural history is celebrated and integrated within the concept plan.

Aspirations:

- identification and recognition of traditional Māori place or feature names within the site, in particular, Tuna Mau and Te Rimu Tahī
- identification and recognition of traditional Māori place names surrounding the site. Refer to Te Rimu Tahī area Map for specific place names (page 23)

Tohu

The Wider Cultural Landscape

Outcome:

Mana whenua significant sites and cultural landmarks are acknowledged. Of particular importance to this site is recognition and celebration of the location as a major historical waka route.

A mana whenua workshop will be held as a forum for mana whenua to identify how Tohu could be manifested physically on the site. This could include an approach to the look and feel of branding and signage that is unique to the site.

Aspirations:

- viewshafts to significant tohu/ landmarks:
 - promote/maintain viewshafts, for example from Hopetoun Street to Te Onewa (Northcote Point)
- interpretation through site design: (cultural history of resource use, passage or occupation)
 - enhance green and water links through the park to reconnect with the wider landscape
 - interpret the historical use of the site as a seasonal eeling camp
- interpretation through signage: (cultural history of resource use, passage or occupation)
 - provide interpretive signage at park entrances and at key locations within the park e.g. playground/wetlands
 - Refer to Te Rimu Tahī area Map (section 2.5) for indication of content to include on/or as part of interpretive signage.

Taiao

The Natural Environment

Outcome:

The natural environment is protected, restored and / or enhanced

Aspirations:

- restoration of Tuna Mau through stream rehabilitation, including daylighting sections of pipe
- re-establishment of local riparian or wetland biodiversity/Te Wao Nui a Tane in association with stream rehabilitation
- create habitat in Western Park for native birds, insects, and potential fish passage (long term aspiration) to connect with the wider landscape
- create and connect ecological corridors and patches of vegetation such as Te Rae
 - Kawharu (Arch Hill Reserve) and Te Uru Karaka (Spaghetti Junction plantings)
- select plant and tree species as seasonal markers and attractors of native bird life
- establishment of plants enabling cultural practices such as rongoa (traditional medicines) and harakeke weaving
- removal of weed species and pest management.

Mauri Tu

Environmental Health

Outcome:

Environmental health is protected, maintained and / or enhanced

Aspirations:

- protection and enhancement of mauri (life giving principles) with regards to the water quality of Tuna Mau.
 - actively monitor the water quality
 - include stormwater devices to trap pollutants
- contaminated areas of soil are remediated
 - consider opportunities for bio-remediation
 - undertake soil testing prior to any physical works
 - prevent any leachates from entering Tuna Mau
- investigate use of hard landscape and building materials which are locally sourced and of high cultural value to mana whenua in the design process
- community wellbeing is enhanced
 - create more opportunities for passive and active recreation
 - remediate flood risks.

Mahi Toi

Creative Expression

Outcome:

Iwi/hapu narratives are captured and expressed creatively and appropriately

Aspirations:

- establish design consortia which are equipped to translate iwi/hapu cultural narratives into the design environment
- iwi/hapu narratives are expressed in the environment through public art and design:
 - directional signage to interpret connections to the wider landscape e.g. Te Rimu Tahī
 - cultural expression of seasonal eeling camp
- promotion of taonga: "*everything that we treasure*".
 - promotion of Tuna Mau throughout the park
 - promotion of Te Rimu Tahī at the Ponsonby Road Entrance
 - promotion of Nga Ara Hononga (traditional Māori walking track) along the paths.

Ahi Ka

The Living Presence

Outcome:

Iwi/hapu have an enduring living presence and are secured and valued within their rohe.

Aspirations:

- partnership of mana whenua with Auckland Council throughout all projects implementing the Western Park Development Plan
- acknowledge that mana whenua live, work and play in their own rohe e.g. through educational courses
- living iwi/hapu presences and associated kaitiaki roles are resumed.
 - educational field trips, school visits and community days
 - traditional Māori games played e.g. Kiorahi
 - investigate use of caretakers cottage for cultural initiatives and community programmes.
- provide access to natural resources, which facilitates, maintains and/or enhances mana whenua ahi ka and kaitiakitanga responsibilities.
 - enable physical access to Tuna Mau
 - provide particular harakeke species for weaving purposes.

1.4 Brief History of the Park

Māori history

In pre-European times, Māori had their food production organised into gardening and fishing circuits. These were dictated by soils, fish stocks and the native calendar (maramataka). There were many fishing stations supported by gardens throughout the Auckland Isthmus including the Waiatarau or Freemans Bay area. These satellite fishing stations supported the main camps that by the 15th century included the volcanic Pa throughout Tāmaki. Tuna Mau – ‘To Catch Eels’ is the ancestral name of the stream that once flowed through the Western Park gully to Waiatarau (Freemans Bay). Tuna Mau was an Autumn eeling camp. The stream was piped as Auckland developed.

Park history

Western Park is one of Auckland’s earliest parks, developed between 1873 and 1879, when it was opened to the public. Prior to 1873, the land had been subdivided and leased, and a number of houses and outbuildings had been constructed which had to be removed or demolished to make way for the park. Twenty two 19th century timber buildings and structures were formerly present within the park. It is probable that subsurface archaeological remains (such as post holes, footings, rubbish pits, drainage elements and wells) may still be present with potential to provide information relating to the history of the park and surrounding area. As a result of its archaeological potential, the park has been recorded as an archaeological site.

In 1873, the Council decided to call for a new park design. Out of the 11 different concepts that were submitted, the ‘Lily of the Valley’ design of William F. Hammond and John C. Blackmore was chosen. Their original design proposed a number of features for the park, including bridges, rocks and water features. It appears that many of these proposals were not carried out due to expense. However, it is clear from the plans and the subsequent development that the intent for the park was to utilise the natural contour of the land and feature the gully. The original design also included a large variety of tree species. It functioned as an arboretum to display how the exotic trees coped with Auckland’s weather and geology. It is unique among Auckland’s early parks in that it refrained from any formal, built character.

Present context

Western Park has considerable heritage significance. The park demonstrates patterns of early European settlement in Auckland as well as 19th century attitudes towards landscape design, leisure and recreation. Over the years the park has served as an important gathering place for social and civic affairs and has close ties to its surrounding residential context. Furthermore, the natural features of the park including Tuna Mau and tree plantings dating from the 1870s, as well as its archaeological sites have potential to play a significant role in enhancing public understanding of Auckland’s Māori and early European history and ways of life. The natural features of the park combined with its informal design and views to the city underpin its aesthetic qualities.



Figure 1. The winning design by Hammond and Blackmore submitted in 1873

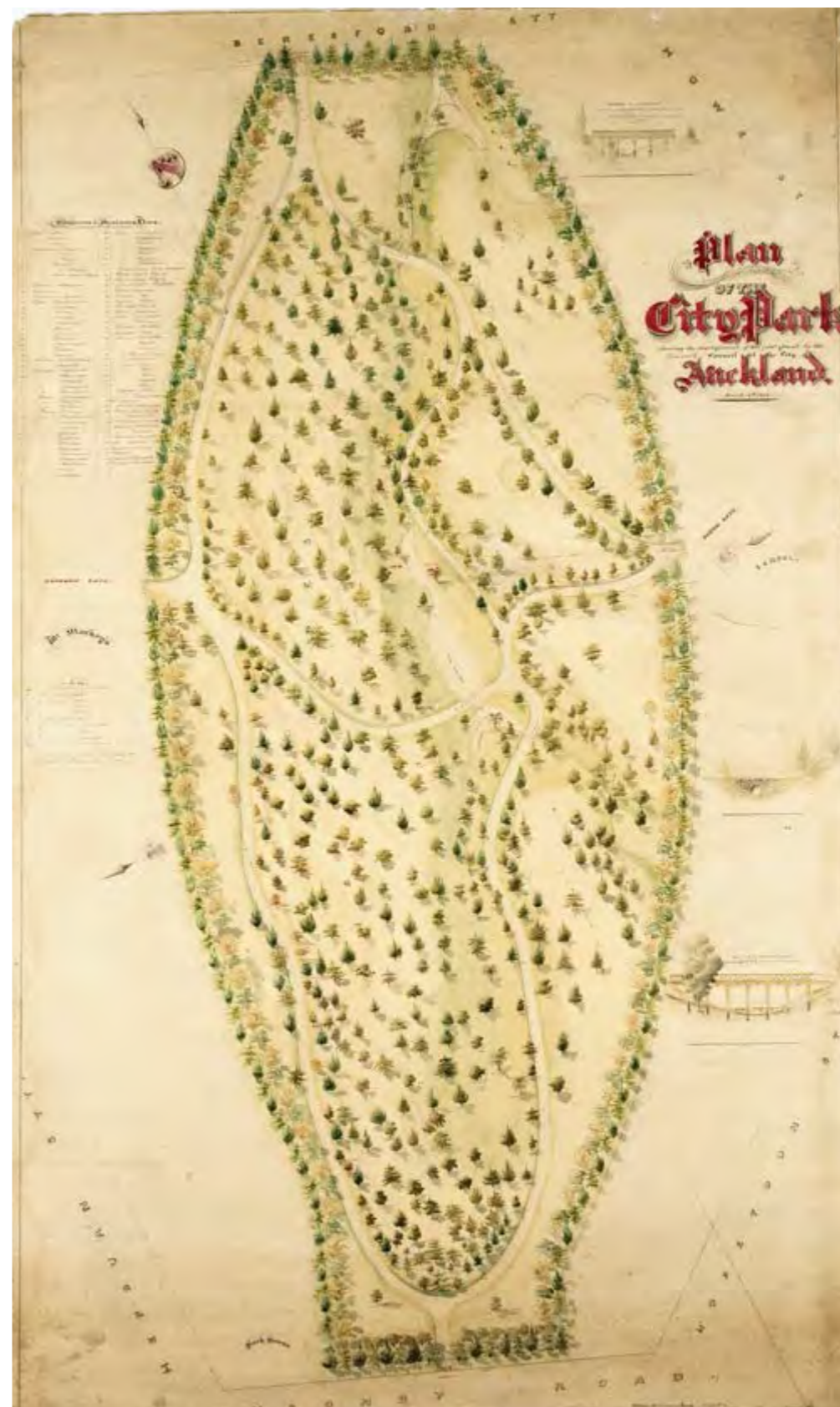


Figure 2. The design by Hammond and Blackmore presented to the public in 1874

1.5 Pictorial History of the Park



THE MASS MEETING IN WESTERN PARK, AUCKLAND, ON SUNDAY; STRIKERS AND SPECTATORS LISTENING TO THE VARIOUS ADDRESS. PHOTO BY THE PHOTO CO.



WESTERN PARK, AUCKLAND. PHOTO BY THE PHOTO CO.



