



# Hutt City Council

## Percy Scenic Reserve

Percy Garden, Middle reserve (detention dam and pond)  
and Percy Gully Reserve (waterfall gully)

## and Jubilee Park

### Management Plan

July 2009



Prepared by: **PARKS AND**



# Foreword

The Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park Management Plan (plan) was prepared under the Reserves Act 1977, which requires local authorities to develop management plans for their reserves. The purpose of a management plan is to provide for use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection, preservation and appropriate development within the available reserve resources. This provides the community with certainty about the future development of reserves, and enables the Council to manage them effectively.

The plan establishes a vision for Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park and establishes objectives and policies to address the issues identified during development of the management plan. The objectives and policies recognise and develop the environmental qualities and values, facilities, recreational and educational opportunities of the reserves including commercial opportunities and events. Management plan appendices include an action plan which prioritises implementation of management plan policies. The plan can be implemented through a range of mechanisms and joint efforts amongst the community, the Council and commercial interests.



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of a Reserve Management Plan

The intention of this management plan is to provide a policy framework by which to manage and develop Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977. It provides common policies for reserves in this management plan, as well as policies for the individual reserves, including those not yet classified under the Reserves Act 1977.

## 1.2 Reserves covered by this Management Plan

Both reserves covered by this management plan are historically significant and Percy Scenic Reserve contains important native plant species, including a nationally important potted collection of alpine plants.

Percy Scenic Reserve has a lowland forest gully, a nursery, gardens and significant rare and endangered plant collections. The reserve is also the site of a major flood slipway. The Percy Scenic Reserve section of this management plan has policies which also cover the adjacent areas of the former Ratanui Estate <sup>1</sup>, Frank Cameron Park and other reserve areas in the Maungaraki catchment above Percy Scenic Reserve. While these areas are not formally part of the management plan they have been included within its policies in order to increase the sustainability and biodiversity of these lands together with Percy Scenic Reserve and to provide potential for improving and developing recreational links between and through these areas. For the location of these additional lands see Appendix 4: Other Lands Managed as reserve in the Percy Scenic Reserve Catchment.

Jubilee Park is an historic site with the remains of several homes set among bush areas, remnant gardens, and the remains of an historic fernery. The only remaining residence on the site is now known as the Hutt Minoh Friendship House and is used as a cultural exchange centre.

For the location of the reserves covered by this management plan, see the location map on the following page.

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<sup>1</sup> The former home of Sir James Hector, see section 9 for details.

Figure 1 – Location Map



### 1.3 Format of this Management Plan

This management plan has two sections. The first section covers legal and planning matters giving background to relevant legislation and links with other Council policy and general policies relating to both reserves. The second section provides aims, objectives and policies for the protection, management and development of each individual reserve.

The individual reserves section also identifies the legal status of the reserves, their location, reserve facilities and features and classification under the Reserves Act 1977. It establishes a vision for each reserve and identifies specific policy not already covered in or differing from the policy in the General Policy section.

Future development that could occur on the reserves is also covered and will help Council with planning for future expenditure. An example of development is improving the amenity, recreational or ecological values through planting, developing tracks and pathways.

Where an issue on a reserve is addressed by a policy in both the general policy section and the individual reserves policy section, the policy in the individual reserves policy section takes precedence.

## 2. Legislation

Management plans are required by the Reserves Act 1977 and lands managed under this Act must give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. Other legislation that is of relevance in the preparation of this document includes the Resource Management Act 1991, Building Act 1991, and Local Government Act 2002.

## 2.1 Reserves Act 1977

The purpose of the Reserves Act is to provide for reserve acquisition, control, management, maintenance, preservation (including the protection of the natural environment), development, and use. The Reserves Act provides the basis under which the Council must manage its reserves. Among the key requirements is the preparation of reserve management plans.

## 2.2 Classification

The management plan provides for and ensures that the objectives and policies in the plan are in line with classification of the reserves in accordance with the Reserves Act. The reserves at Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are classified under several different categories.

Most of the reserves in Jubilee Park are classified Scenic (section 19(1) (a) or (1) (b)) and one area (Minoh Friendship House) is classified Local Purpose (section 23). Fee Simple reserves in Jubilee Park will be classified Scenic B Reserve in line with the rest of the park. The land classified Scenic A Reserve in Jubilee Park will be reclassified as Scenic B Reserve in line with the land in the rest of the park (see section 10.8 for details). For further details on Jubilee Park classifications see page 55.

The lands in Percy Scenic Reserve have been classified and gazetted as Scenic Reserve under other Acts which are precursors to the Reserves Act. These reserves need to be classified Scenic B Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977, compatible with their primary purpose. For further details on Percy Scenic Reserve classifications see page 31.

The following section discusses the classification categories appropriate for Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park.

## 2.3 Scenic Classification

A Scenic classification has two sub-classifications depending on the primary purpose of the reserve. Reserves classified Scenic 'A' (Section 19(1) (a)) are managed primarily to provide:

*Suitable areas possessing such qualities of scenic interest, beauty or natural features or landscape that their protection or preservation is desirable in the public interest.*

Reserves classified Scenic 'B' (Section 19(1) (b)) are managed primarily to provide:

*Suitable areas which by development and the introduction of flora, whether indigenous or exotic, will become of such scenic interest or beauty that their development, protection and preservation are desirable in the public interest.*

The Department of Conservation must approve the management plan for reserves classified Scenic. The primary difference between lands classified Scenic A and those classified Scenic B is that Scenic A lands are pristine and have to be maintained free of exotic vegetation, while Scenic B lands are semi-natural areas where vegetation may be exotic or indigenous. There is no requirement to maintain the land free from exotic vegetation but objectives of this classification category are to do so as appropriate.

Scenic classification allows the public to benefit from and enjoy the reserves and at the same time preserve the natural environment and scenic beauty, indigenous plants and biological associations, which is the primary management objective of this classification category. Both Scenic A and Scenic B allow for development of amenities and facilities such as trails so that a number of activities may take place when anticipated in a management plan. These could include recreational activities, restoration planting and revegetation including management of animal and plant pest species and weeds, restoration of natural features and provision of structures such as signs.

## 2.4 Local Purpose Classification

Reserves classified Local Purpose under Section 23 are managed primarily for:

*The purpose of providing and retaining areas for such local purpose or purposes as are specified in any classification of the reserve.*

For each Local Purpose reserve a sub-classification is stipulated which specifies the primary purpose of the reserve. The Council determines the type of sub-classification. A Local Purpose classification is used where there is a special purpose not duplicated in any other reserve classification, or where a unique management regime applies. In the case of Jubilee Park, the area of Hutt Minoh Friendship House has been classified Local Purpose (Cultural Exchange Centre) to reflect the role of Minoh Friendship House in the sister city relationship between Hutt City and Minoh, Japan.

Local Purpose is a flexible classification. The Council as administering body has the authority to manage a Local Purpose reserve without seeking approval from the Minister of Conservation. The reserve is managed to protect its local purpose and management and development must be consistent with that local purpose.

## 2.5 Treaty of Waitangi

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 requires administrators managing lands under the Reserves Act 1977 to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in particular when formulating and implementing the Council's reserves management policy.

In the context of the park, these principles are:

- To act reasonably and in good faith;
- To make informed decisions;
- To consider whether active steps are needed to protect Maori interests;
- To avoid actions that would prevent the redress of claims;
- To recognise that Government must be able to govern.

Tangata whenua, iwi and hapu will be consulted and issues or concerns raised will be taken into account by the Council where activities are likely to disturb or impact on sites of cultural significance on the reserve land where major developments are proposed on the reserves.

The Council will recognise and provide for the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, Waahi Tapu and other taonga, in the management of the reserves.

### **3. Links with Other Legislation**

The Council is also required to take into account a number of other Acts in the management of the reserves:

#### **3.1 Local Government Act 2002**

The purpose of Local Government and the role of local authorities is:

*...to provide for democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand communities...[and] for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach.*

In particular the Act provides for the decision-making, consultation and community outcomes along with financial management processes. The Act places restrictions on the disposal of parks and reserves and the collection and use of development contributions for reserves.

Preparing this management plan is the starting point to the Council's commitment to development of the reserves in this management plan in consultation with the community.

#### **3.2 Resource Management Act 1991**

Management plans are a means by which the Council can meet its responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The Act requires the Council to protect and enhance significant natural and physical resources and control the effects of activities on the environment, and to prepare a district plan to provide for the sustainable management of the District's natural and physical resources including those in its parks and reserves.

The policies of this plan are also in accordance with the Conservation Act 1987. Other Acts relevant to the management of the reserves in this management plan are: Historic Places Act 1993, the Health Act 1956, Pesticides Act 1969, Litter Act 1979, Building Act 1991, Sale of Liquor Act 1989, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 and the Disabled Persons Community Welfare Act 1975.

### **4. Links with Other Council Plans and Strategies**

#### **4.1 The City of Lower Hutt District Plan June 2003**

Guides the activities that affect the use of the city's reserves as well as sustainable management and protection of the natural and physical resources on the reserves.

All properties in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park sit within the General Recreation Activity Area of the District Plan. The Ratanui site is spread over the General Recreation Activity Area and road.

#### **4.2 The Hutt City Council Long Term Council Community Plan 2007-2017**

Sets out the City's strategic direction for a 10 year period. It includes desired outcomes and forecasts funding requirements. Community Outcomes 3, 4, 5 and 7 generally support this reserve management plan.

#### **4.3 Reserves Strategic Directions October 2003**

The Hutt City Council Reserves Strategic Directions outlines the key directions and principles for managing and developing the Hutt City Council reserves network. It identifies reserve areas and their resources, including landscape settings, ecological, geological, cultural and heritage features, identifies community needs and trends and addresses management issues affecting the reserves network.