NEW ZEALAND'S PUBLIC PARKS UNDER THE TREES IN THE WESTERN PARK, AUCKLAND

REUTERS PHOTO





Left Page:

3	4
5	6

Right Page:

7	8
	9

Figure 3. 1913 - Mass meeting in Western Park, Auckland

Figure 4. 1932 - A picturesque park in Auckland's western suburbs

Figure 5. 1907 - Under the trees in Western Park

Figure 6. 1924 - Looking north over Western Park

Figure 7. 1959 - Aerial photograph of the park

Figure 8. 1870's - Looking west showing Western Park with plantings of young trees and Hepburn Street in right background

Figure 9. Ca. 1910 - Panorama of Western Park with caretakers cottage in foreground

1.6 Imagery of the Park Today



Above:

10	11
12	13

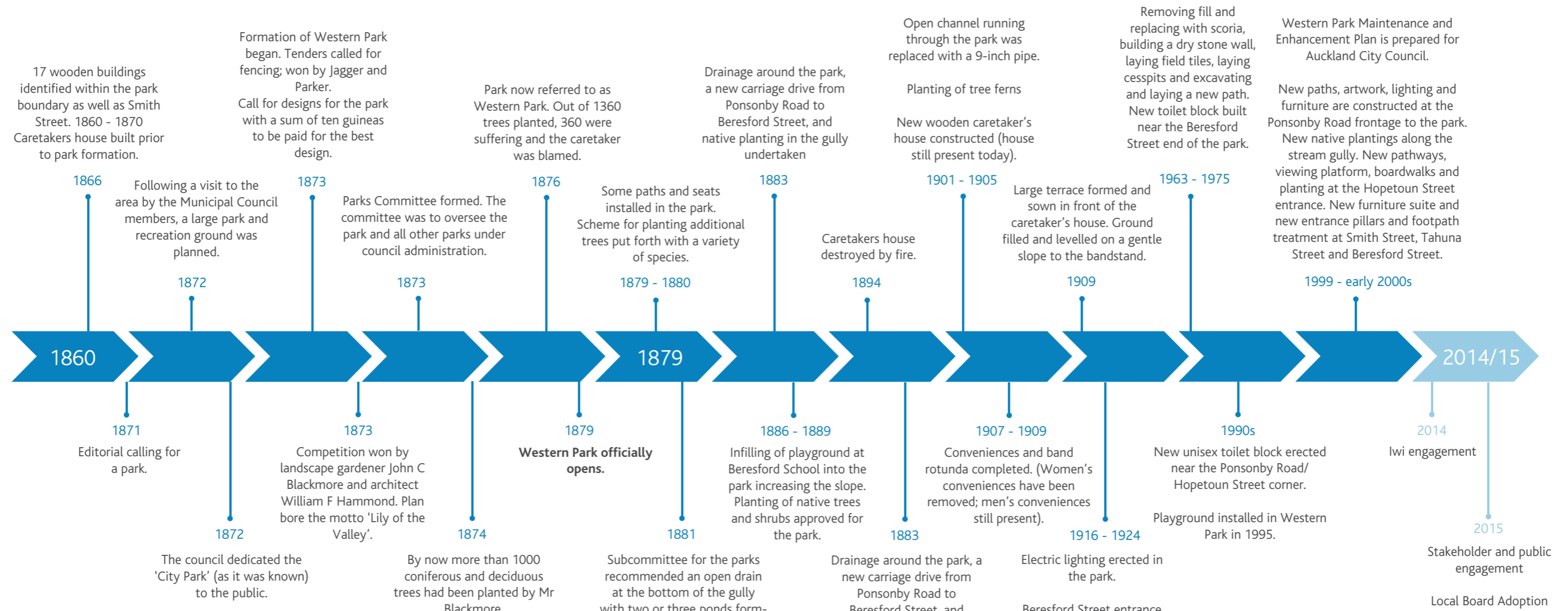
Figure 10. Playing field, toilet and playground in the lower park

Figure 11. Riparian planting in the location of the former Tuna Mau Stream

Figure 12. Main entrance from Ponsonby Road

Figure 13. Aerial of the park (2010)

1.7 Bringing You up to Date - Western Park from 1860 to today:



WHERE TO FROM HERE:

- 1. Prioritise projects.** Determine budget and evaluate the actions within the Development Plan to determine long term and short term priorities, based on consultation.
- 2. Implementation of the Development Plan.** Implementation and timing are subject to funding.
- 3. 10 year review**



ISLAND
TOD

MERCING

MUTIARA

AURANT

2.0 Site Analysis



LEGEND:

- current park boundary
- original park boundary

2.1 Existing Site Plan

Location

Western Park is located in a built up area in Freemans Bay, Auckland. Due to its proximity, the park has a strong relationship with the other city fringe centres of Ponsonby and Newton.

Character

The character of Western Park is predominantly determined by its landform and planting style. The park occupies a 'wedge shape' of land bound by residential properties (on its western, northern and south-eastern edges), Auckland Girls Grammar (on its eastern edge) and Ponsonby Road (on its south-western edge). The landform drops away from Ponsonby Road into a defined valley that runs down the central 'spine' of the park. The north-eastern corner of the park has been filled to create the sports field. The park is predominantly grassed, with native and exotic trees defining the landscape. The park has a number of asphalt paths that weave sinuously throughout.

Modifications

A number of modifications have been made to the original layout of the park throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. A section of Beresford Street was discontinued in the 1970s, this land was subsequently added to the northern end of the park (and includes the tennis courts). During the 1970s the park was enlarged when two adjacent portions of land on the Ponsonby Road frontage were purchased and incorporated into the park. Another portion of land on Hopetoun Street was added in the 1980s.

The earliest aerial photograph of the park dates back to 1940 with only three structures in the park visible: the caretaker's house, women's convenience and a small shed possibly used to store tools. The men's convenience is obscured by mature tree growth. The 1959 aerial shows substantial growth in trees, the area of tree clearance for the playing fields is also visible at the Beresford Street end of the park. The latest 2010 aerial (left) shows the addition of the changing rooms and toilet block near the centre of the park, as well as the unisex toilets at the Ponsonby Road end of the park. The toilets near the centre of the park have since been removed and new toilets have been constructed closer to the playing field (refer to section 3.5.1)

1940 aerial photograph



1959 aerial photograph





LEGEND:

- current park boundary
- Freemans Park Housing Precinct
- flood plains
- flood prone areas
- overland flow paths

2.2 Hydrology

Western Park is situated at the top of the Freemans Bay catchment. From its origin, Tuna Mau runs north east following the park's main gully. The stream is piped throughout its length from its origins to the stream mouth at Freemans Bay. Base flows (the flow in the pipe from ground water during dry weather) are likely to be modest through Western Park, which is in the upper part of the Tuna Mau catchment.

While base stream flows are modest the upper catchment of Tuna Mau upper catchment is prone to flash flooding because, in addition to overland flows generated within the park, stormwater runoff enters the park from surrounding roads and properties, particularly those on the western side of the park.

Flood plains one and two are shown in the diagram to the left. The first is fed by Western Park and the second from another sub-catchment between Howe Street and the motorway. Both flow through the existing pipe system and a constructed overland flow path through Freemans Park. Flooding issues have been identified in Freemans Park and these are being investigated by the Auckland Council Stormwater Unit.



LEGEND:

Scheduled Trees:

(Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan - ID 123):

- A** *Araucaria columnaris*, Cooks Pine
- B** *Cupressus torulosa*, Bhutan Cypress
- C** *Pinus canariensis*, Canary Island Pine (2)

Listed trees in the New Zealand Notable Trees Trust:

- D** *Agathis robusta*, Queensland kauri (ID AR/0979)
- E** *Cinnamomum camphora*, Camphor laurel (ID AR/0966)
- F** *Quercus robur*, English Oak (ID AR/0965)
- G** *Pinus radiata*, Monterey pine (ID AR/0978)
- H** *Ulmus x hollandica*, Elm (ID AR/0974)
- I** *Cupressus torulosa*, Bhutan cypress (ID AR/0981)
- J** *Cupressus lusitanica*, Mexican cypress (ID AR/0982)

2.3 Natural Heritage

One of the most important features of Western Park is its mix of mature trees and established planting. At the time of the original planting in the mid 1870s there was a considerable range of large tree species that were commercially available. Many of these same trees still exist in the park today.

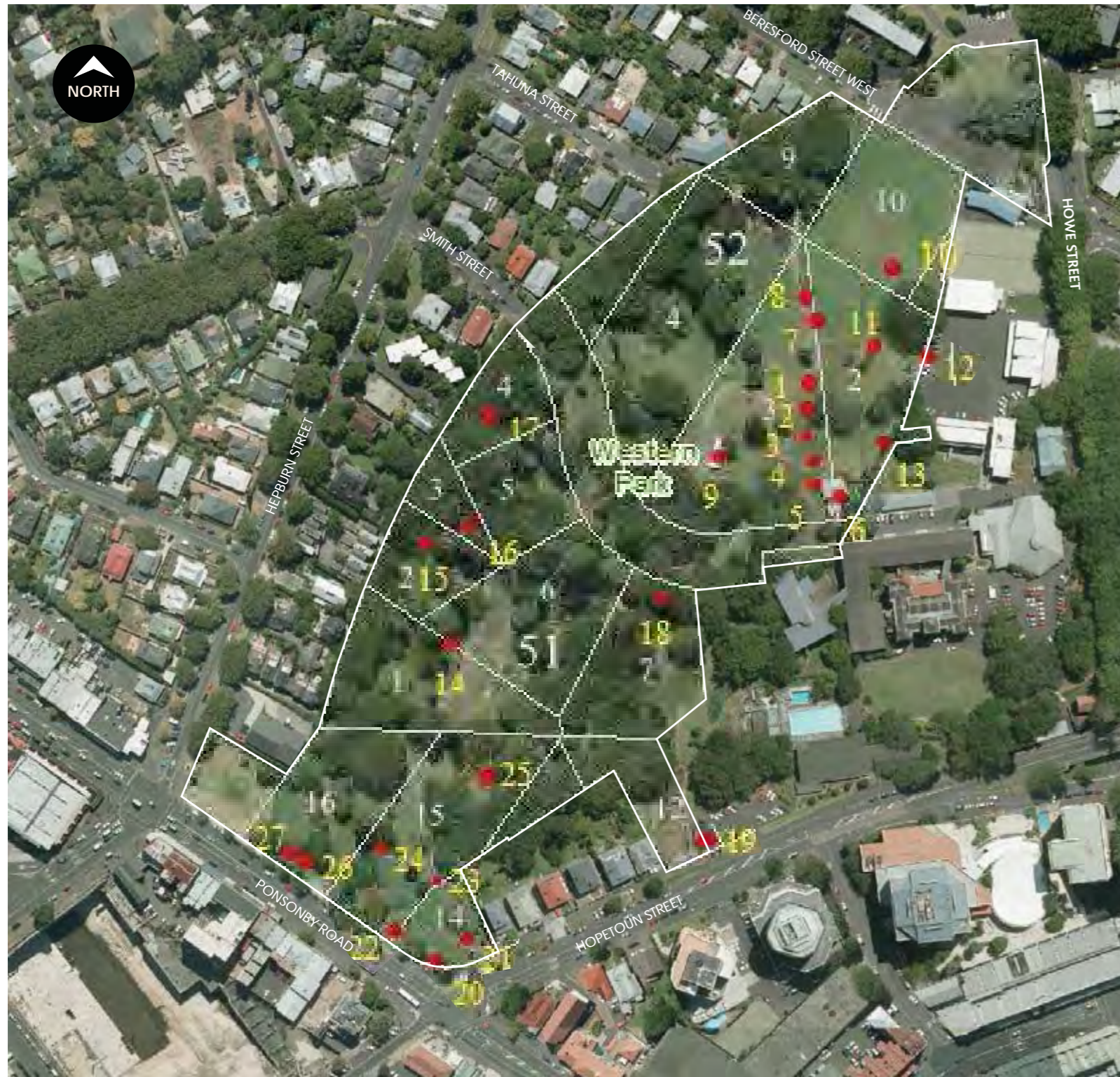
The original planting appears to have followed the plan to a certain degree, in particular the concept of scattered specimen trees with grassed spaces. A larger amount of coniferous planting was carried out in the first stages of development of the Park, these were subsequently removed as they were considered to be affecting neighbouring properties too much. It is clear from the original plan, photographs of the early planting and current remnant plantings within the park that the boundaries around the park were planted in a more formal, avenue style, while planting within the park was more scattered.

- Section 2.0, Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan 1999


This map shows the trees that are scheduled in the Proposed Auckland Council Unitary Plan and those identified in the New Zealand Notable Trees Trust Database.



Photo Credits: Russell VanWijngaarden



LEGEND:

 current park boundary

NOTE: white numbers denote lot numbers and yellow numbers denote structure numbers

2.4 Cultural Heritage: Archaeological Sites

Prior to the development of the park, twenty two 19th century timber buildings and structures had been constructed on this site and were later removed. It is probable that subsurface archaeological remains may still be present. As a result of its archaeological potential the park was recorded as an archaeological site in February 2014 (NZAA metric Site Number R11_2899). The site record has also been submitted for inclusion in the Cultural Heritage Inventory (CHI). This archaeological site record includes all the house sites within the park and is based on historical records only.

The plan and table below identifies structures and their approximate locations within the park boundaries. Those highlighted in brown are 20th century in date; the remaining were constructed in the 19th century.

Point	Description	Lot	Sec	Source	Condition	Easting NZTM	Northing NZTM
1	House	3	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756263	5919668
2	House	3	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756259	5919657
3	House	3	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756259	5919650
4	House	3	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756263	5919637
5	House	3	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756262	5919631
6	Former Caretaker's House	3	52	1908 Plan	Existing	1756277	5919629
7	House	3	52	C1860s photo	Destroyed	1756268	5919718
8	House	3	52	C1860s photo	Destroyed	1756264	5919731
9	Toilets	3	52	Existing	Existing	1756220	5919647
10	House	10	52	C1860s photo	Destroyed	1756311	5919741
11	House	2	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756295	5919695
12	House	2	52	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756321	5919696
13	Original Caretaker's House	2	52	1882 Map	Destroyed	1756305	5919655
14	Women's Toilets	1/6	51	1908 Plan	Destroyed	1756103	5919492
15	Outbuilding	2	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756091	5919596
16	Outbuildings	3	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756103	5919607
17	Outbuilding	4	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756113	5919668
18	House/Shed	7	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756192	5919578
19	House	12	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756209	5919450
20	House	14	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756081	5919394
21	Toilets	14	51	Existing	Existing	1756096	5919408
22	House	15	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756059	5919410
23	Men's Toilets	15	51	1908 Plan	Existing	1756081	5919437
24	Rotunda	15	51	1908 Plan	Destroyed	1756052	5919456
25	Shed	15	51	1940 Aerial	Destroyed	1756100	5919526
26	House	16	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756018	5919448
27	House	16	51	1866 Map	Destroyed	1756005	5919453



WESTERN PARK CONTEXT MAP - MAORI MAP OF TE RIMUTAHĪ AREA



2.5 Cultural Heritage: Iwi Values

As part of the Ponsonby Road Plan, Auckland Council commissioned a report on Māori heritage values and opportunities. *Te Rimu Tahī, Ponsonby Road Masterplan - Māori Heritage Report* identifies the sites of significance to Māori and the wider context that Western Park sits within.

It identifies the stream - Tuna Mau, meaning 'To Catch Eels', that ran through Western Park (now piped) and formerly discharged into Waiatarau, Freemans Bay. Tuna Mau was an autumn eeling camp.

The report also provides recommendations and a summary of iwi priorities for the Ponsonby area and more specifically Western Park as follows:

Transport:

- Support for walkways through Western Park to connect to Victoria Park, Wynyard Quarter and the future Foreshore Heritage trail.

Waterways and Stormwater treatment:

- Support for Tuna Mau to be daylighted (stormwater pipe to be removed within park)

Vegetation:

- The entire vegetation palette should be native except for where food is planted e.g. fruit trees or edible public gardens.
- A significant opportunity for increased biodiversity exists in Western Park which should be enriched with massed planting along the stream course and with feature native trees throughout the park as exotics fail over time.

Māori Heritage Protection and Interpretation:

- The Tuna Mau stream should be scheduled.
- Māori heritage sites should be marked creatively, possibly with mock directional signage.

Following on from *Te Rimu Tahī, Ponsonby Road Masterplan - Māori Heritage Report*, Auckland Council partnered with iwi to establish design principles to guide development in the park. These are outlined in Section 1.3 - Te Aranga Māori Design Principles



LEGEND:

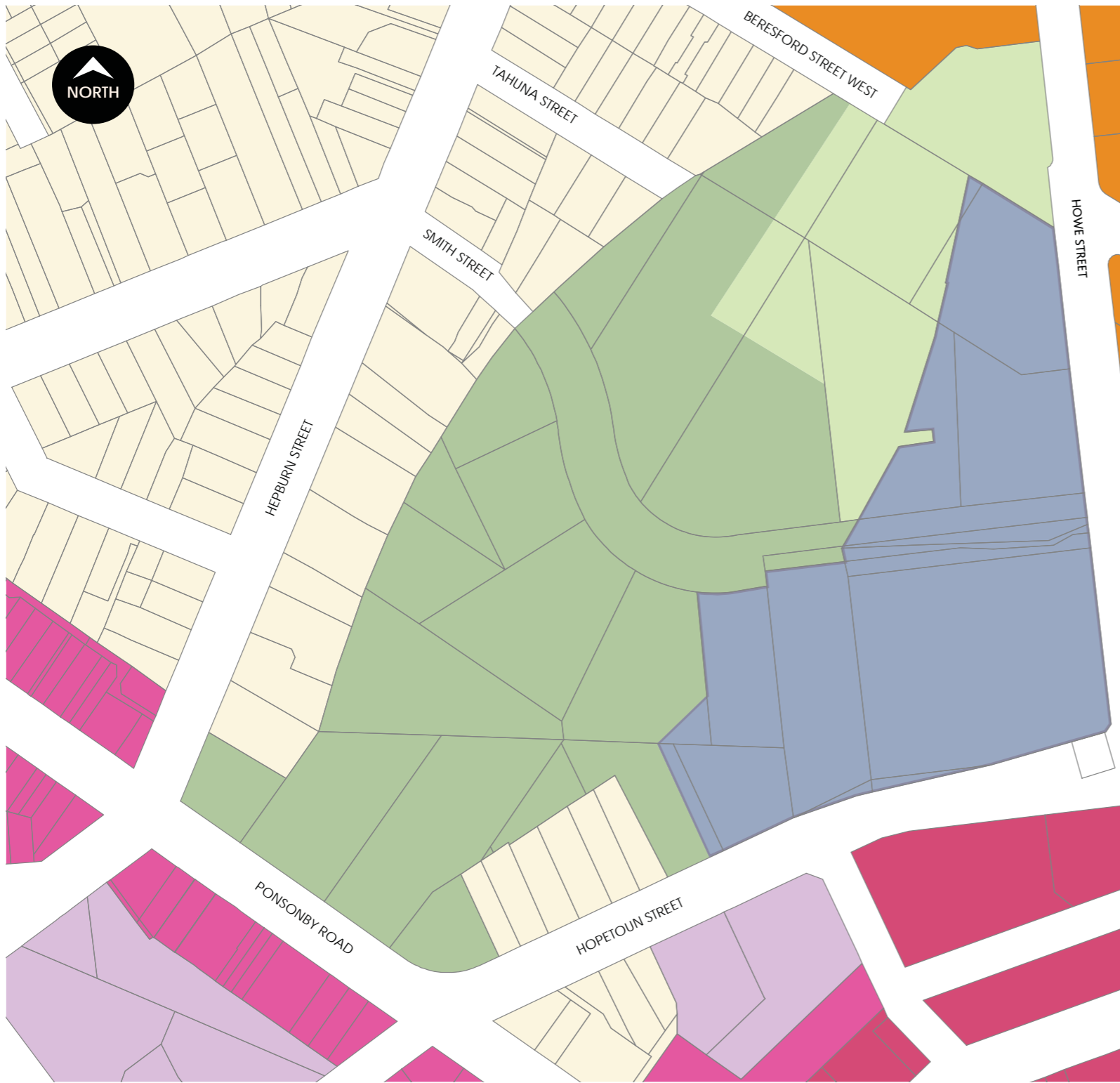
- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| current park boundary | area owned by Auckland Council and leased out | 1. Freemans Bay Kindergarten (16 Tahuna Street) |
| original park boundary | building owned by Auckland Council and tenanted out | 2. Historic caretakers residence (18 Howe Street) |
| playing fields used by Auckland Girls Grammar School | areas commonly used for events within Western Park (note: some events use the park in its entirety) | 3. Auckland Girls Grammar (70 Howe Street) |

2.6 Event Areas and Private Uses

Western Park is a highly valued event destination. The most in demand area of the park for public events is the flat frontage along Ponsonby Road. Popular events in Western Park in recent years include the Telecom Christmas Tree, Ponsonby Carols by Candlelight and Art in the Dark. The flat Ponsonby Road frontage is an ideal location for events providing positive activation of this space and a transition and threshold between the Ponsonby business district and the park. Infrastructure to cater for and facilitate events is to be installed in this location in the form of 3-phase power supply.

In addition, the sports field at the lower Beresford Street West end of the park is often used for private or corporate events. Most use of the sports field, however, is by the neighbouring Auckland Girls Grammar who have use rights to the field as they helped to fund its development in the 1950s. The school also lease some Auckland Council land next to the Hopetoun Street entrance to the park. The Freemans Bay Kindergarten leases a smaller area of council land on the western side of the park.

The park is set to become increasingly important as a recreational green / open space and events space in the future with an increasing population living in close proximity to the park in the residential developments occurring around the parks edge, including the apartment buildings along Hopetoun Street. With increased park usage and events attendance the protection of the natural environment, including the protection of tree root zones, must be considered when planning activities on site.



LEGEND:

 Public Open Space - Conservation	 Special purpose (education)	 Business Mixed Use
 Public Open Space - Sport and Active Recreation	 Single House	 Business Local Centre
	 Terrace Housing and Apartment Buildings	 Business City Centre

2.7 Auckland Unitary Plan Proposed Zoning

This zoning map has been extracted from the Proposed Auckland Unitary Plan and identifies the proposed zoning within and surrounding Western Park. There are two zones within the park: Public Open Space Conservation and Public Open Space Sport and Active Recreation. The north western side of the park sits adjacent to the residential single house zone, while the eastern side sits adjacent to the special purpose education (Auckland Girls Grammar School).

The park has a strong relationship with the adjacent residential properties, due to the presence of pathways along the boundaries beside many of these properties.

The following objectives are proposed for the zones that sit within Western Park:

Public Open Space - Conservation

Objectives:

1. *Public open spaces with natural, ecological, landscape, and heritage values are protected and enhanced and available to the public to use and enjoy.*
2. *Recreational activities and associated buildings and structures complement and protect the values and qualities of the public open space.*

Public Open Space - Sport and Active Recreation

Objectives:

1. *Indoor and outdoor sport and active recreation opportunities are provided for through a network of quality public open spaces that meet the community's needs.*
2. *The use of public open space for sport and active recreation is maximised.*
3. *The amenity values of the public open space and surrounding areas are maintained.*

*City of
Auckland
Historic Place*

**WESTERN
PARK**

*One of the
city's oldest
parks, Western Park
boasts some rare and
interesting botanical
species. Planting began
in 1874 as the result of
a design competition
held the previous
year*

3.0 Design Guidance and Recommendations

3.0 Design Guidance and Recommendations

The plan establishes overall design principles and Te Aranga Māori Design Principles and aspirations that contribute to design guidance for each park element as shown in the adjacent diagram. The historical and existing condition of the park elements are assessed in each respective section and recommendations for development are identified.