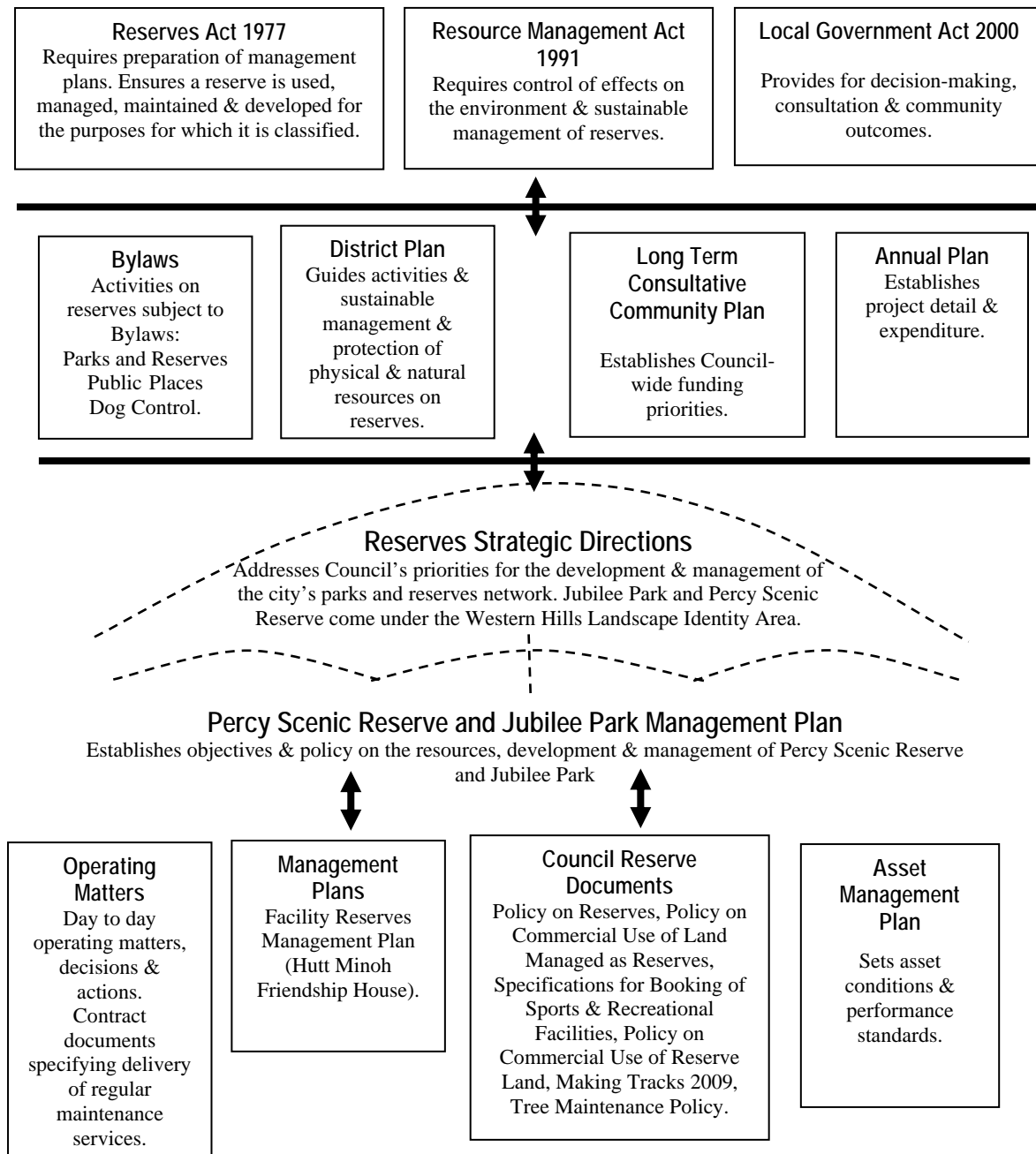
#### **4.4 The Hutt City Council Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2007**

The Hutt City Council Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2007 outlines conditions for the operation of parks and reserves. This includes requirements for the hours of operation, closing of reserves, imposing of conditions, offences and any other prohibited activities. The provisions for public places and dog control are also of relevance to this management plan and should be read alongside the provisions of this management plan.

## 5. Legal and Planning

This management plan has links to a range of statutory requirements and Council plans and strategies (refer Figure 2 below).

Figure 2 - Relationships with Statutory Requirements and Council Plans and Strategies



## 6. Management and Monitoring

This management plan will be fully reviewed at 10 yearly intervals. In addition, a continuous process of monitoring the management plan will be carried out, as required under section 41 (4) of the Reserves Act 1977 with Council making alterations and additions as changing circumstances or increased knowledge may require. Any comprehensive review of the management plan will be publicly notified in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

## 7. Aims

The aims of this management plan are to:

- Outline general objectives and policy for the management and development of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park;
- Outline the individual objectives and policy for the management and development of each reserve;
- Ensure a generally consistent approach is undertaken with regard to the management and development of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park;
- Ensure that all activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are undertaken in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, and other relevant provisions in related legislation;
- Ensure that any development on reserves is for the purpose of better utilisation and enhancement of reserves, and will benefit the City of Lower Hutt.

## 8. Objectives and Policies

It is fundamental to the management and development of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park that objectives and policies are clearly defined so that decisions on any activity proposed or carried out on these reserves are made in accordance with those provisions.

### 8.1 Statutory and Legal Requirements

#### Objective

- Ensure that all statutory and legal requirements pertaining to the management and use of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are met.

#### Policies

- i) Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be managed in accordance with their classification under the Reserves Act 1977.
- ii) All activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will comply with the Resource Management Act 1991 and any relevant requirements of a Regional Plan, or the City of Lower Hutt Operative District Plan 2003.

- iii) All activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be controlled and directed in accordance with Hutt City Council Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2007 and any other relevant Council policy document, for example Encroachment on Reserves Policy, and Making Tracks 2009.
- iv) Council employees or any agent undertaking contract work for the Council will act in accordance with the requirements of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and Hutt City Council's Health and Safety Policies.
- v) While Council will take all reasonable care in administering the reserves covered by this management plan, users will use the reserves entirely at their own risk in every respect. The Council will have no liability for any loss or damage suffered by users.
- vi) The rights of utility operators operating under the Electricity Act 2003 will be recognised including provisions from sections 23(1) (a) and 23(3) (b).

## 8.2 Iwi Mana Whenua

### Objective

- Ensure proposed development and activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are considered in accordance with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi, and the Resource Management Act 1991.

### Policies

- i) Te Rununganui O Taranaki and the Wellington Tenth Trust will be consulted where a significant development or activity is proposed on Percy Scenic Reserve and/or Jubilee Park.
- ii) Council will take account of concerns or issues raised by Te Rununganui O Taranaki and the Wellington Tenth Trust during the consultation process.

### 8.3 Conservation of Flora and Fauna

Given their urban locations, both Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park possess areas with high conservation values. Percy Scenic Reserve is recognised as a "Key Native Ecosystem" by the Biosecurity Department of the Wellington Regional Council.



#### Objective

- Conserve those qualities of the reserve which contribute to the ecological quality, pleasantness, and cohesion of the natural environment.

#### Policies

- i) The indigenous flora and fauna, natural environment and beauty, historic, archaeological, geological, biological or other scientific values of the lands will be protected and conserved where appropriate.
- ii) A balance between planted areas and open lawn areas will be maintained in keeping with the reserve characteristics (refer to the Features Plans in Appendix 3) .
- iii) The Council will recognise that it is desirable to encourage the growth of both native and exotic species in selected reserve areas for ecological, historical, cultural and landscape purposes.
- iv) The Council will recognise that it is generally desirable to encourage the growth and regeneration of eco-sourced indigenous vegetation in reserve areas where native species are already dominant.
- v) Established trees and native vegetation will be maintained on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park, except where it is considered necessary to cut or destroy them in accordance with section 42 of the Reserves Act 1977 or other Council Policy.
- vi) From time to time, existing vegetation will be cleared in order to maintain or establish gardens to host New Zealand native plant collections, to reduce shade, to maintain gardens of historical or cultural value and to allow gardens, specimen plants and lawn areas to thrive.
- vii) Council is committed to protecting any existing "Significant Natural, and (Historic) Archaeological Features" identified in its District Plan.

- viii) Any new amenity and shelter planting on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be encouraged in locations that are considered appropriate and will benefit the reserve without negatively affecting neighbours.

*Comment:*

*Natural incremental growth of existing amenity planting may also affect neighbours (refer section 8.6 for details of working with neighbours).*

## 8.4 Further Development on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park

### Objectives

- Ensure that provision of any new development (includes structures, paths, and plantings) on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park is undertaken in a complementary manner that achieves integrated use of the surrounding area
- Maintain a database of up to date information on reserve resources, features and facilities.

### Policies

- i) Where appropriate the development of facilities that will provide a benefit to the City of Lower Hutt will be considered. These facilities will be developed in accordance with the provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.
- ii) The Council will promote and encourage the efficient and multiple use of any buildings, structures and ancillary services.
- iii) Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be developed in accordance with site characteristics, the identified needs of the public, as a focus for the local and wider community, balancing site characteristics, historical, ecological and botanical values and recreational use.
- iv) Any vegetation, amenity and shelter planting, buildings, structures or earthworks on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be maintained appropriately to avoid any conflict of use and health and safety risks and to achieve compliance with the Electricity Act 2003.
- v) The Council will undertake a survey into public use of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park to identify type and numbers of visitors and use.

## 8.5 Recreation and Leisure

### Objective

- Ensure that adequate usable space is available for passive recreational activities to occur where appropriate
- Allow active recreation activities to be undertaken on areas of reserve, where appropriate.

### Policies

- i) Any development on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will take into consideration the area and characteristic of space available on the reserve for

active recreation activities where appropriate. In general, the quantity of lawn area offering year-round recreational opportunities should not decrease.

- ii) Opportunities will be taken to enhance the potential for passive recreational pursuits on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park (see 8.14 Fire Prevention Policy (ii)).

## 8.6 Effects on Adjacent or Neighbouring Properties

It is important to manage both Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park in harmony with neighbours. It is recognised that neighbours will change from time to time and their properties will also change and that the reserves will continue to develop and the vegetation on them will continue to grow.

Therefore working with neighbours to achieve a balance between the needs of the reserve and neighbouring properties is important. This will ensure that any activities occurring on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park which may adversely affect the amenity values of either neighbours or the reserves are minimised.

Possible adverse effects could include shading, weed infestation, track use and development, pest plant and pest animal control, noise, interfering with privacy in private properties, property damage, lack of parking and traffic congestion at reserve entry points.