These recommendations have been prioritised into short, medium, and long-term timeframes following public and stakeholder consultation (refer to appendix 1). The plan will be delivered by the Waitemata Local Board and Auckland Council in collaboration with the community and mana whenua.





3.1 Pathway and Circulation Network



LEGEND:

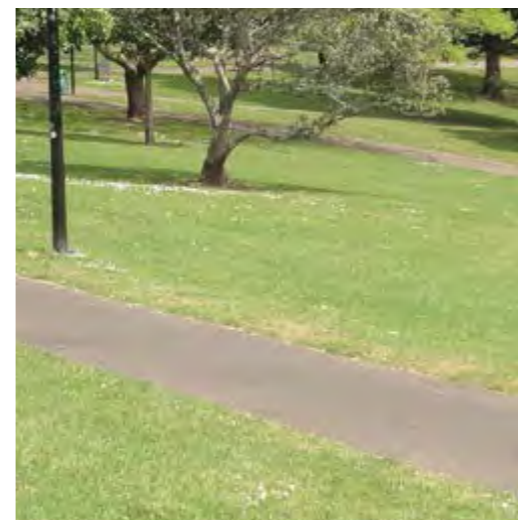
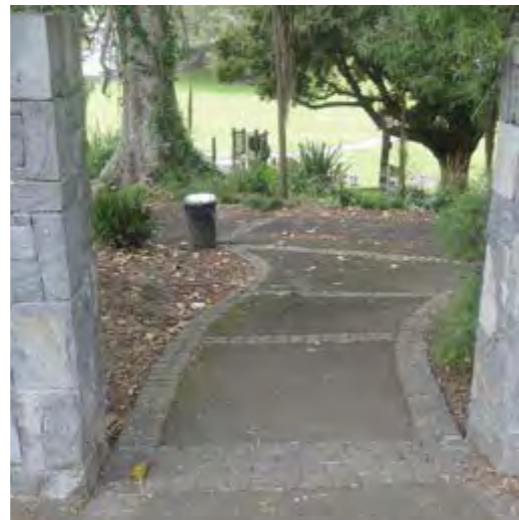
- park land and boundary
- existing tree cover
- existing pathways

3.1.1 Existing Pathway Network

The existing pathway network within the park reflects the design intent of the 1874 plan. It consists almost entirely of asphalt paths that wind down, and sometimes across, the park's central gully. The paths vary between 1.5 to 2.5 metres in width. Most pedestrians using the park to link between Ponsonby Road and Beresford Street use the path running along the western ridgeline as it is the flattest and most direct route. Other paths, including those added to the park over time, are more leisurely in their function and offer access to particular features in the park such as the playground. More recent path additions include the formalisation of desire lines at the Ponsonby Road frontage and the formation of boxed steps leading down from Hopetoun Street.

3.1.2 Pathway Condition

Paths within the park are of mixed surface type and condition. The asphalt paths with basalt cobblestone edging generally appear to be in better condition than the paths with no edging. This is partly because some of the paths with edging are more recent but also because the edging provides protection from mowers and erosion. The path along the western ridgeline has been uplifted by tree roots and any upgrade will require the path level to be lifted. The loose aggregate in the Hopetoun Street boxed steps washes away in rain events creating trip hazards and requiring increased maintenance.



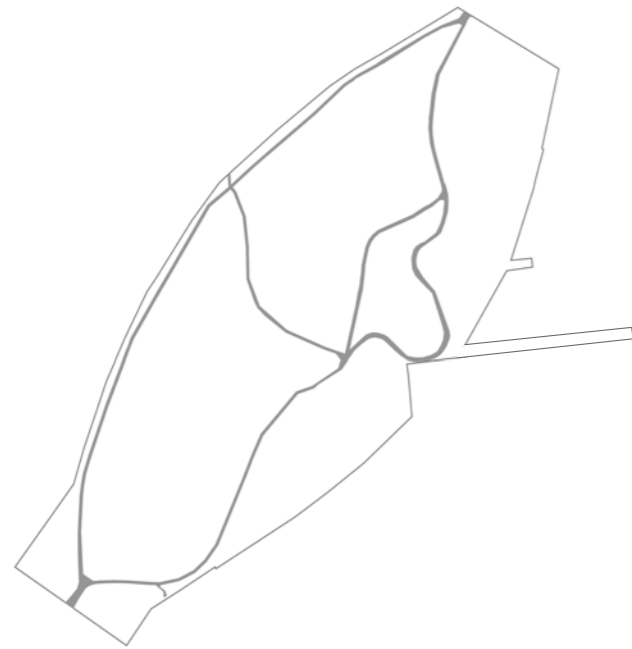
3.1.3 Historical Routes from 1874 to Today

Pathway/ circulation network 1874 - Today

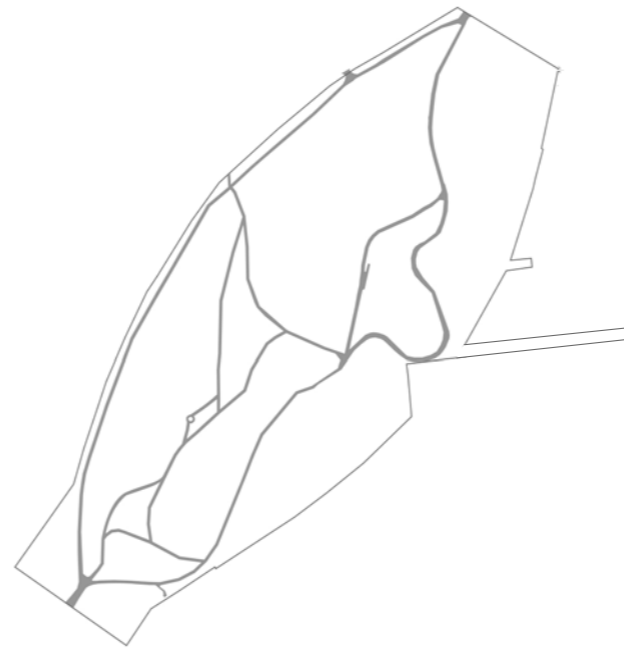
The series of maps below show how the pathway network has developed over time. The original 1874 plan established the framework for the existing pathway network. This consists primarily of a loop around the park for basic circulation. Feeding into this loop are entry points from Ponsonby Road at the south, from Smith Street in the east, Beresford Street West at the north, and Hopetoun Street in the south-east.

By the 1950s more paths had been added through the central gully in the southern portion of the park. It is not known exactly when or why these paths were added but they provide more options for leisurely walking and access to the performance stage that was recently added to the park.

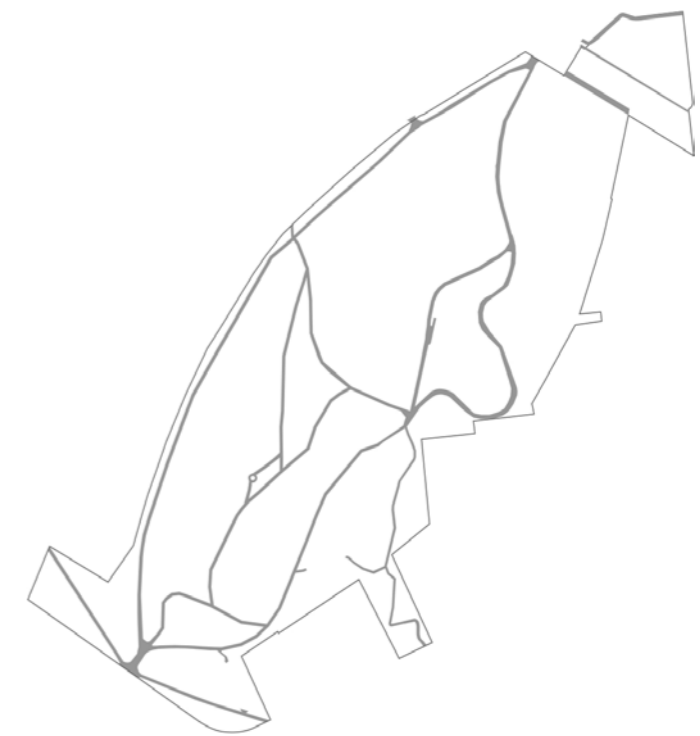
The most recent path additions have been enabled by the park's expansion and are the formalisation of diagonal desire lines at the Ponsonby Road frontage, the formation of boxed aggregate steps leading down from Hopetoun Street, and paths through the north addition connecting Beresford Street West and Howe Street.



1874 plan of the original circulation and park extent (opened 1879)



1950s circulation and park extent



2015 circulation and park extent



LEGEND:

- park land
- existing tree cover
- proposed NEW low to medium use route
- low to medium use routes
- high use loop route
- high use primary and secondary routes:
 route A: Ponsonby Road edge
 route B: Hopetoun Street to Hepburn Street
 route C: Ponsonby Road to Beresford Street West
 route D: Smith Street to Hopetoun Street

3.1.4 Proposed Circulation Routes

Circulation routes

The highest use paths in the park include the original loop route based on the 1874 plan. Another high use path based on the original plan is the east-west path connecting to Hepburn Street via Smith Street (secondary route D). This path, the Howe Street access to which was discontinued by the establishment of Auckland Girls Grammar, now has a well-used (albeit difficult) step access to Hopetoun Street. Other popular pedestrian routes are Ponsonby Road to Beresford Street West along the western ridge line (primary route C - also part of the loop route), along the Ponsonby Road frontage (primary route A - part of the road corridor) and via the diagonal paths that formalise desire lines between Hopetoun and Hepburn Streets (primary route B). In addition, one further path is proposed to formalise a desire line between the Hopetoun Street entrance and the loop route.

Path uses

The paths currently facilitate a variety of activities as indicated by the graphics below. There is potential to further encourage more of these uses by upgrading paths, in particular the primary and secondary routes, through building up over tree roots, and through the provision of gentler stair treads leading down from the Hopetoun Street entrance. There is also opportunity to add to the path network with new paths and boardwalks in conjunction with a playground upgrade.





LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| park land and boundary | Surface treatment no. 1 | Surface treatment no. 4 | Surface treatment no. 6 |
| existing tree cover | Surface treatment no. 2 | Surface treatment no. 5 | Surface treatment no. 7 |
| overland flow path | Surface treatment no. 3 | | |
| Bluestone edged bund/ stream crossing | | | |

3.1.5 Proposed Pathway Materiality

A hierarchy of path surfacing has been established to maintain consistency with the park's existing palette. The selected path surfaces are to provide legibility, assist with navigation, signify entrances and park features, improve park quality, be sympathetic to the park's heritage, and provide robustness and durability.



1



Asphalt with steel edge

USE/LOCATION:

minor/low and medium use pathways



2



Asphalt with single bluestone edge

USE/LOCATION:

primary/secondary routes

Bluestone edge bund/ stream crossing (sketch as per original park design):





3



Asphalt with double bluestone edge and bluestone banding

USE/LOCATION:

entrances including Tahuna Street, Smith Street and Ponsonby Road



4



Feature bluestone paved area with double bluestone edge

USE/LOCATION:

intersections/changes in primary/secondary route



5



Feature mosaic paved area with double bluestone edge

USE/LOCATION:

major entrance nodes and event stages



6



Precast concrete stairs with bluestone capping paver

USE/LOCATION:

stairs



7



Timber boardwalk

USE/LOCATION:

routes through proposed wetland areas and stream tributary crossings.



3.1.6 Pathway and Circulation Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Surface materials

Maintain existing palette of path surface materials to provide consistency throughout the park.

Width and layout

Maintain existing width and layout of promenade style paths where possible.

Tree constraints

Existing paths should either bridge large tree roots or be built up above small tree roots.

Drainage

Consider stormwater runoff implications with regard to flooding and erosion.

Vegetation setbacks

Ensure appropriate shrub or tree vegetation setbacks around pathways (preferred 2.5m setback if species above 1m in height).

Materiality

If funding allows consider upgrading path edges to achieve proposed hierarchy.

Design recommendations:

1. Upgrade path materiality of the existing path network as per section 3.1.5.
2. Implement new pathways in conjunction with the proposed stormwater and playground upgrades as per section 3.1.5.
3. Implement new path at the south-eastern edge of the park as per section 3.1.5.
4. Additional funding above renewals budget will be required to enable durable, robust path surfacing for no.s 1 - 3 above.
5. Selective tree pruning around and above paths and to open up view shafts.
6. In new paths look to incorporate designs that celebrate the parks cultural heritage e.g. taniko patterns.

Note:

Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/ opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.



3.2 Lighting



LEGEND:

- park land
- existing tree cover
- in-ground uplight
- light pole
- existing cabling (where location known)

3.2.1 Existing Lighting

Lighting was originally installed in Western Park in 1924 after Council started a comprehensive plan of installing flood lighting in all its parks. Western Park was singled out as being unsuitable for flood lighting "owing to the large number of trees" and small lights along the paths and among the trees were recommended. In October 1924, at least 25 lamps were installed. Five in-ground up lights were also installed to illuminate feature trees and the art installation along Ponsonby Road.

3.2.2 Lighting Condition

The original 1924 lights remained in place until a cable fault in 1963 required their repair and they were replaced by lanterns on outreach arms, mounted on concrete poles. These make up the majority of lights through the park today. An exception is the lights along the Ponsonby Road frontage that were installed during the 2000s.



3.2.3 Proposed Lighting

The majority of the existing park lights have reached the end of their viable lives, as has the underground electrical cabling. The spacing of the current light columns and type of light fittings does not meet the current best practice lighting standards.

Since the park was developed over 100 years ago, ideas around lighting and night time public safety in parks has changed and developed. As a general rule parks are there to be enjoyed during the daytime and in specific circumstances (such as organised sports or events) into the evening.

When considering lighting in parks, several key questions should be asked:

- Is there any community group based in /using the park after dark?
- Is there a recognised commuter route or greenway through the park?
- Is there any other reason why legitimate users would need to use the park at night?
- Is there good passive surveillance from either neighbouring streets or properties into the park?
- Are there alternative routes around the park that have better passive surveillance and street lighting?
- Will lighting a single path provide a predictable night-time route through the park which could easily be used by criminals to target victims?

One of the key principles that guides lighting in parks is Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Part One of the National Guidelines for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design in New Zealand (Ministry of Justice website) states:

'It is crucial that lighting:

- *sends the right messages to the public about the safe and appropriate use of space at different times of day and night;*
- *is an integral part of the overall design and considered in relation to the specific needs of the place;*
- *is designed with management and maintenance in mind (e.g. lighting fixtures are vandal resistant and kept out of reach);*
- *is well-maintained and bulbs are promptly replaced as part of a co-ordinated management strategy.*

Lighting should:

- *provide good visual guidance and orientation – support visibility for pedestrians as well as for motorists;*

- *be considered for places that are well used at night (e.g. car parks, major pedestrian and bicycle routes, public spaces, building entrances, public toilets, access and egress routes) and for areas where safety risks have been identified;*
- *ensure visibility for a reasonable distance to improve perceptions of safety.*

Lighting should be placed to ensure:

- *uniformity of lighting levels over an area, avoiding glare and reducing the contrast between shadows and illuminated areas, except when highlighting a specific area or feature;*
- *vegetation or other elements do not interfere with its effectiveness.*

Lighting should not be provided in areas not intended for night-time use, therefore avoiding a false impression of safety.'

The physical nature of Western Park – a deep gully with mature trees throughout typically surrounded by low-rise housing, makes it very difficult to see into the park. The majority of houses that back onto the park either have tall fences or minimal windows overlooking the park.

These factors mean that lighting alone cannot make it safe. In fact, lit paths without any surveillance can actually assist criminals as they provide predictable routes that pedestrians will be using.

Another factor to consider with any proposed lighting upgrade is the considerable constraints of large, protected trees (both canopy and roots) and underground archaeology. Prior to the development of the park, twenty two 19th century timber buildings and structures had been constructed on this site and were later removed. It is probable that subsurface archaeological remains may still be present. The site was listed in February 2014 (NZAA metric Site Number R11_2899) as a result of the Western Park Evaluation of Historic Heritage values that was commissioned as part of the Development Plan.

This plan provides a review of what lighting is required for the park now and into the future.



LEGEND:

- park land
- existing tree cover
- proposed area for new lighting that adheres to P2 or P3 standard (TBC)
- light fittings/poles and in-ground uplights to be removed
- 3 phase and single phase power supply
- T internal light within toilet facility on timer

Proposed Lighting Upgrade

The proposed lighting upgrade provides a single lit route through the park from Ponsonby Road to Beresford Street West. It also provides for the retention of lighting along the Ponsonby Road park frontage and allows for sports field flood lighting if an upgrade of the sports field occurs in the future.

The path lights would be timed to provide illumination for commuters and for legitimate evening use. Whilst the lit path is the most visible of all the paths through the park, and has two entry / exit points along its route (Smith Street and Tahuna Street) there is no passive surveillance from the surrounding streets or other parts of the park, and very limited surveillance from neighbouring properties.

Three-phase power supply is to be provided for temporary events at the Ponsonby Road end of the park and near the sports field / playground at the northern end of the park.



western path looking north



western path looking south



3.2.4 Lighting Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Compliance to standards

All lighting shall comply with AS/NZS 1158 for both lighting design and placement.

LED

All lighting shall utilise low-energy LED fittings.

Local source

All luminaires and poles shall be sourced from New Zealand suppliers, who shall hold a supply of replacement stock to avoid delays if replacement is needed (where possible).

Complementary design

All lighting (poles, luminaires and their placement) should complement and enhance the amenity and character of the Western Park landscape.

Consistent design

Ensure lighting (poles, luminaires and their placement) are complementary to the street lighting that is proposed along Ponsonby Road as part of the Ponsonby Road Plan.

Arboricultural and heritage considerations

All new cabling and light pole placement to consider arboricultural and heritage requirements e.g. root systems and canopy/dripline extent.

Design recommendations:

1. Engage a lighting specialist for all lighting design.
2. Flood lighting to be provided for the sports field in conjunction with the upgrade of the sports field to a sand carpet base (unbudgeted).
3. Upgrade lighting in the flat open park frontage along Ponsonby Road that adheres to P2/P3 standard.
4. Provide 3-phase power supply for temporary events at both the Ponsonby Road and Beresford Street West ends of the park.

Note:

Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.



3.3 Vegetation and Biodiversity



LEGEND:

- park extent
- existing trees
- approximate extent of under planting.
- A Cooks Pine (scheduled tree Auckland City District Plan)
- B Bhutan Cypress (scheduled tree Auckland City District Plan)
- C Canary Island Pine (scheduled tree Auckland City District Plan)
- open space areas

3.3.1 Existing Vegetation

The vegetation in Western Park is largely reflective of the park's history. The park has over 240 mature trees with many having significant historical and botanical value. Some of these trees date back to the late 1800s when the park was first established. Many of these early plantings were based on gifts of plants and seed given by Sir George Grey, the then-Governor of New Zealand.

3.3.2 Historic Photographs - Vegetation

Planting and vegetation 1874 - Today

In 1873 the council put forward the considerable sum of ten guineas as prize money for the best new park design, and 11 different concepts were submitted. The winners were William Hammond and John Blackmore with an intricate design entitled 'Lily of the Valley'. In 1874, the City Parks Committee noted that "the committee have caused upwards of 1100 deciduous and coniferous trees of the choicest kind to be planted in the park."

The tree planting also served as a testing ground for silvicultural uses and the ability of the various tree species to adapt to Auckland's environment. Many species failed, and some were too successful, including *pinus radiata*, of which large numbers were subsequently removed.



Figure 14. Looking north east from Western Park over Freemans Bay, James D Richardson, 1888



Figure 15. Tree ferns planted in gully in 1903, William Archer Price, ca 1913



Figure 16. The winning design by Hammond and Blackmore submitted in 1873.



Figure 17. The design by Hammond and Blackmore presented to the public in 1874

3.3.3 Vegetation Condition

The photos below represent a snapshot of existing vegetation in the park. This vegetation is a mix of informal planting, including some large specimen trees dating back to the 1870s, native revegetation and more formal boundary planting.



3.3.4 Stormwater and the Tuna Mau

Tuna Mau - 'to catch eels', is the ancestral name of the stream that once flowed through the Western Park gully to Waiatarau - Freemans Bay (since reclaimed to form Victoria Park). Eels were particularly plentiful here, caught in the autumn months to sustain nearby camps or villages such as Te Too, formerly located near Beaumont Street.

Tuna Mau quickly suffered from the rapid development of Auckland City. The stream and its tributary were systematically piped as Ponsonby was developed during the 1800s and in the 1900s when the bottom of the gully was filled in to create the sports field.

The legacy Auckland Regional Council previously commissioned reports to investigate day-lighting the Tuna Mau (removing the pipe and bringing stormwater to the surface). These have been reviewed and considered as part of this Development Plan. In December 2014 the Auckland Council Biodiversity Team completed a report that outlines the potential rehabilitation of the Tuna Mau Stream.



Figure 18. Western Park Stream Locations



LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| park extent | approximate extent of under planting (proposed) | A Cooks Pine (scheduled tree Auckland City District Plan) | open space areas |
| existing trees | approximate extent of stream rehabilitation/ wetland creation | B Bhutan Cypress (scheduled tree Auckland City District Plan) | existing vegetation for removal |
| approximate extent of under planting (existing) | | C Canary Island Pine (scheduled tree Auckland City District Plan) | investigate wetland creation at bottom of valley |

3.3.5 Proposed Vegetation and Stream Rehabilitation Plan

PROPOSED VEGETATION

The plan (left) identifies the approximate proposed extent of underplanting and stream rehabilitation planting. Native species are preferred over exotic, however when replacing trees consideration should be given to maintaining the 'botanical collection' of species as identified in the original park plan.

Partnership with iwi in this process is important to ensure iwi values associated with the Tuna Mau (stream / wetland and riparian environment) are incorporated in species selection.

For design guidance and recommendations for vegetation refer to the following pages, specifically sections 3.3.6 and 3.3.8.

PROPOSED STREAM REHABILITATION

Auckland Council Parks and Auckland Council Biodiversity (Environmental Services Unit) are considering whether there is potential to rehabilitate the Tuna Mau Stream that runs through the park. It is unclear whether the contribution of shallow groundwater to stream flows is at all reliable in the Tuna Mau. It is possible that upstream reaches are intermittent and possibly even ephemeral as one draws closer to zero catchment. Hence, in estimating the Tuna Mau Stream's potential for rehabilitation, the focus has been on wetland creation in Western Park rather than stream daylighting per se. The introduction of tuna (eel) and other native fish species to this reach would unlikely form part of biodiversity enhancements as downstream fish passage improvements cannot be assured.