### Objective

- Ensure the adverse effects of activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are adequately mitigated so that the amenity values of adjacent or neighbouring properties are not compromised.

### Policies

- i) Activities on the reserves covered by this management plan must comply with the relevant provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.
- ii) The nature and proximity of neighbouring properties will be considered when any activity or development on the reserves covered by this management plan is planned. Development includes paths, tree planting, or new structures.
- iii) Where activities undertaken on reserves are causing a nuisance to adjoining residential properties, the Divisional Manager, Parks and Gardens Division may recommend that consultation be undertaken between the relevant parties. This consultation should be aimed at resolving the issues with mitigation measures when appropriate.
- iv) Where required, boundaries between Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park and neighbouring properties will be surveyed, encroachments removed, and boundaries identified by planting or fencing erected in line with the Fencing Act 1978.

## 8.7 Parking on Reserves

### Objective

- Limit parking to areas specifically set aside for that purpose

### Policy

- v) Parking on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will comply with the provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.

## 8.8 Public Access

Ensuring public access to reserves in the management plan is an important consideration, as is active transport through the reserve. Active transport covers any form of transport that does not require using the private motorcar. Hutt City Council is a member of the Greater Wellington Regional Council's Active Transport Forum. This forum aims to provide opportunities for coordination and networking, supports collaborative projects, events and education/awareness, activities regarding active transport and informs members of upcoming opportunities to provide feedback on plans and policy documents with implications for cycling and walking.

Active transport links in Hutt City are encouraged by both the Council's walking and cycling strategies and are part of the Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2009-2014.

In order to protect the public safety, functioning, well being and associated values of the reserves covered by this management plan, it is necessary to limit access in some instances. It is also appropriate that parking on reserves is limited to areas specifically set aside for that purpose, to ensure that carparking does not detract from the natural qualities or potential of the reserves for recreational use.

### Objectives

- Ensure that the public has access to the reserves covered by this management plan and that this access is maintained and enhanced where appropriate
- Encourage active transport links in Hutt City.

### Policies

- i) Consideration will be given to the location of structures and vegetation to ensure that pedestrian access to Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park is not restricted unnecessarily and the profile of the reserves is enhanced.
- ii) Any conditions and restrictions on access will only be imposed where they are necessary for the protection of the land, vegetation, structures, public use, or in reducing the potential fire hazard risk.
- iii) Except for Council employees, agents appointed by Council, and emergency services, vehicular access onto Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park shall be prohibited unless authorised by the Asset Manager, Parks and Gardens Division (Section 53 & 54 of Reserves Act 1977). This policy does not apply to areas specifically set aside for parking purposes on the reserves.

- iv) Utility and network operators are allowed access onto Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park provided they have prior approval of the Asset Manager of the Parks and Gardens Division. This provision does not apply to utility providers operating under the Electricity Act 2003.
- v) Council recognises that the public occasionally and mistakenly enter on to private property adjoining Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park. Where trespassing occurs, the Parks and Gardens Division is willing to discuss practical solutions with concerned landowners.
- vi) Where appropriate, tracks in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be developed and maintained for use as active transport links, connecting the reserves with nearby bus routes and rail links.
- vii) Active transport links through the reserves will be encouraged by the development of a cycleway through Jubilee Park and improving access for commuters on tracks which connect between suburbs and the valley floor in both reserves. See individual reserves sections 9.9 and 10.5 for details.

## 8.9 Safety on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park

### Objective

- Ensure that Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are adequately maintained, providing a safe environment for people to enjoy, as far as is practicable.

### Policies

- i) Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be kept in a tidy state as appropriate, including regular maintenance such as lawn mowing, tree pruning and felling, weeding, spraying, and other recognised horticultural and arboricultural practices.
- ii) All facilities and structures on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be maintained to a safe standard in keeping with the Building Act 1991 and building code and any other relevant legislation.
- iii) All use of poisons, chemicals and traps will comply with instructions from the Medical Officer of Health, manufacturers, and be applied by competent and experienced people. In the case of chemical use for pest plant control, Grow Safe certification is required.
- iv) Any trimming or proposed trimming of vegetation on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park by utility operators will be undertaken in consultation with the Asset Manager, Parks and Gardens Division.

## 8.10 Tracks in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park

Well formed and maintained walking tracks are essential for visitors to experience and enjoy the reserves covered by this management plan and their natural values. Tracks also help to minimise human impacts on the bush by channelling visitors away from more sensitive areas and concentrating use in selected places. The public need to be encouraged to keep to the tracks to ensure the protection of understorey growth and prevent unnecessary erosion<sup>2</sup>.



### Objectives

- Provide and maintain good quality walking tracks within Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park
- Follow SNZ HB 8630:2004, New Zealand Handbook Track and Outdoor Visitor Structures
- Create a range of tracks to cater for various fitness levels and abilities.

### Policies

- i) Meet and reflect the Draft Walkways Review 2008 – Making Tracks, of the Leisure Services Division.
- ii) Tracks in Percy Scenic Reserve should fall within ‘path’ or ‘short walk’ categories.
- iii) Tracks in Jubilee Park should fall within ‘short walk’ or ‘walking track’ categories.

## 8.11 Refuse Disposal

Dumping of refuse or inappropriate use of existing refuse disposal facilities can significantly detract from the amenity values and proper functioning of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park. It is essential that the public and neighbouring property owners are strongly discouraged from disposing of refuse on the reserves. This especially includes dumping of garden rubbish because it is a very effective method of spreading pest weed species. Bins are provided in the amenity area of Percy Scenic only. There is one bin

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<sup>2</sup> See policies 9.9 ii) and iii).

located in the grounds of Jubilee Park, on Normandale Road near the skate ramp. Elsewhere on the reserves, a take home policy applies.

### Objective

- Ensure the proper functioning and amenity values of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park are not compromised by refuse being dumped on reserves, or refuse being dumped in any location other than in a facility provided for that purpose.

### Policies

- i) The Council encourages people to take their refuse from reserves and generally does not provide bins – the "pack it in, pack it out" concept applies.
- ii) No person shall deposit any domestic refuse, trade refuse, garden refuse, rubble or debris on Percy Scenic Reserve or Jubilee Park. Legal action will be taken if persons are caught committing this offence.
- iii) Where appropriate, Council or its agent may provide and regularly empty refuse disposal facilities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park.
- iv) The disposal and collection of refuse on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park shall comply with the Refuse Collection and Disposal Bylaw 2008.

## 8.12 Restricted Activities

### Objective

- Restrict activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park that may cause conflict with the existing characteristics and uses.

### Policies

- i) Those activities listed as prohibited in the Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2007 shall also be prohibited by this management plan.
- ii) In accordance with the Hutt City Council Dog Control Bylaw (2005), if a dog defecates on a reserve, the owner or person having control of the dog shall immediately remove the faeces.
- iii) Dogs are not permitted below the waterfall area at Percy Scenic Reserve. Dogs on a lead are permitted in others areas of the reserve and in Jubilee Park.
- iv) All new activities occurring on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will conform to the City of Lower Hutt District Plan and other relevant provisions of this management plan.
- v) No motorbikes or motorised recreational vehicles (4WD), horses or mountain bikes will be allowed on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park except with the permission of Council.
- vi) Private encroachment onto Council land will be dealt with under the provisions of the Hutt City Council "Encroachment Policy" and "Private Use of Hutt City Council Land ".

## 8.13 Leases and Licences

Leases and licences are contractual arrangements made between Council and community groups or private individuals, utilising land and facilities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park. The responsibilities of both Council and the lessee or licensee should be clearly stated in the lease or licence agreement. A clear statement of responsibilities ensures that the lessee or licensee knows exactly what Council considers to be acceptable use and behaviour on the land and facility. For further information refer to Hutt City Council Policy on Commercial Land Managed as Reserves, November 2004.

### Objectives

- Allow leasing and licensing of land and facilities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park to community groups or private individuals for profit or otherwise, provided the activity is consistent with the purpose for which the reserve is classified
- Control the use of land and facilities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park by including conditions on lease and licence agreements so that amenity values of surrounding areas are maintained or enhanced, and the land and facilities are not compromised; renew existing licences to do the same
- Comply with the relevant provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.

### Policies

- i) Council shall consider leasing and licence agreements, including commercial activities on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park, where the activity of the reserve is consistent with the purpose of the reserve<sup>3</sup>.
- ii) Lease and licence agreements (including renewals) will be negotiated in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977.
- iii) Lease and licence agreements shall be based on the standard Council forms, but from time to time may include other terms and conditions as determined by Council.
- iv) All facilities subject to lease and licence agreements will be maintained in accordance with the conditions specified in the lease or licence.
- v) All lessees or licensees are required to act in accordance with this management plan, the relevant provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan, The Hutt City Council Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2007, and the relevant lease and licence agreement.
- vi) The lessee or licensee will not permit activities at the facility to cause a nuisance or inconvenience to neighbours and other users of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park.
- vii) The sale of food and beverages, plant material and souvenirs at Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park is acceptable with prior written approval from the Asset Manager, Parks and Gardens Division.

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<sup>3</sup> Hutt City Council Policy on Commercial Land Managed as Reserves, November 2004 p.13

## 8.14 Fire Prevention

### Objective

- Ensure reasonable measures are taken to minimise fire risk.

### Policies

- i) The Council will ensure that there is no significant increased threat to public safety from fire.
- ii) No fire shall be lit on Percy Scenic Reserve or Jubilee Park, but the use of gas cookers and gas barbecues may be permitted.
- iii) Risks of leaving combustible materials and litter in the reserve or on properties backing on to the reserve will be highlighted.

## 8.15 Animal Pest Control

### Objective

- Prevent, control and manage animal pests that pose a threat to biodiversity values in the reserves.

### Policies

- i) Animal pest control programmes currently in place shall be maintained and periodically reviewed to ensure effective management of animal pest numbers.
- ii) Firearms, traps and approved poisons (excluding 1080 and cyanide paste products) shall be permitted for animal pest control in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park, only under written authorisation from the Asset Manager.
- iii) Notification will be undertaken before a reserve is closed for animal pest eradication operations.
- iv) Exotic bird and insect species may be managed in order to create opportunity for native fauna, water quality and thriving vegetation and gardens.