A succession of linked wetland elements separated by earth bunds installed along Western Park's main gully would, however, provide terrestrial and wetland biodiversity improvements, amenity, cultural and recreational value and a level of stormwater attenuation. As well as delaying the passage of stormwater and promoting soakage, wetland elements installed behind each of the bunds will help polish flows (improve the quality of stormwater entering Waitematā Harbour). How well stormwater inflows can be polished will depend on how much of the stream is daylighted. Greatest detention and polishing potential coincides with the stream's downstream reaches where the valley bottom broadens. It is here also that the greatest visual amenity and recreational utility lies. The most viable option is to investigate the creation of a wetland in this location.

Auckland Council's Stormwater Unit has also carried out modelled studies and identified off park improvements to stormwater infrastructure to prevent downstream flooding.

3.3.6 Indicative Species Palette

NATIVE SPECIES LIST FOR WESTERN PARK

The following has been prepared by Auckland Council Biodiversity - Environmental Services Unit.

It provides a list of species that would have been present in the natural forest once found within the Western Park gully and ridge ecosystem predating the first wave of settlement. It indicates where each species is likely to have occurred matched by common distribution patterns of this type of vegetation in existence today.

It does not make recommendations of relative proportions, which will become important if there is to be any integration of a natural system into the wider park values.

The original forest type would have been Kauri-podocarp-broadleaved forest (Singers and Rogers 2014). Canopy and emergent species such as kauri, tanekaha, and rewarewa

would have dominated the Ponsonby ridgeline and upper slopes of Western Park, with scattered rimu, miro and taraire. The mid to lower slopes are quite sheltered and the dominant canopy species would have been puriri, kahikatea, and kohekohe with kauri scattered throughout.

Throughout the forest a range of understorey shrubs and medium-sized trees would have been present. These include; kanuka, mamangi, whauwhaupuka, ti kouka, pate, karamu, mapou and mahoe.

The climax forest species need some form of protection to become established. Creating some primary cover with shrubs, in particular kanuka (*Kunzea robusta*), will provide the appropriate environmental conditions for these larger trees to thrive.

- Care should be taken to limit new native tree plantings to ensure view shafts are maintained through the park and 'hiding spots' or areas where antisocial behaviour may occur are avoided.
- Wetland areas to be planted in keeping with the heritage and iwi values associated with the Tuna Mau.

Gymnosperms/Podocarps:

Phyllocladus trichomanoides - Tanekaha, dry slopes and ridgelines
Agathus australis - Kauri, this is the indigenous cousin of the cooks and Queensland pines in the park, well drained slopes and ridgelines.
Dacrydium cupressinum - Rimu, would occur throughout the ecosystem
Prumnopitys ferruginea - Miro, would occur throughout the ecosystem
Podocarpus totara var. totara – Totara, in fertile mid to lower slopes
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides - kahikatea, lower slopes and wet areas.

Broadleaf Species

Kunzea robusta – Kanuka, a primary coloniser of all areas of this ecosystem type
Leptospermum scoparium – Manuka, a primary coloniser, adapted well to extreme conditions such as poor drainage, and high exposure,
Knightia excelsa – Rewarewa, on slopes and ridgelines
Beilschmiedia tarairi – Tarairi, on fertile slopes
Vitex lucens – Puriri, on fertile soil, throughout
Coprosma arborea – Mamangi, largely associated with kauri distribution
Coprosma robusta – Karamu, throughout
Coprosma lucida – Karamu, throughout although more a species of sheltered forest
Pseudopanax arboreus – Whauwhaupaku, throughout,

Monocots For Forest

Cordyline australis – Ti kouka, and *Cordyline banksii* - Ti ngahere, throughout the forest understorey, often co dominant with flax and manuka in wetland areas
Astelia banksii – Wharawhara, dry banks and slopes, often epiphytic
Schoenus tendo, dry slopes, a sedge for under planting
Dianella nigra – PioPio, dry slopes
Lepidosperma laterale, dry slopes

Specific Wetland Plants

The plants listed here have environmental tolerances ranging from aquatic emergent habitats to poorly drained boggy, ground.
Carex lessoniana
Machaerina rubiginosa
Machaerina articulata
Carex secta
Carex virgata
Coprosma tenuicaulis
Cordyline australis
Leptospermum scoparium
Phormium tenax
Typha orientalis
Dacrycarpus dacrydioides

TREE IDENTIFICATION/ PLAQUES:

65 tree species have been identified for tree plaques/naming due to their age and/or significance to the history of the park. The below is an indication of the style of the plaques and a selection of trees intended to be named. The list below does not include

species listed on the Auckland Council Regional Pest Management Strategy or other noted invasive tree species. It is acknowledged, however, that many of these species were chosen for the park in the original design.



Botanical Name

Common Name

<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	North American Sweetgum
<i>Tipuana tipu</i>	Pride of Bolivia
<i>Piconia excelsa</i>	Canary Island Olive
<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>	Karaka
<i>Araucaria cunninghamii</i>	Hoop Pine
<i>Vitex lucens</i>	Puriri
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English Oak
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine
<i>Phyllocladus tricomanooides</i>	Tanekaha
<i>Syzygium floribundum</i>	Weeping Lillypilly
<i>Tristanopsis laurina</i>	Water Gum
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry laurel
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak
<i>Cupressus lusitanica</i>	Mexican Cyprus

Botanical Name

Common Name

<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red Maple
<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	Kahikatea
<i>Pinus canariensis</i>	Canary Island Pine
<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Totara
<i>Dacrydium cupressinum</i>	Rimu
<i>Pinus Pinea</i>	Pine Nut tree
<i>Agathus australis</i>	Kauri
<i>Agathus robusta</i>	Queensland Kauri
<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>	Coastal Redwood
<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i>	Pohutukawa
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	London Plane tree
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	Turkey Oak
<i>Tilia x europaea</i>	Common Lime
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island Pine

Botanical Name

Common Name

<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	She Oak
<i>Photinia serratifolia</i>	Taiwanese Photinia
<i>Podocarpus totara</i>	Totara
<i>Alectryon excelsa</i>	Ti Toki
<i>Tilia x europea</i>	Common Lime
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel
<i>Sequoia sempivirens</i>	Coastal Redwood
<i>Dacrycarpus dacrydioides</i>	Kahikatea
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	London Plane tree
<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>	Bhutan Cypress
<i>Sequoia sempivirens</i>	Coastal Redwood
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel
<i>Cedrus deodara</i>	Indian cedar
<i>Araucaria columnaris</i>	Cook Pine



3.3.7 Photovisualisation - Potential Tuna Mau rehabilitation

Existing photo (A) and photovisualisation (B) looking south towards Ponsonby Road:



3.3.8 Vegetation and Biodiversity Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Protection

Identify any vegetation of aesthetic, historical or ecological value that should be protected and provide tree plaques to identify these.

Succession and replacement planting

Replacement of the current tree species should be chosen to reflect the character of the park and the species chosen in the early park design.

Local source and species selection

Use eco-sourced plants wherever possible and retention of genetic stock through growing new trees from old trees in the park. Species should be selected to cope with low or varying light and varying wet/dry soil conditions.

Character

Maintain an understory of grass or low planting beneath the specimen tree canopy to maintain the planned character of the park.

Weed and pest management

Manage invasive or weed species within the site and protect any new planting from damage by pukekos or rabbits.

Vegetation setbacks

Ensure appropriate shrub or tree vegetation setbacks around pathways (preferred 2.5m setback if species above 1m in height).

Design recommendations:

1. A Tree Management Plan should be commissioned to identify and provide management solutions for all trees within the park including those trees with historical value.

2. The tree identification/label project should be implemented as outlined in section 3.3.6.

3. Investigate options for rehabilitating and revegetating the Tuna Mau Stream including the potential removal of section(s) of the stormwater pipe. Refer to section 3.3.5.

4. Provide low-growing native vegetation on the western side of the park and upper eastern side of the park to provide a soft buffer between the park and adjacent residential properties.

5. Significant weed removal and management should be undertaken (e.g. removal of white poplar). Work with the community and volunteers to educate and encourage removal of weeds on adjoining or nearby properties. Refer to the Auckland Council Weed Management Policy.

6. Selective tree pruning around and above paths to open up view shafts.

7. All new tree, shrub planting should align with species outlined in section 3.3.6, and replacement with exotics as per 3.3.5.

8. Work in partnership with iwi to express iwi values associated with Tuna Mau through the application of the Te Aranga Māori Design Principles (refer page 8 - 9).

Note:
 Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.

Liquor ban area

Western Park

Te Rimu Tahī



Western Park Today



The original plan for City Park

Western Park today is a vibrant and diverse space, offering a range of recreational and cultural activities. The park is home to a variety of trees, including many native species, and provides a beautiful backdrop for outdoor events and community gatherings.

City of the Whāia
In 1864, the Government of the City of Auckland decided to create a public park in the City of the Whāia. The park was designed to provide a place of recreation and relaxation for the people of the City of the Whāia.

- Caring for Living Parks**
- 1. Plant native trees and shrubs
 - 2. Water plants regularly
 - 3. Prune trees and shrubs
 - 4. Remove weeds and rubbish
 - 5. Monitor for pests and diseases
 - 6. Encourage biodiversity
 - 7. Engage the community

Living Parks
Māori Purae Mātua



3.4 Signage and Interpretation



LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| park extent | Wayfinding only sign | regulatory sign (e.g. no dogs/
liquor ban) | fitness trail sign |
| existing trees | Wayfinding / interpretation sign | tree plaque (note that some tree
plaques may have been removed) | |

3.4.1 Existing Signage and Interpretation

The signage in the park is a mix of interpretive, way-finding and functional signage. The signage follows the former Auckland City Council branding and needs to be updated to the current Auckland Council brand. In doing so, there is the potential to review both the interpretive and way-finding signs with the aim of achieving better design outcomes.

3.4.2 Signage and Interpretation Condition





3.4.3 Signage and Interpretation Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Scale

Consider the scale of the signage in the context of the surrounding landscape.

Cluster

Cluster signs with other built elements such as light poles, buildings and structures to reduce the overall clutter of built elements.

Natural Backdrop

Use natural backdrops such as shrub planting or land contouring to reduce the overall impact of the signage. Do not place in the middle of important view shafts.

Location

Locations with good passive surveillance will reduce the risk of vandalism. Locate signs as close to pathways as possible to reduce people moving off the pathway.

Materiality

Ensure that bespoke, interpretive signage enhances, and does not detract from the natural and open space characteristics of the park.

Design recommendations:

1. Undertake a wayfinding audit and strategy to improve the navigation of people around and through the park and to connect people with the wider landscape.
2. Acknowledge mana whenua values and relationships with the park, it's features and wider connections through naming, interpretive signage and artwork.
3. Provide interpretation to important historic features in the park including heritage elements, the caretaker's cottage, the original toilets, historic trees and the original park design/ layout.
4. Consider minimising poles/signage/structures by integrating regulatory information on a single sign/pole or light pole in prominent positions in the park.
5. Apply artistic treatment to the man-hole covers to depict Tuna Mau.
6. The tree identification/label project should be implemented.

Note:

Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/ opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.