## 8.16 Pest Plant Control

Under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and Regional Pest Management Strategies adopted under that legislation, Council has legal obligations to control and if possible eradicate all plant species categorised as "total control" by Wellington Regional Council within the City of Lower Hutt boundaries. Greater Wellington Regional Council has identified four levels of pest plants:

Eradication pest plants

Containment pest plants

Suppression pest plants

Site led pest plants

(For a definition of these terms, refer to the Glossary on pg.67).

Plants which are not identified as pest plants under these categories which the council still wishes to control or eradicate are identified as weeds.

### Objective

- Ensure the eradication of pest plant species in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park
- Establish a register of pest plants for Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park.
- Establish a pest plant strategy for Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park identifying methods of control and priorities for eradication.

### Policies

- i) The pest plant control programme currently in place will be maintained and periodically reviewed to ensure effective management of pest plant species.
- ii) The pest control programmes will primarily target *Clematis vitalba* (Old Man's Beard), canopy weed species, pest trees that spread easily e.g. by seed, and those species categorised as “eradication pest plants”.
- iii) A pest plant survey with maps will be carried out for Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park identifying invasive pest plants and their location.
- iv) A pest plant strategy for Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park will be established identifying problem areas, methods for control and priorities for eradication using the GWRC rating system for pest plants as described above.
- v) Invasive species will be removed and followed up with appropriate planting where required.

## 8.17 Educational Role of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park

Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park play an important educational role, for example by providing the opportunity to experience native flora and fauna and natural systems in the outdoor environment.

### Objective

- Ensure that the Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park maintain and develop interpretive and educational material and enhance the public interaction with natural systems.

### Policies

- i) The use of Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park as an educational facility for schools, tertiary institutions, academics and the general public will be encouraged.
- ii) Interpretive material at Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park providing information to the public will be maintained and developed.

- iii) The Council will continue to maintain a close working relationship with user groups, the reserves' maintenance contractor/s, volunteer groups, Department of Conservation, and Wellington Regional Council.
- iv) The Council will seek opportunities for tourism ventures and associated facilities appropriate to the reserves.

#### 8.18 Volunteer Effort in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park

##### Objective

- Ensure that volunteer effort in Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park is effectively managed and achieves worthwhile, long-term results that meet the strategic requirements of volunteers and Council.

##### Policies

- i) Existing volunteer groups such as Forest and Bird, Global Volunteer Network, Korokoro Environmental Group and the Wellington Botanical Society and the will be guided and supported in their work on Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park.
- ii) New individual volunteers and volunteer groups will be properly supported in their work on land managed as Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park.
- iii) A health and safety plan will be developed for volunteers, and the Council will work closely with them on identifying site hazards and avoiding injury.

## 9. Percy Scenic Reserve

Percy Scenic Reserve has qualities that make it unique in the context of the Hutt City reserve network. It has links with the early settlement of Hutt Valley. It has plant collections that have the potential to become nationally significant. It is part of the scientific history of New Zealand through its association with Sir James Hector who owned neighbouring land, known as Ratanui Estate. It is also part of the evolution of the New Zealand conservation movement through the reserve's involvement in the preservation of New Zealand flora.

The reserve contrasts with other early scenic reserves in that it offers a mix of recreation, indigenous bush and native and exotic amenity horticulture on a relatively small scale. The reserve has long appealed to Hutt City residents and visitors, and alterations to its layout and displays over time reflect the social changes since the reserve was first gazetted.



### Description

Percy Scenic Reserve forms the base of a kohekohe forest gully which is part of a bird corridor from Eastbourne to Belmont Regional Park. The gully begins in Holdaway Scenic Reserve in Maungaraki, and runs through a gully between the suburbs of Korokoro and Maungaraki, down into Percy Scenic Reserve.

The Percy brothers, the original owners of the site and after whom the reserve is named, recognised the importance of conserving New Zealand flora at a time when few others did, no doubt encouraged by their neighbour Sir James Hector.

The reserve is an attractive area of native lowland forest with garden areas, lawns, a mill pond (also known as the duck pond) and a nursery area at the base of the gully next to State Highway 2. Percy's Stream runs down the gully, forms the mill pond and is part of the stormwater infrastructure in the reserve with a dam, detention pond, intake and spillway.

The gardens include an important collection of rare and endangered plants of the Wellington region and of specific areas in New Zealand such as Mt Burnett, Northland, off-shore islands and the Chatham Islands. The Percy brothers planted a range of native and exotic species, including oak trees and Australian waratahs and eucalyptus<sup>4</sup>. Remains of the site's earlier use by the Percy family can be seen today with the old flour mill race, a

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<sup>4</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft)* May 2006. p.30.

well on the Ratanui site and a replica mill waterwheel. A glow worm and weta 'cave' is a popular feature with visiting children.

The reserve has a nursery with rare and endangered native species, an alpine rockery and various potted collections including the important alpine collection of the New Zealand botanist A.P. Druce. These collections are a valuable asset in the recovery of threatened plant species and play an important role in education and research into New Zealand native plants.

The widening of State Highway 2 (SH2) alongside Percy Scenic Reserve in 2008 has meant relocation of the carpark and creation of a new reserve entrance from Dowse Drive. It has also created opportunities for development of the nursery and its facilities. Crown land owned by Transit New Zealand is no longer needed for road widening and the Department of Conservation (DoC) is investigating incorporating this land into Percy Scenic Reserve.



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## History

### Early years

Percy Scenic Reserve began life as the private garden of the Percy brothers, whose grandfather built a flour mill on the site, where the ornamental waterwheel is now situated, in 1869. The land where the mill was located was valuable to the family of Te Puni who was a Te Ati Awa leader and government advisor.<sup>6</sup> Records show his son-in-law Matene Tauwhare received a rental income from the mill <sup>7</sup>.

The brothers developed gardens surrounding the mill which became well known in the Petone area. The garden was a mix of native and exotic species, but was unusual for the time in that they used predominantly native species. Their garden was described as a "veritable native plant museum" with cabbage trees and flax on the flat part of the property and beech, puriri and kahikatea on the hillside <sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>5</sup> Picture Source: Alexander Turnbull Library. Left: Ratanui 1879, Right: View from Ratanui towards Petone, 1884-1889.

<sup>6</sup> Ballara, Angela. 'Te Puni-kokopu, Honiana ? - 1870'. Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, updated 7 April 2006 URL: <http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/>

<sup>7</sup> Kate Malcolm with Ruth Mansell and others. *Calling Korokoro Home: A History of the Hill 1800-2003* p.10

<sup>8</sup> Kate Malcolm & Gerald Davidson "Hidden Treasure: The Private Life of Percys" Hutt News 23rd August 2005.

It is understood that British royalty visited the gardens, most likely a private visit by the Duke and Duchess of York in 1927<sup>9</sup>.

## Ownership

In 1939, the government inherited a half share of the Percy garden, with the provision that it be kept as a scenic reserve. The other half of the reserve was also purchased with part of this land intended for the then proposed Western Hutt Road. This area was entrusted to the Petone Borough Council in 1941 and was opened to the public in 1949.

In 1952 the Commissioner of Crown Lands offered the upper reserve (known as Percy Gully Reserve<sup>10</sup>) to the Petone Borough Council to be added to the former Percy garden reserve area<sup>11</sup>. This section of the reserve was purchased by the Crown in 1906 and is one of the oldest Scenic Reserves in New Zealand. The gully reserve has since been left to regenerate and today this upper reserve vegetation includes kohekohe, mahoe and tawa forest with an understorey of kawakawa, hangehange and rangiora<sup>12</sup>.

The middle block of land was purchased by the Lower Hutt Council in 1952. Part of this block was an exchange of land for the disposal of rubbish and subdivision development, while the remainder was vested back in the borough in 1963 to be managed as part of Percy Scenic Reserve. This land adjoined the Percy land holding, increasing the size of the reserve to include a "significant lowland forest component, waterfall, stream, walking tracks and developed parkland"<sup>13</sup>. The three reserves (the former Percy garden, the gully reserve and the middle reserve) were gazetted together as Percy Scenic Reserve in 1963. The final area added to the reserve was two small lots situated behind houses on the eastern side of Stanhope Grove - Lots 2 and DP 42216. These areas were declared reserve as part of Percy Scenic Reserve in 1998 by gazette when Hutt City Council was appointed to control and manage this area by the Department of Conservation.

## Percy Scenic Reserve and native plant collections

An integral part of the history of Percy Scenic Reserve has been the role of the reserve in the establishment of native plant collections, plant preservation and botanical education. The New Zealand Native Plant Preservation Society was involved in the early years of the reserve and some of its members, together with Andrew Beddie, a respected botanist and friend of the Percy family, made up the Percy Scenic Reserve advisory committee. This committee was responsible for determining the initial planting scheme for the reserve and also helped to organise volunteers and schedule work. One of the first decisions made by the advisory committee was to restrict planting in the lowland forest areas to native species and to restrict planting in the natural fernery<sup>14</sup> near the pond to native ferns.

A master plan for the reserve was developed in 1942, which divided the site into 13 sectors and suggested thematic plantings within these areas. The master plan emphasised the removal of exotic vegetation and replacement with native species. The scheme used native flora propagated on site in the new nursery established by the New Zealand Native Plant

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<sup>9</sup> Esther Tyler "Percy Scenic Reserve" within the Butterworth papers, Petone Public Library, 1979 & Gerald Davidson.

<sup>10</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft)* May 2006. Also known locally as the 'waterfall gully'.

<sup>11</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft)* May 2006. p.45.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid. p.56.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid p.1

<sup>14</sup> Ibid. p.38.

Preservation Society <sup>15</sup>. By 1951 planting had become established enough to allow for the New Zealand Native Plant Preservation Society to identify and label many plants <sup>16</sup>.

### From native to exotic and back again

Input from the New Zealand Native Plant Preservation Society ceased in the early 1950s, and from this point through to the 1970s the reserve planting became more ornamental, and included rose gardens and display gardens with a variety of exotic planting <sup>17</sup>.

In 1982, Chris Close was employed as Head Gardener and guided development of the reserve until early 2001. Management of the reserve was supported by the Parks Superintendent Paul Coles and the Parks Committee of the Petone Borough Council. They were forward thinking, supported significant change and development of the reserve, secured funding and approved changing direction and functions at the reserve.

During his time at the reserve Chris oversaw the renovation of the glass and shade houses, the propagation area and the establishment of a nursery to supply plants to enhance public landscapes. This involved traditional bedding plants as well as trees and shrubs suited to Petone's exposed coastal environment. Petone at this time was at the forefront of an emerging trend in the use of native plants for landscape planting and by the mid 1980s was already eco-sourcing local native species for this work. Bark mulches were introduced and traditional soil growing media were replaced with bark media. This was revolutionary at the time with only a handful of nurseries using bark mixes, and bark mulching of gardens was seldom seen. Both of these are now industry standards.

During the 1980s the landscape style moved from one influenced by an English Victorian bedding style to one with a New Zealand character. The reliance on showy floral displays decreased as the use of native species, combined with a range of shade tolerant exotic herbaceous and woodland species, increased. This new combination of species fitted with the bush surrounding the site. Planting to screen the retention dam was also carried out. Some tracks around the site were renovated, while others were phased out.

Tony Silbery, who began working at the reserve in 1981, established a steep link track between the reserve and Frank Cameron Park. Signs were installed to guide visitors around the reserve and to interpret plantings. By 1990 most of the pest species that had established in the reserve had been eradicated or contained to a manageable level.

### Development of the plant collections

The involvement of A.P. (Tony) Druce further established the role of native plant collections in the reserve. Tony Druce was a field botanist, whose life's work focussed on increasing the body of knowledge on New Zealand plants. Through his many expeditions, covering 355 locations around the country, he gradually built up checklists of New Zealand vascular plants. Some plants collected on these expeditions were for use as dried herbarium specimens, while others he took home and grew to observe and study further.

Tony Druce established a friendship with Tony Silbery and the nursery facilities at the reserve expanded to include the propagation and growing of plants collected by Tony Druce. Tony Silbery also contributed to building up the collections for conservation and

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<sup>15</sup> Ibid. p.42.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid. p.43.

<sup>17</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft)* May 2006. p.30.

education purposes by developing working relationships with botanists in many parts of the country and raising plants from seeds and cuttings they had collected.

The material collected by Tony Druce and Tony Silbery, along with other material collected by reserve staff was propagated for use within the reserve or for wider use in Petone gardens. Collecting centred on the development of native plant collections that the average urban resident seldom came in contact with and meeting the growing awareness of the importance of conserving our threatened plant species. This established a base for the threatened species and the alpine and off shore island collections.

Tony Druce gifted his native plant collection to the reserve and in 1994 the transfer of around 500 plants from his collection began. By 1995 collections at the reserve included over 1000 species and varieties.

The amalgamation of Petone with other borough councils in 1989 provided the newly formed Hutt City Council with other areas where exotic herbaceous and woodland style plantings could be established and thus enabled a greater focus on the native collections at Percy Scenic Reserve. This resulted in the extension of the rock garden under Athol Sanson's supervision. Surplus production space not open to the public and a shade house was offered to Weltec, who established a horticultural training facility. This was well used until 2007.

### **Recent history**

Robyn Smith became Head Gardener in 1996. Along with her knowledge of plants, her special interest was training, especially as it related to propagation. Robyn strengthened the relationship between Percy Scenic Reserve and the Wellington Botanical Society and developed some key relationships with the Department of Conservation, hosting field days for participants in the DoC threatened species programme. This led to the propagation of many more threatened species, which in turn were incorporated into Hutt City Council gardens.

Jill Broome joined the team at the reserve in 2003 and shortly after replaced Robyn. One of Jill's achievements has been moving material from the threatened plant collections into public areas of the reserve. The perennial border is now dominated by native species and there is limited use of exotic species at the reserve, except for historic exotic specimens which are maintained. Jill has continued close links with the Wellington Botanical Society and their support for her work is on going.

In 2007, physical works to develop the Dowse interchange and realign State Highway 2 began. The works were completed in 2009 and resulted in changes to the frontage of the reserve. Plants from the fernery of Parataniwha House were moved to a site near the water wheel. The reserve entrance is now off Dowse Drive and a bus turning circle and car park now occupies the site of the former curator's house, which was moved to the north.

## Links with Council Plans and Strategies

Percy Scenic Reserve is identified as a Significant Natural Resource (43) in the Hutt City Council District Plan due to the presence of lowland tawa/kohekohe forest and the nationally significant plant collections which include “many plants not seen elsewhere in cultivation”<sup>18</sup>.

Percy Scenic Reserve falls into the General Recreation Activity Area of the Hutt City Council District Plan. A key objective of policies in this Activity Area is to ensure that development, (including structures), maintains and enhances amenity values including visual amenity of recreation and open space areas and has no adverse effects on other activities. In this activity area ‘recreation activities and ancillary activities’ are permitted, with detailed controls relating to matters such as building size, lighting and hours of operation. Any activity that is not permitted or a permitted activity that does not fully comply with relevant conditions is fully discretionary.

The District Plan defines ‘recreation activity’ as:

*Any activity whose primary aim is the passive or active enjoyment of leisure, whether competitive or non-competitive, casual or organised; and recreation has a corresponding meaning.*

The Hutt City Council Reserves Strategic Directions identifies Percy Scenic Reserve as part of the Western Hills Landscape Identity Area. Key features of the Western Hills Landscape Identity Area are:

*The regenerating gullies [which] should be managed and extended to ultimately form ecological corridors and a network of tracks leading from the Hutt Valley floor to the suburbs and Belmont Regional Park hilltops.*

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<sup>18</sup> Hutt City Council District Plan p 14E/11

## Land Information

Land known as	Legal Description	Area	C/T	Gazette	Owned/managed	Land Taken For and Classified As	Proposed Classification/ Actions
<b>Percy Scenic Reserve</b>							
	Lot 4 DP 42216	10517 m <sup>2</sup>	A3/960	1975 p.880	Crown land, Hutt City Council appointed to control and manage 1998 p.4127	Scenic Reserve under the Reserves and Domains Act 1953	Declare and Classify Scenic B Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977
	Lot 2 DP 42216	5183 m <sup>2</sup>	A3/960	1975 p.880	Crown land, Hutt City Council appointed to control and manage 1998 p.4127	Scenic Reserve under the Reserves and Domains Act 1953	Declare and Classify Scenic B Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977
Former Percy garden	Pt Sec 4 Hutt District SO 11031	47440 m <sup>2</sup>	451/25	1941 p.637, 638	Crown land, Hutt City Council appointed to control and manage 1963 p.1605	Scenic Reserve under the Scenery Preservation Act 1908	Declare and Classify Scenic B Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977
'middle' reserve area	Pt Lot 1 DP 14082	30955 m <sup>2</sup>	550/179	1962 p.1463	Hutt City Council, Council appointed to control and manage 1963. p.1605	Exchanged for Scenic Purposes under Reserves and Domains Act 1953	Declare and Classify Scenic B Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977
Percy Gully reserve/ waterfall gully	Sec 121 Maungaraki Village SO 14751	49133 m <sup>2</sup>	Gazette only (derived from Crown)	1907 p.998	Crown land, Hutt City Council appointed to control and manage 1963 p.1605	Reserved for Scenic Purposes under the Land Act 1892	Declare and Classify Scenic B Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977

## Vision

*To develop, promote and interpret Percy Scenic Reserve for public use and enjoyment as:*

- *a garden within a bush setting with a strong sense of place*
- *a nationally significant centre for research and conservation of threatened native species in collaboration with interested parties.*

### 9.1 Conservation and Plant Collections

Percy Scenic Reserve has several important plant collections. Potted collections include the A.P Druce Alpine collection, fern collection, myosotis collection and a collection of endangered regional and New Zealand-wide native plants. It also has ex-situ collections from areas such as Northland, Northwest Nelson, Mt Burnett, the Chatham Islands and other New Zealand off-shore islands, a dracophyllum garden planted by Jill Broome <sup>19</sup>, and an endangered species garden.



#### Role of the collections in conservation

Rare and endangered plant species have long been a part of the reserve's planting, with members of the New Zealand Native Plant Preservation Society propagating and planting species which they believed to be "rare or depleted and possessing horticultural merit" <sup>20</sup>.

Today, the plant collections play an important role in the recovery of threatened species by:

- Maintaining a population of plants as 'insurance' against extinction in the wild.
- Providing a source of plants from which new plants can be propagated for replanting in the wild and in street plantings.
- Growing on unnamed taxa collected in the wild so that all necessary parts of the plants are available for formal identification and description.

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<sup>19</sup> This is located at the rear of the duck pond, the historic dracophyllum garden was planted by the old summer house (Stanhope track picnic table).

<sup>20</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft) May 2006.* p.42.

- Providing a source of plant material for researchers and botanists.
- Educating botanists, horticulturalists and the public about indigenous plants and how to propagate and care for them.
- Increase public awareness of threatened plant species.
- Learning about propagation and care of indigenous plants, recording that knowledge on a database, and making this information available to the public.

## Funding

Securing and maintaining funding for the maintenance, development and promotion of the plant collections held by the reserve is critical. Hutt City Council is currently the primary funding source for these collections. Raising public awareness of and promoting native plant communities to increase biodiversity is important, therefore funding from other sources should be sought.

## Interest in the collections

Apart from scientific interest in the collections, there is currently a demand from school groups, horticultural students, organised groups and the general public for interpretive information and guiding within the reserve. There is also potential for tourists for guided visits. This has created demands which current staffing levels are unable to meet and requires staff with a high level of botanical and ecological knowledge and communication skills.

## Objectives

- Develop a clear vision and guidelines for the future direction and management of the plant collections
- Ensure collections are able to be maintained by providing propagation facilities and employing staff with good horticultural knowledge and expertise in New Zealand native plant species
- Establish a database for the plant collections, recording details of the collections including their taxa and provenance
- Continue to propagate threatened plant species for use in ex-situ insurance populations
- Establish monitoring of the ex-situ plant collections to determine the survival of plant species and the potential for use in conservation and further ex-situ collections
- Develop guidelines for replacing damaged or diseased plants, which are not suited to the climatic conditions in the reserve
- Propagate rare or endangered plants and examples of the special collections to feature in interpretive displays
- Develop strong working relationship with DoC to improve the management and development of the plant collections
- Develop the nursery as an interpretive and educative centre.