3.5 Buildings, Playground,
Fitness Equipment,
Artwork, Courts and
Playing Field



LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| existing park extent | 1 art installation - John Radford - 'Tip' | 4 new unisex toilets | 7 playing field |
| existing tree cover | 2 art Installation - pebble Mosaic - a) Mark Davidson b) John Botica | 5 caretaker's house (tenanted) | 8 tennis courts |
| existing pathways | 3 original park toilets | 6 existing playground extent (refer section 3.5.5) | fitness equipment |

3.5.1 Existing Buildings, Playground, Fitness Equipment, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field

There are currently four buildings on site. Two of these have historical value, while the other two are newer additions to the park. The two historical buildings are the caretaker's cottage and the original toilets. The caretaker's cottage is a 1900s wooden villa and was originally used to house the parks caretaker. It is currently tenanted. The original toilet building provided the men's toilet for the park (the women's toilet being demolished in the early 1990s). The surviving toilet structure contains interesting tile and pressed metal work which is visible through a wrought iron gate which prevents access into the building. The newer buildings are toilets located at the Ponsonby Road park frontage, close to Hopetoun Street, and new toilet facility adjacent to the sports field and playground that replaced the older toilets in the centre of the park. The new toilets have a modern design and a historical photo pressed into the steel cladding. This photo was taken in the park during a civic event in 1913.

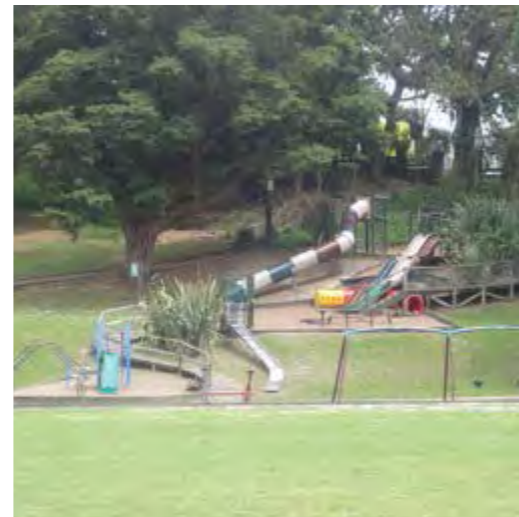
A series of sculptures are located at the Ponsonby Road end of the park. These sculptural works by John Radford called 'Tip' form a major amenity and cultural feature of this part of the park. The sculptures are historically based and address issues of historical integrity and change within cities. The two pebble mosaics in the park also reflect historic values. The mosaic at the Ponsonby Road entry by Mark Davidson, incorporates eel, reflective of the buried stream, Tuna Mau, and its history as a place to catch eel. The other mosaic by John Botica incorporates both New Zealand and Polynesian design influences. Ponsonby was the location where many of the first Pacific Island migrants settled upon arrival in New Zealand from the 1960s onwards.

The park's playground is located at the Beresford Street end. The playground utilises the steep, sloped landform and is made up of a series of terraced activities located down its slope. It fits well with the topography of the land and is well-utilised. The playground is scheduled for renewal due to the age and deterioration of the equipment.

The park's tennis courts are located outside the original park boundary on the Beresford Street alignment. This section of the street was discontinued during the construction of the motorway and was subsequently added to the park in the 1970s.

It is not known exactly when the fitness trail was established in the park but given the style of equipment and its associated signs it is thought to date back to the 1980s/ early 1990s.

3.5.2 Buildings, Playground, Fitness Equipment, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field Condition





LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| existing park extent | 1 existing Art installation - John Radford - 'Tip' | 3 original park toilets | 7 playing field |
| existing tree cover | 2 existing Art Installation - pebble Mosaic - a) Mark Davidson b) John Botica | 4 existing unisex toilets | 8 proposed realignment of tennis courts |
| existing pathways | 2a | 5 caretaker's house (tenanted) | |
| | 2b | 6 proposed playground extent | |

3.5.3 Proposed Buildings, Playground, Fitness Equipment, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field

With the exception of the playground, tennis courts and playing field, the remainder of the park elements identified in the adjacent plan will be maintained as-is or improved e.g. interpretive signage will be considered to inform the public of historical buildings within the park.

For design guidance and recommendations for buildings, playground, fitness equipment, artwork, tennis courts and the playing field refer to the following pages, specifically section 3.5.6.

3.5.4 Playground, Fitness Equipment and Tennis Courts Upgrade

Playground concept design rationale:

The playground is a destination playground. It is scheduled for renewal in 2015/16 due to the age and deteriorated quality of the play equipment. The upgraded playground should take advantage of/and work with the sites topography through the creation of a series of terraced play spaces. It should also work with and respect its location amongst significant mature trees.

A tree house themed playground was a recurrent request from school children during the consultation workshops. This ties in well with its location amongst the trees and the sites topography. Play elements such as ropes, climbing nets, bridges and stepped timber obstacles could be used to connect a variety of play spaces. These would cater to a range of age groups and abilities, with lower levels dedicated to junior play and also disabled access. Upper areas would be targeted at older age groups.

Fitness equipment relocation rationale:

The fitness trail currently forms a loop around the park, beginning near the sports field and running anti-clockwise along the recreational loop route, finishing down by the children's playground. The current fitness stations are not well used and are in poor condition. They are also not in keeping with the park's heritage values or the zone objectives of the Draft Unitary Plan.

Investigate relocating any new fitness equipment at the northern end of the park in the vicinity of the sports field where they would grouped with the other recreational activities. A reduction in the number of fitness stations should also be investigated.

Tennis courts relocation rationale:

The current location of the tennis courts on the Beresford Street West alignment creates a barrier to pedestrian flow between the main body of the park and its northern tip at Howe Street. As a result the Howe Street end of the park feels disconnected and separated from the remainder of the park.

Realigning the tennis courts in a north/south direction would provide a continuous swathe of open space down the length of the park, proving a strong visual and physical link down its entire length and effectively reconnecting these disconnected sections.

WESTERN PARK FITNESS TRAIL

THE AIM OF THIS FITNESS TRAIL IS TO PROVIDE A COMMUNITY FACILITY WHICH ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO EXERCISE FOR ENJOYMENT & IMPROVE THEIR GENERAL STANDARD OF PERSONAL FITNESS

GUIDELINES FOR USE :

- 1 START SLOWLY & INCREASE EFFORT GRADUALLY
- 2 CHOOSE THE LEVEL YOU FEEL CAPABLE OF BEGINNER, INTERMEDIATE OR ADVANCED
- 3 DON'T OVER DO IT
- 4 IF YOU BECOME BREATHLESS - VERY TIRED OR GET CHEST PAINS - STOP EXERCISE & SEE YOUR DOCTOR. IF YOU HAVE HEART PROBLEMS ETC. SEE YOUR DOCTOR BEFORE ATTEMPTING THIS COURSE
- 5 USE THE TRAIL REGULARLY
- 6 COMPLETE ALL WARM-UP STATIONS AT THE BEGINNING & WARM DOWN AT THE END... I.E. REPEAT WARM-UP STATIONS

This Fitness Trail was Funded by Auckland Girls Grammar School and is maintained by Auckland City Parks Division. Designed by Auckland City & Auckland Girls Grammar School. CONSTRUCTED BY DAVID WILSON - 1980 & 1988.



3.5.5 Buildings, Playground, Fitness Equipment, Artwork, Courts and Playing Field Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Historic conservation

Maintenance of historic buildings and structures should follow the guidelines as set out in the ICOMOS New Zealand Charter 2010.

Artwork

Any future artwork or interpretive feature should be reflective of the place, its people and the associated heritage values.

Playing field drainage

During an upgrade of the sports field to a sand carpet base, consider the impacts of flooding in the park and the scope to improve this capacity.

Integration of playground and toilet building

Ensure a cohesive design response to the playground upgrade and possible adjacent stream rehabilitation project. Ensure that the ground levels tie in with the finished levels of the new toilets.

Temporary structures, artwork and events infrastructure

Avoid any negative impacts of temporary structures, artwork and vehicle access on trees and historic structures.

Design recommendations:

1. Upgrade the playground to improve use for a range of ages and abilities. The current playground is scheduled for renewal due to the age and deterioration of the equipment.
2. Integrate Māori cultural expression into the playground through design features and/or artwork.
3. Maintain the existing art in the park including the mosaics and John Radford's 'Tip' sculptures. Consider installing an additional mosaic or other interpretive feature. This could be done in conjunction with the playground upgrade and also the possible adjacent stream rehabilitation.
4. Maintain the remaining historic buildings in the park - the caretaker's cottage and the original toilets. Provide interpretive signage relating to the history of these buildings.
5. Upgrade the sports field to a sand carpet base to maximise its use. Provide flood lighting to extend the playable hours.
6. Realign the tennis courts to improve connectivity through the park to Howe Street.
7. New fitness equipment is to be relocated at the northern end of the park in conjunction with the park's other recreational activities, investigate reducing the number of fitness stations and locating them around the outside of the sports field.

Note:

Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.



3.6 Park Furniture



LEGEND:

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| park extent | MVS park seat | rubbish bin | MVS cycle stands |
| existing trees | MVS coast picnic set | dog litter bin | |
| existing pathways | drinking fountain | | |

3.6.1 Existing Park Furniture

The furniture in Western Park was upgraded approximately 10 years ago. The palette that has been established for the seats and picnic tables was designed and made by local artist and silversmith, Matthew Von Sturmer (MVS). This furniture is constructed from cast iron and timber and has an 'Arts and Craft' design influence that was popular at the time the park was developed. Through its koru style detailing, the seats also acknowledge Māori culture.

3.6.2 Park Furniture Condition





3.6.3 Park Furniture Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Furniture selection

New and replacement furniture should follow the existing palette of furniture already established in the park.

Furniture layout

Furniture is to be located in convenient and visible locations, such as by the playground and paths, to allow access for all users.

Furniture maintenance

Do not paint furniture with a natural timber finish. If graffiti occurs, remove by sanding.

Furniture co-location

Locate furniture so that there are no negative sensory experiences but in a way that is convenient for users. For example, locate bins away from seats and picnic tables.

Furniture uses

Locate furniture, particularly seats, to take advantage of views and vantage points from within the park. Provide options for privacy as well as gathering spaces for communal activities.

Design recommendations:

1. Incorporate new furniture into the playground upgrade, and the rehabilitation of the Tuna Mau, to increase amenity for park users.
2. Incorporate new cycle stands at the playground/sports field, tennis courts and Ponsonby Road edge to the park.
3. Consider location when furniture is scheduled for renewal.
4. Review furniture location at the same time as other asset renewals

Note:

Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.



3.7 Boundary Treatments



LEGEND:

- park extent
 - existing trees
 - existing pathways
- successful park boundary
 - park boundary requires some improvement
 - park boundary requires significant improvement

3.7.1 Existing Boundary Treatments

The park is predominantly surrounded by residential properties and Auckland Girls Grammar School. Due to its steep topography, Western Park has a very enclosed character that could potentially create issues for park users. It is important that the open nature of the boundary planting and fencing is retained and enhanced so that clear views can be gained into and throughout the park, from adjacent properties. Allowing views into the park from the surrounding residences and the school allows opportunities for passive surveillance which is important in increasing the actual and perceived safety of the park.

3.7.2 Boundary Treatment Condition





3.7.3 Boundary Treatment Design Guidance

Design guidance:

Height and permeability

Permeable fences are preferred in order to maintain views into the park. Where permeable fences are not possible, keep the height of fences below 1200mm. Permeable fencing could sit above the 1200mm height impermeable fence to gain extra height/privacy for residential dwellings.

Planted/soft boundary treatment

Low-growing planting should be used to soften boundary fences and to provide green edges to the park.