## Policies

- i)** A clear vision and guidelines for the plant collections will be developed by the Council in consultation with DOC and other interested parties.

*Comment:*

*This will emphasise the rare and endangered species from the Wellington Conservancy in the first instance, followed by endangered alpine species and coastal and off-shore island species from the lower North Island.*

- ii)** The gift of the alpine collection by A.P (Tony) and Helen Druce in the late 1990s will be formally recognised by calling the collection the “Druce Alpine Collection”.

*Comment:*

*It is understood that the whole of the rockery was informally named the Tony Druce Memorial Garden in the late 1990s and it would be appropriate to formalise this when the display of the potted collection and the rockery layout is completed.*

- iii)** From time to time, Council will make a modest contribution to maintenance of the remainder of the collection at the home of Helen Druce.

*Comment:*

*This contribution may be in the form of labour.*

- iv)** Guidelines will be developed for the future direction and management of the plant collections.

- v)** Plant collections will be maintained by providing on-site propagation facilities and employing staff with good horticultural knowledge and expertise in New Zealand native plant species.

- vi)** Plant collections will be recorded digitally to facilitate basic inventory control, enable full documentation and curation of the collection and to map plants. Non-plant material (such as irrigation), both above and below ground will also be digitally recorded. Sources for funding for the digital database will be established (refer 9.12 policy v).

*Comment:*

*It is envisaged this will be done using BG-Base (Botanical Gardens Base) or some other BG Mapping System with a GIS interface.*

*In addition the digital database will be used to establish the taxonomic groupings/number of taxa present at Percy Scenic Reserve.*

- vii)** The Council will investigate opportunities to share the BG-Base system (or other mapping system) with other agencies.

- viii)** Ecological monitoring will be carried out to assess changes in ex-situ collections over time and to evaluate plant survival rates.

*Comment:*

*A suggested approach to ecological monitoring is to use 20x20 metre vegetation plots for baseline data, and monitoring changes in this area over time.*

- ix)** Rare or endangered plants which feature in interpretive displays will have “insurance” plants grown in other unmarked areas of the reserve.

*Explanation:*

*There is a risk that rare or endangered plants which feature in interpretive displays may be damaged or stolen. For this reason it is important to have the same species growing in other unmarked areas to address loss through theft and for use as “insurance” plants should this occur.*

- x)** Threatened plant species will be propagated for use in ex-situ insurance populations, such as on traffic islands and in other public gardens in Hutt City. Should resources allow, such species will be made available for the public to buy for their own gardens.
- xi)** Council will continue the propagation of threatened plant species for DOC for reintroduction back into the wild.

*Comment:*

*Species propagated in the past 7 years include: Sebaea ovata, pimelea actae, Brachyglottis turneri, Muehlenbeckia ephedroides, Lepidium solandri, Celmisia ‘Mangaweka’, Gentianella scopulorum, Austrofestuca littoralis, Ranunculus recens, Rumex neglectus and Gahnia rigida.*

- xii)** A propagation programme using original source material will be initiated to ensure replacement of tree stock, and retention of exotic heritage tree stock.
- xiii)** Formal identification of species and cultivars of all significant vegetation will be undertaken by Forest Research Institute or Te Papa herbarium and samples will be gathered and lodged with the Te Papa herbarium.
- xiv)** Non-indigenous vegetation growing in native plant collection areas which has reached the end of its life, or is damaged or diseased will be removed and the species not replaced.
- xv)** Damaged or diseased indigenous plants, which are not suited to the climatic conditions in the reserve, will be replaced with suitable endemic native species.
- xvi)** Beech seedlings in the beech forest area will be managed with healthy specimens grown as replacement trees and excess plants removed to create room for seedling growth and additional plant collections.
- xvii)** Examples of threatened plants, and planting within the special collections of Percy Scenic Reserve will be grown to feature in interpretive displays.
- xviii)** The potential for partnerships to support the vision of Percy Scenic Reserve as a nationally significant centre for research and conservation of threatened indigenous species will be explored with DoC, Wellington City Council, Otari Wilton’s Bush, Te Papa, Victoria University, Landcare Research and other organisations.
- xix)** The nursery will be developed, the potted collections interpreted to the public and the ‘behind the scenes’ nursery activities brought into the public eye.

*Comment:*

*Options to bring the 'behind the scenes' nursery activities into the public eye will be explored by the Percy Scenic Reserve Advisory Group in conjunction with interested parties including nursery staff.*

*Redevelopment of the nursery, including its site, will be investigated within three years, i.e: by 2012. Possible sites include Frank Cameron Park and Stanhope Grove carpark.*

- xx) Protection and security of displays in the rockery will be investigated as part of the design development of the reserve.
- xxi) As part of the nursery development, Council will consider the installation of a security system.

## 9.2 Staff Development

### Policies

- i) Staff will be provided with relevant professional development opportunities to extend their knowledge and develop new skills.
- ii) As part of the nursery development project, the Council will investigate upgrading staff facilities, including the provision of computer access for the use of BG-Base software.
- iii) The Council will develop staff succession plans to ensure that staff knowledge is not lost with any changes in staff and to manage staff changeover.

## 9.3 Amenity Areas

Amenity areas in Percy Scenic Reserve are the main lawn area, woodland garden area, mill pond, dam, spillway and detention pond. The layout of much of the amenity area reflects a 1940s approach to park design, thus has historic significance. When input from the New Zealand Native Plant Preservation Society ceased in the early 1950s, the reserve planting became more ornamental and included rose gardens and display gardens of exotic plantings from the 1950s to the 1970s<sup>21</sup>. Since the 1970s and the rise of the contemporary New Zealand conservation movement, displays of native plants have taken precedence over displays of exotic plants.

The recent widening of State Highway 2 (SH2) has significantly impacted on the frontage of Percy Scenic Reserve. There is now opportunity to redevelop the current entrance to incorporate the nursery and increase the size of the amenity areas. However, the noise from passing traffic on SH2 is now impacting on people's enjoyment of the reserve, particularly on the nursery area and the lawn area near the ornamental waterwheel.

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<sup>21</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft)* May 2006. p.30.

## Objectives

- Continue safe, benign or valuable exotic plantings where appropriate within defined amenity areas <sup>22</sup>
- Address the negative effects of SH2 widening on Percy Scenic Reserve.

## Policies

- i) Safe, benign or valuable exotic planting displays will be restricted to the amenity areas and developed in conjunction with displays of native plants.
- ii) Selection of plants for the amenity areas will be based on the degree they contribute to the following:
  - Restoration
  - Amenity
  - Education
  - Research
  - Preservation of species.

*Comment:*

*The Percy Reserve Advisory Group will develop a hierarchy for values to guide selection of exotic plants for the amenity areas.*

- iii) The new entrance and carparking will be developed as part of SH2 widening (refer to the Design Concept).
- iv) Reducing the major negative impact of increased traffic noise on people's enjoyment of the reserve will be investigated and implemented.

*Comment:*

*Traffic noise has increased since the widening of SH2. The main entrance to the reserve and the nursery area are particularly exposed. Traffic is clearly visible and the noise will have a major negative impact on the entrance experience and the development of the nursery and the potted collections as a feature of the reserve. Traffic will also negatively impact on the former reserve entrance lawn which has been identified for development as a wetland, the fernery and the garden area around the ornamental waterwheel.*

*Options to reduce the impact of SH2 include constructing a noise wall along the SH2 side of the main entrance and nursery area and by thickly planting along the reserve boundary. Planting may only minimally reduce traffic noise but will provide a visual barrier.*

- v) Construction of a wetland containing representative indigenous Wellington wetland plants in the area of the former entrance lawn will be investigated and if feasible, developed.

*Comment:*

*This area is damp from runoff from the escarpment and is suited to development as a wetland. Water from the ornamental waterwheel or the mill*

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<sup>22</sup> See Percy Scenic Reserve Features Plan.

*pond could also be diverted into a constructed wetland. Wetlands are one of New Zealand's most critically threatened ecosystems and development of this area into a wetland would be an appropriate addition to the reserve.*

*The investigation into the construction of the wetland will include research into the type of wetland that is desirable/ feasible (e.g. swamp, fen, palustrine), appropriate species for the sheltered environment and consideration of the level of maintenance such an area would require.*

#### 9.4 Percy Gully Reserve

The area known as Percy Gully Reserve was set aside as a Scenic Reserve in 1907. Since this time it has been untouched apart from some weed and pest management. This area was added to Percy Scenic Reserve in 1952. The time 'capsuling' of this area of the reserve means that it has developed a greater species complexity and more mature vegetation than in other regenerating parts of the reserve. Today, the Percy Gully Reserve vegetation includes kohekohe, mahoe and tawa forest with an understorey of kawakawa, hangehange and rangiora <sup>23</sup>.

Frank Cameron Park is part of a tributary which runs into the main Percy gully, this shares some of the significant gully vegetation present in Percy Gully Reserve. This vegetation needs to be protected in line with the significant lowland forest in Percy Gully. Frank Cameron Park is also a former landfill and there is potential for invasive weeds such as bamboo to spread into Percy Gully.

Managing and maintaining Percy Gully Reserve and Frank Cameron Park along with other reserve areas in the Maungaraki catchment as one contiguous area up to Holdaway Scenic Reserve would increase the sustainability and biodiversity of these reserve lands and provide potential for improving and developing recreational links between and through these areas. For the location of other lands managed as reserve in the Percy catchment see Appendix 4.

#### Objectives

- Maintain the existing vegetation character of Percy Gully Reserve including managing, maintaining and protecting any significant native trees within the reserve, particularly native specimens
- Manage and maintain bush areas in Frank Cameron Park in line with Percy Gully Reserve
- Manage lands in Percy Gully Reserve with other contiguous vegetation covered lands in the Maungaraki catchment
- Improve the health of Percy Stream.

#### Policies

- i) The existing vegetation character of Percy Gully Reserve and adjoining Frank Cameron Park gully area will be maintained by undertaking regular weed, animal and plant pest management including management of diseased vegetation and vegetation that threatens species indigenous to Percy Gully

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<sup>23</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft)* May 2006. p.56.

Reserve by outcompeting them, and ensuring any future replacement planting uses existing species.

- ii) Problems with invasive weeds in Frank Cameron Park and the stream catchment shared with Percy Gully Reserve will be managed to reduce the risk of weed invasion in Percy Scenic Reserve proper.
- iii) Any significant trees within Percy Gully Reserve and Frank Cameron Park will be protected as outlined in policies 6.2.4 and 6.2.7 of the Percy Reserves Draft Conservation Plan, May 2006 <sup>24</sup>.
- iv) Percy Scenic Reserve will be managed together with other contiguous vegetation covered lands in the Maungaraki catchment from Frank Cameron Park to Holdaway Scenic Reserve to increase the sustainability and biodiversity of these reserve lands and improve and develop recreational links (see map Appendix 4 for location of these lands).
- v) Trees that have reached the end of their lives, are diseased or are regarded as weeds as they are species from outside this area and could outcompete species indigenous to this area, will be removed in consultation with DoC.
- vi) Percy Stream will be managed in the context of the wider stream catchment.
- vii) Concrete, rubble, posts, tyres and other rubbish will be removed from Percy Stream upstream of the flood detention dam.

## 9.5 Heritage

Percy Scenic Reserve has “historic and aesthetic” values including native and exotic trees, and the constructed cave and mill pond <sup>25</sup>. The policies in this section of the management plan are in line with those in the Percy Reserves Draft Conservation Plan <sup>26</sup>.

The Draft Conservation Plan identifies four components which are used to assess the historical significance of Percy Scenic Reserve. These are the reserve’s historic, aesthetic, social and scientific significance.

The reserve’s historic significance includes being one of the first scenic reserves in New Zealand and historic site features such as native and exotic trees, the cave, mill pond and the deviated water course associated with the former flour mill. The site’s vegetation and open space setting provide aesthetic significance, along with the amenity areas which are an example of 1940s park design.

The reserve has social significance through its association with the Percy family and the New Zealand Plant Preservation Society. It was one of only two locations this group operated from. The reserve has heritage significance in the remains of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century flour milling operation, including the cave and mill pond. Percy Gully Reserve also has scientific significance in being held as reserve since 1907, providing a sample of unmodified native forest in the Lower Hutt area.

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<sup>24</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft) May 2006*. p.60.

<sup>25</sup> *ibid.* p.59.

<sup>26</sup> *ibid.*

## Objectives

- Caring for the reserve's heritage and cultural value, its structures, materials and cultural meaning, while maintaining an up to date and relevant plant collection.
- Identify culturally significant site fabric <sup>27</sup>
- Document significant hard landscape elements
- Identify and address any site elements which may potentially damage heritage elements
- Prevent the disturbance of original physical and archaeological features during any construction or drainage works
- Manage and maintain significant trees as outlined in the Percy Scenic Reserves Draft Conservation Plan
- Protect and cultivate appropriate heritage plants from the original garden
- Maintain a regularly programmed photographic record of the reserve
- Record oral histories of the reserve
- Listing heritage designations.

## Policies

- i)** All work undertaken in the conservation and management of significant elements in Percy Scenic Reserve will conform to the ICOMOS New Zealand: Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value (see Appendix 6).
- ii)** Any conservation processes or other activities involving significant intervention will be recorded on film and deposited in Council and DOC archives.
- iii)** All site fabric identified as having cultural significance in the Percy Scenic Reserves Draft Conservation Plan will be maintained and protected. This includes the cave, mill pond, mill pond Cordyline plantings, mill pond bank, eastern pond area, weir, Pseudopanax plantings in the former aviary area, Stanhope Grove area, earth bund and Percy Gully Reserve (see Percy Scenic Reserve Features Plan for details).
- iv)** All significant hard landscape elements as identified in the Percy Scenic Reserves Conservation Plan, along with any significant elements identified in the future will be documented through photographs and measured drawings. This presently includes: weir, cave, mill pond structures and earth bund.
- v)** An historical archaeological assessment of the flour mill site, summerhouse site, mill pond and earth bund will be undertaken.

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<sup>27</sup> For a definition of site fabric refer to the glossary.

- vi)** Overflow from the ornamental waterwheel will be addressed as identified in the Percy Scenic Reserves Draft Conservation Plan
- vii)** Archaeological evidence of previous dwellings, garden layouts, or the milling operation will not be disturbed. If any drainage or construction work is undertaken a record will be kept of ground evidence.
- viii)** Original physical features will not be disturbed unless for preservation and protection.

*Explanation:*

*Original physical features of the site are intrinsically valuable and conservation should aim at intervening as little as possible, and then only as required for their preservation or protection.*

- ix)** All significant trees identified in Section 5 of the Percy Scenic Reserves Draft Conservation Plan will be managed and maintained to ensure their survival for as long as it is practicable. Twelve monthly checking of the health of the trees by a qualified arborist will be scheduled. The exception to this is plants which are invasive i.e are a threat to indigenous taxa. These include holly, pines, macrocarpa, sycamore and karaka.
- x)** All significant trees in Section 5 of the Percy Scenic Reserves Draft Conservation Plan not identified as invasive will be listed and protected by the Hutt City Council in the District Plan Heritage Schedules.
- xi)** Appropriate heritage plants from the original garden such as roses and rhododendrons will be protected and cultivated.
- xii)** An investigation into whether any oak trees planted by the Percy brothers remain in the reserve will be undertaken.
- xiii)** A 10 yearly professional photographic record of the reserve and its features will be completed and retained in Council archives.
- xiv)** John Percy, other Percy relatives and local residents that visited the reserve before 1950 will be interviewed and their oral histories held in Council archives.
- xv)** Heritage designations on the reserve will be investigated and listed.
- xvi)** As part of the oral history project Council will consider capturing the elements of success and failure of propagation and care of plants from current personnel on site.

## 9.6 Recreation and Leisure Activities

The reserve is used for passive recreation and leisure activities such as walking and picnicking. Recreational facilities in Percy Scenic Reserve include walking tracks of varying length and difficulty. As well as tracks, recreational facilities in the amenity area include the mill pond, open lawn areas, picnic areas, seats and toilets. There is potential to make more of the recreational values of the bush areas, improve access and walkway opportunities, consider options for developing more green open space and opportunities for visitors for the months outside the key visitor season (September to March), and develop existing features to encourage return visits.



### Objective

- To develop the range of appropriate recreational and leisure uses, building on existing features to meet the needs of a diverse range of people and ages and encouraging return visits.

### Policies

- i) Former tracks will be reopened (see also policy 9.9 (iv)) and new tracks developed to provide a variety of tracks and experiences as per the Design Concept.
- ii) The amenity area of the reserve will be developed and maintained over time as resources allow to increase the enjoyment of reserve visitors and attract visitors outside of the warmer months (refer also to Design Concept).

## 9.7 Signage and Interpretation

Signage and interpretation is an opportunity to provide a strong sense of place, linking the collections and the reserve's heritage, recreation and landscape features. They provide opportunities for learning experiences and innovative interpretation and plant labelling, as well as information and directional signage.

### Objectives

- Develop a signage and interpretation plan appropriate to a high profile reserve
- Improve directional and information signage in the park
- Develop innovative interpretational signage for plant collections within the reserve

- Develop interpretational signage for heritage items and areas within the reserve
- Consider the concept of virtual hosting to guide visitors through specific areas of the reserve.

*Explanation:*

*Providing a 'human touch' through clear signage and possibly through audio or other equipment could be a distinctive feature of the reserve, attracting visitors and educating in an engaging and entertaining way.*

**Policies**

- i)** All signs shall comply with the provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.
- ii)** A comprehensive signage plan including themes, design and placement of directional, informational and interpretive signage that reflects the high profile of the reserve will be established.
- iii)** Signage to the main and secondary entrances to the reserve will be established as follows:
  - Directional signage from SH2
  - Sign in a prominent position establishing the main entrance to the reserve off Dowse Drive
  - Secondary pedestrian entrances from Stanhope Grove, Dowse Drive, Frank Cameron Park and the waterfall track from Maungaraki.
- iv)** Signage marking the reserve's main entrance will be clear and visible from SH2 and Dowse Drive.
- v)** Information signs with location maps describing the reserves features will be provided at main and secondary entrances (see also policy 9.6 (ii)).
- vi)** Interpretational signage detailing information on collection areas but not of specific plants will generally be developed for planting areas within the reserve.

*Comment:*

*Interpretational signage will generally be established as opposed to individual plant labels to avoid the risk of plant theft. Signage that identifies collections by geographic area or physical features, rather than the identification of individual plants, and interprets them for reserve visitors will also protect important plants from accidental vandalism.*

*These plants are a source for rare and endangered plants and may be used to provide seeds or cutting material for further propagation. Other potential themes for interpretive displays include diversity of plant forms, how they adapt to specific environments, what is easy to grow in particular settings in home gardens, plants that require no watering*

- vii)** Signage will incorporate Te Reo Maori where appropriate, including tree and plant names and Maori history and interpretation.

viii) Labelling of individual plants for education purposes will be allowed where, for example:

- The plant is unlikely to be stolen because it is too big (ie, most trees)
- The species is specifically propagated under policy 9.1 ix) for interpretive purposes and can be replaced.
- There are other unlabelled insurance plants in the reserve.

ix) Interpretational signage detailing information on heritage items and areas within the reserve will be established.

*Comment:*

*This should include areas within the reserve – former Percy Garden, ‘middle’ reserve area, waterfall/gully reserve (Percy Gully Reserve) and Ratanui Estate. Frank Cameron Park should also clearly be signposted on tracks that adjoin Percy Scenic Reserve. Interpretation signage should also include heritage elements such as the mill pond, dam, the mill race, cave and old sledge track.*

*Pre-European history of the reserve, including Ratanui, should be acknowledged and interpreted. The history of Percy Scenic Reserve, its role in native plant preservation and the significance of the Percy brothers and their role in early European history of the District should also be covered.*

x) Developing signage for heritage and significant trees will be investigated.

xi) All signs shall be durable, stylish and good quality.