Consistency of materials

Materials selected should be consistent with the character and historic materials used in the early development of the park e.g. basalt stone walls.

Colour and finishes

Boundary treatments should be either timber or stone, or be painted to recede and blend with the landscape and park surroundings.

Plant species selection

Native species such as totara (hedge), corokia (hedge), Tecomanthe speciosa (vine), Phormium cookianum (flax) or Clematis paniculata (vine) are preferred over exotic species, unless important exotics are to be replaced. Consider use of deciduous trees along boundaries to allow winter light.

Design recommendations:

1. Advocate for best practice boundary treatment outcomes during private development on neighbouring properties.

Note:

Design guidance has been developed in conjunction with the design cues/opportunities and management responses identified in the August 1999 Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan and the Parks section of the Auckland Design Manual.



3.8 Summary of Design Recommendations

3.8 Summary of Design Recommendations

The Development Plan sets out the overall design principles and the Te Aranga Māori design principles that provide the basis for the design guidance of the park elements.

Sections 3.1 to 3.7 address the historical and existing condition of the parks elements, as well as development recommendations. A summary of these

recommendations is provided in the table on the following page. These recommendations have been prioritised into short, medium and long term timeframes (Refer to Appendix 1).

The plan will be delivered by the Waitemata Local Board and Auckland Council in collaboration with the community and mana whenua.

The plan below provides an indicative selection of the design recommendations. Please refer to table on following page for a comprehensive summary.



LEGEND:

- park extent
- private property and built form
- street/ road

pathway and circulation network SECTION 3.1

- new pathways (outlined)
- new/existing pathways to be upgraded as per proposed hierarchy of path surfaces

lighting SECTION 3.2

- 3-phase and single phase power supply
- T Internal light within toilet facility on timer

NOTE: for proposed lighting refer to table on following page

vegetation and biodiversity SECTION 3.3

- existing trees
- approximate extent of under planting (existing)
- approximate extent of under planting (proposed)
- approximate extent of stream rehabilitation/ wetland creation
- A Cooks Pine (scheduled tree District Plan)
- B Bhutan Cypress (scheduled D.P.)
- C Canary Island Pine (scheduled D.P.)
- open space areas
- existing vegetation for removal
- investigate wetland creation

signage and interpretation SECTION 3.4

NOTE: refer to table on following page

buildings, playground, fitness equipment, artwork, courts and playing field SECTION 3.5

- 1 Art installation - John Radford - 'Tip'
- 2 Art Installation - pebble Mosaic - a) Mark Davidson b) John Botica
- 3 original park toilets
- 4 existing unisex toilets
- 5 caretaker's house (tenanted)
- 6 playground
- 7 playing field
- 8 proposed realignment of tennis courts

park furniture SECTION 3.6

NOTE: refer to table on following page

boundary treatments SECTION 3.7

NOTE: refer to table on following page

CONSIDER THE WESTERN PARK DEVELOPMENT PLAN DESIGN PRINCIPLES (SECTION 1.2)

CONSIDER TE ARANGA Māori DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND ASPIRATIONS (SECTION 1.3)

CONSIDER DESIGN GUIDANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS (SECTIONS 3.1 TO 3.7)

SUMMARY OF DESIGN RECOMMENDATIONS

boundary treatments

- advocate for best practice boundary treatment outcomes during private development on neighbouring properties

park furniture

- incorporate new cycle stands at the playground/sports field, tennis courts and Ponsonby Road edge to the park
- incorporate new furniture into the upgrade of the playground and rehabilitation of the Tuna Mau

buildings, playground, fitness equipment artwork, courts and playing field

- upgrade the playground to improve use for a range of ages and abilities and integrate Māori cultural expression through design features and/or artwork as per section 3.4.3
- consider installing a possible interpretive feature in conjunction with the playground upgrade and adjacent stream rehabilitation
- upgrade the sports field to a sandcarpet base to maximise its use and provide flood lighting
- realign the tennis courts to improve connectivity through the park to Howe Street
- relocation of fitness equipment at the northern end of the park in conjunction with the other recreational facilities



pathway and circulation network

- implement new pathways and upgrade path materiality of existing path network as per section 3.1.5 if funding allows
- consider incorporating designs that celebrate cultural heritage into paths e.g. taniko patterns on proposed boardwalks

lighting

- provide lighting along the western ridgeline footpath to P2/P3 standard
- upgrade lighting in the flat open park frontage area along Ponsonby Road that adheres to P2/P3 standard
- provide temporary 3-phase power supply for events at both Ponsonby Road and Beresford Street West ends of the park.
- provide flood lighting for the sports field in conjunction with the upgrade of the field to a sand carpet base

vegetation and biodiversity

- commission a tree management plan to identify and aid management solutions for all trees within the park
- implement new planting (predominately native) as per section 3.3.5 and 3.3.6
- undertake significant weed removal and management
- implement selective tree pruning around and above pathways and to open up view shafts
- investigate options for rehabilitation and revegetation of the Tuna Mau (stream) that runs through the park, including potential removal of section of the stormwater pipe. Refer to section 3.3.5
- Work in partnership with iwi to express iwi values associated with Tuna Mau through the application of Te Aranga Māori Design Principles as per section 1.3

signage and interpretation

- undertake a wayfinding strategy to improve the navigation of people around and through the park
- acknowledge mana whenua values and relationships with the park through interpretive signage, artwork and/or expression as per section 3.4.3
- provide interpretation to important historic features in the park including heritage elements, the caretaker's cottage, the original toilets, historic trees and the original park design e.g. tree identification project.
- consider minimising poles/signage/structures by integrating regulatory information on a single sign/pole



Appendices

A1 Action Plan Priorities

A2 References

A1 Action Plan Priorities

Timeframes and priorities

The priorities fall within short, medium and long-term projects.

Item / Project / Opportunity / Initiative	TIMELINE			FUNDING SOURCE			Design Principles applied
	Short-term priority (1-3yrs)	Medium-term priority (4-6yrs)	Long-term priority (7-10yrs)	Budget: Capex renewal	Budget: Capex development	Budget: Opex	
1. Path upgrades	✓			✓	✓		2,4,5
2. Provision of lighting along western ridgeline footpath	✓			✓			2,4,5
3. Provision of 3-phase power supply at the Ponsonby Road frontage and Beresford Street West ends of the park		✓			✓		2,5
4. Upgrade lighting at the flat open park frontage along Ponsonby Road that adheres to P2/P3 standard			✓	✓			2,5
5. Provision of flood lighting for the sports field (in conjunction with the upgrade of the field to a sand carpet base)			✓		✓		2,5
6. Commission a tree management plan to aid management solutions for all the trees within the park		✓				✓	2,3,4
7. Undertake stream rehabilitation as per section 3.3.5		✓				✓	1,2,3
8. Implement selective tree pruning around pathways to open up view shafts	✓					✓	2,3,4
9. Undertake weed removal and management	✓					✓	1,2,3
10. Acknowledge mana whenua values and relationships with the park through interpretative signage and/or artwork	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		1,2,4
11. Undertake a wayfinding strategy to improve navigation through the park			✓			✓	2
12. Provide interpretation to important historic park features			✓		✓		2,4
13. Undertake playground upgrade	✓			✓	✓		1,5
14. Upgrade the sports field to a sandcarpet base			✓		✓		5
15. Upgrade and relocate fitness equipment at the northern end of the park in conjunction with other recreational activities	✓			✓			4,5
16. Realign the tennis courts to improve connectivity through the park to Howe Street.			✓	✓	✓		3,5
17. Incorporate new cycle stands at the Ponsonby Road edge of the park and near the playground/ tennis courts / sports fields.	✓				✓		3,5

Design Principles

1. Design in accordance with Te Aranga Māori Design Principles
2. Improve the safety, accessibility and perception of the park
3. Maintain and enhance the natural environment including the Tuna Mau
4. Conserve the historic park layout and features
5. Facilitate passive and active recreational opportunities through design

A2 References

Selected text references:

Adam, John, prepared for Auckland City Council. 1998 *The (City) Western Park, Ponsonby, Auckland – Draft Historical Report*.

Auckland Council. 2014 *Ponsonby Road Plan*.

Auckland Council. 2013 *The Auckland Plan*.

Auckland Council. 2011 *Waitematā Local Board Plan 2011-2014*.

Auckland Council Biodiversity Team. 2014 *Waterway Rehabilitation Options in the Waitematā Local Board*.

Auckland Council Stormwater Team. 2014 *Draft Freemans Park Flood Mitigation Options*.

Auckland Regional Council. 2008 *Stream Daylighting, Identifying Opportunities for Central Auckland: Concept Design*. Technical Report TR2008/027

Blair, Ngarimu, prepared for Auckland Council. 2013 *Te Rimu Tahī, Ponsonby Road Masterplan – Māori Heritage Report*.

Boffa Miskell Ltd., prepared for Auckland City Council. 1999 *Western Park Maintenance and Enhancement Plan*.

Clough and Associates Ltd., prepared for Auckland Council. 2014 *Western Park, Freeman's Bay, Auckland: Evaluation of Historic Heritage Values*.

Opus, prepared for Auckland Council. 2014 *Waitematā Local Board bundled Playground Concept Designs*.

Sheldon, K., Auckland Council. 2014 *Western Park Heritage Criteria*.

Sheldon, K., Auckland Council. 2014 *Western Park Heritage Management Cues*.

Singers, N.J.D., Rogers, G. M. 2014 *A classification of New Zealand's terrestrial ecosystems*. New Zealand Department of Conservation.

Auckland Council. 2014 <http://www.aucklanddesignmanual.co.nz/>

Selected image references:

NB: Images with no figure number indicate Auckland Council stock photos, or project related photos.

- Figure 1. The winning design by Hammond and Blackmore submitted in 1873 - Auckland Council Heritage Maps
- Figure 2. The design by Hammond and Blackmore presented to the public in 1874 - Auckland Council Heritage Maps
- Figure 3. 1913 - Mass meeting in Western Park, Auckland, Price Photo. Co. Auckland Weekly News
- Figure 4. 1932 - A picturesque park in Auckland's western suburbs, photographer unknown
- Figure 5. 1907 - Under the trees in Western Park, Stewart Auckland Weekly News
- Figure 6. 1924 - Looking north over Western Park, James D Richardson
- Figure 7. 1959 - Aerial photograph of the park, Whites Aviation
- Figure 8. 1870s - Looking west showing Western Park with plantings of young trees and Hepburn Street in right background, James D Richardson
- Figure 9. Ca. 1910 - Panorama of Western Park with caretakers cottage in foreground
- Figure 10. Playing field, toilet and playground in the lower park, Auckland Council stock photo
- Figure 11. Riparian planting in the location of the former Tuna Mau Stream, Auckland Council stock photo
- Figure 12. Main entrance from Ponsonby Road, Auckland Council stock photo
- Figure 13. Aerial of the park (2010), Auckland Council stock photo
- Figure 14. Looking north east from Western Park over Freemans Bay, James D Richardson, 1888
- Figure 15. Tree ferns planted in gully in 1903, William Archer Price, ca 1913
- Figure 16. The winning design by Hammond and Blackmore submitted in 1873 - Auckland Council Heritage Maps
- Figure 17. The design by Hammond and Blackmore presented to the public in 1874 - Auckland Council Heritage Maps
- Figure 18. Western Park Stream Location, Auckland Regional Council - Stream Daylighting Report, December TR2008/027

A3 Western Park Evaluation
of Historic Heritage