## 9.8 Ecological Habitat

The reserve is home to a range of native fauna including native birds, fish, lizards and invertebrates, although knowledge of the reserve’s fauna is limited. The weta cave is an attraction, but development of the reserve has emphasised the plant collections rather than the reserve’s fauna. Developing visitor experience and interpretation of the reserve’s fauna would complement interpretative displays of the plant collections and be an additional visitor attraction.

### Objectives

- Establish a database of reserve zoology and their habitats
- Increase visitor attractions by interpreting and developing visitor experiences of native fauna in the reserve. Options include weta, fish, eels, birds, lizards, frogs and glow worms
- Protect native fauna on the reserve.

### Policies

- i) Identify, record and protect native fish, birds, lizards and invertebrates that are part of the natural habitat within the reserve.
- ii) Develop visitor experience of weta.

*Comment:*

*Currently visitors can see weta in the cave next to the mill pond, although there is no interpretation. This experience could be extended through interpretation and by providing so-called 'weta motels'.*

- iii)** Develop visitor experience and interpretation by extending, attracting or introducing native fauna such as birds, fish, eels, lizards and frogs.

*Comment:*

*Fauna will be introduced as resources and staffing are available to do a quality job.*

## 9.9 Structures and Tracks

Tracks have been closed over time due to damage or lack of maintenance. Opportunities exist for new tracks to be developed, or for former tracks to be re-established<sup>28</sup>. There is opportunity to extend the track network of the reserve, linking it with other reserve areas in the Maungaraki catchment.

### Objectives

- Ensure the protection of plant and invertebrate communities from damage arising from track placement, structure and use
- Re-establishment of existing but unused tracks in the reserve, particularly those which give access to trees planted by the Percy brothers, and develop new tracks, creating circuits of varying length for various fitness levels and ability
- Investigate extending the track network over time to link Percy Scenic Reserve with other reserve areas in the Maungaraki catchment
- Create a range of tracks for various fitness levels and ability

### Policies

- i)** Access for maintenance purposes will be improved through the development and design of the track networks e.g. provide adequate width for maintenance vehicles where appropriate.
- ii)** The public will be encouraged, through layout, design and signage, to keep to tracks to ensure protection of understorey growth and invertebrate communities and to prevent unnecessary erosion.
- iii)** Where practical, and appropriate to the type of track, tracks in high use areas will be improved to a level that complies with the NZS handbook for tracks and visitor structures.

*Comment:*

*Tracks in high use areas of the reserve and where pushchair or wheelchair access is desirable will be upgraded to these standards. Other tracks in 'wilderness areas' of the reserve such as the 'jagger short cut' and tracks beyond the waterfall will be maintained in a more basic style such as that of DoC tracks to maintain the feeling of being 'off track' and 'in the bush'.*

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<sup>28</sup> See also Percy Scenic Reserve Design Concept for development of the track network.

- iv) Existing but unused tracks will be re-established<sup>29</sup> including the historic zig zag track above the lawn near the carpark and the track past the waterfall to Maungaraki, and tracks which have been closed due to storm damage. Suggestions for development of tracks include a track alongside remains of the old water race, opening up other existing unused tracks which have native trees planted by the Percy family and develop new tracks, creating circuits of varying length for various fitness levels and abilities.

*Comment:*

*These tracks may require some realignment to avoid established plantings.*

- v) Investigate extending the track network over time to establish better connections of the track system of Percy Scenic Reserve with the tracks in Korokoro-Maungaraki bush, for example via the waterfall track.
- vi) Tracks used by commuters which allow access from the Korokoro/Maungaraki suburbs to the valley floor will be improved, including the track accessed from Stanhope Grove across the top of the dam to Dowse Drive.

## 9.10 Stormwater Management

The detention pond, intake, dam, concrete spillway and other stormwater structures are maintained by Capacity (Wellington Water Management Limited). The stormwater structures are accessed 3-4 times per year and the detention pond and intake excavated approximately every 10 years.

The detention pond marks the upstream extent of the reserve amenity area. It has some planting at the edges, but is dominated by the large intake structure. Opportunity exists to improve the visual appearance by contouring the pond edges, planting or including a high quality artwork to mitigate the effect of the structure<sup>30</sup>. At the same time the pond still needs to retain its stormwater function and allow access for maintenance.

### Objectives

- Develop the visual amenity of the detention pond to mitigate the effect of the detention pond and the intake structure, while retaining access for maintenance
- Seek a strong working relationship with Capacity to address the adverse effects of the stormwater facilities on the amenity values of Percy Scenic Reserve
- Explore options for integrating and interpreting the stormwater structures as part of the reserve's amenity area.

### Policies

- i) The detention pond area will be developed in conjunction with Capacity to improve visual amenity.

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<sup>29</sup> Where these comply with the provisions of the Council's Making Tracks 2009.

<sup>30</sup> For example, at Paremuka wetland in Waitakere City, the detention pond outlet has been fitted with artwork to disguise the structure.

- ii) A working relationship with Capacity will be developed for the purpose of integrating and interpreting the stormwater structures as outlined in the Design Concept for the reserve.

## 9.11 Stakeholders

Stakeholders with an interest in Percy Scenic Reserve include: Capacity (Wellington Water Management Ltd), Wellington Botanical Society, Korokoro Environmental Group, Hutt Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Society, Maungaraki Residents Association, Petone Community Board, Central/Western Community Committee, DoC, Otari Wilton's Bush and other regional and national collectors, Percy Scenic Reserve contractors and neighbours with properties backing onto the park.

### Objectives

- Liaise with key stakeholders to assist with the development of Percy Scenic Reserve
- Consider establishing an 'advisory group' for Percy Scenic Reserve.

### Policies

- i) Council will liaise with key stakeholders to ensure integrated management of Percy Scenic Reserve and to enhance recreational opportunities while protecting the natural, cultural and heritage features of the reserve.
- ii) Council will hold an annual open day/session to provide information about progress of development and programmes in the reserve.

*Comment:*

*This could use both staff and volunteers and include tours of threatened species planted along the Petone Esplanade.*

- iii) An 'advisory group' for Percy Scenic Reserve will be established subject to formal Council approval.
- iv) The advisory group, once established, will investigate developing a Trust for Percy Scenic Reserve.

*Comment:*

*The role of an advisory group would be wide ranging, including raising funds. One of the roles of the advisory group would be to explore options for further overseeing of Percy Scenic Reserve. This would include considering the establishment of a Percy Scenic Reserve Trust and a 'friends of' the reserve. All physical works at the reserve would remain with Council Parks and Gardens.*

## 9.12 Promotion and Education

The reserve is used by members of the public for events such as weddings and company picnics. There is opportunity to develop the role of Percy Scenic Reserve in education and conservation. This can be achieved through promotion and by increasing visitor experiences, information, interpretation and implementing educational material within the reserve, and increasing the number of guided visits available to the public.

### Objectives

- Meet the increased demand for guided visits to the nursery and plant collections
- Develop an overall interpretation concept for the plant collections and forested areas.
- Produce promotional material outlining the reserve's features and role in plant conservation, education and tourism
- Investigate propagation of rare and endangered species for sale to the public for use in domestic gardens
- Establish on-going funding for the management, maintenance, development and interpretation of the plant collections
- Establish funding sources for guided nursery visits and interpretation.
- Develop a visitor centre for the reserve.

### Policies

- i) Public access to the nursery for school groups, horticultural students, tourists and other organised groups and the public will be extended by exploring options to increase the number of guided nursery visits per year (currently there are two open days per year).

*Comment:*

*The exact number of guided visits will be based on resourcing, availability of guides and demand. The advisory group will investigate options. These may include establishing volunteers to guide the nursery visits.*

- ii) An overall interpretation concept for the plant collections and forested areas in collaboration with interpretation specialists will be developed taking into account the range of reserve visitors and the themes of conservation and education.
- iii) A brochure emphasising the reserve's role in plant conservation and education and outlining the reserve's features, plant collections and amenity areas, tracks and walking and vehicle entrances and access will be developed and distributed throughout the region to tourism promoters and the information on the reserve added to the Council's website.
- iv) The use of Percy Scenic Reserve as an educational model for sustainable systems and low impact design solutions, involving the input of local schools will be investigated.

- v) Sources of ongoing funding in addition to the Council will be established for the plant collections including the Tony Druce alpine collection and rare and endangered species collections.
- vi) Special funding sources for setting up and maintaining a database for the plant collections will be established (Refer policy 9.12 vii)).
- vii) Special funding sources for guided nursery visits for schools, students, tourists and the general public will be explored including interpretation of plant collections.

*Comment:*

*Special funding sources identified in policies v), vi) and vii) above could include funding gained from corporate sponsors.*

- viii) Promotional information material for adjacent landowners will be developed outlining the impact of animals on birdlife, the dumping of garden waste and the impact of pest plants in the reserve.
- ix) Developing a reserve visitor centre will be investigated subject to formal Council approval.

*Comment:*

*At their meeting of 8th July 2009, Council agreed the management plan would provide for the development of a visitor centre. Actioning this will be subject to formal Council approval of site, function and funding.*

## 9.13 Management and Development

### Objectives

- Implement the Design Concept for the reserve as resources allow
- Address neighbouring land issues arising from SH2 widening
- Incorporate Ratanui land into Percy Scenic Reserve <sup>31</sup>
- Record the reserves heritage and natural resources
- Provide for irrigation and other infrastructure for maintenance and full use of the reserve
- Implement the action plan as resources become available.

### Policies

- i) The Design Concept will be the basis for future development of the reserve (for details see the Design Concept on the following pages).

*Comment:*

*Suggestions for the development of the reserve made by submitters to the draft plan included:*

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<sup>31</sup> Subject to the provisions of the licence between Council and the New Zealand Transport Agency.

*marking the footprint of 'Ratanui' on the house site*

*interpretation and lighting in the weta cave*

*incorporating the alpine collection and rockery into walking access through the garden*

*developing appropriate housing for the alpine collection*

*Developing creek crossings and tracks up to the waterfall*

*Developing a circuit track between Ratanui and Stanhope Grove*

*Developing a waharoa (carved gateway) at the new Dowse Drive entrance*

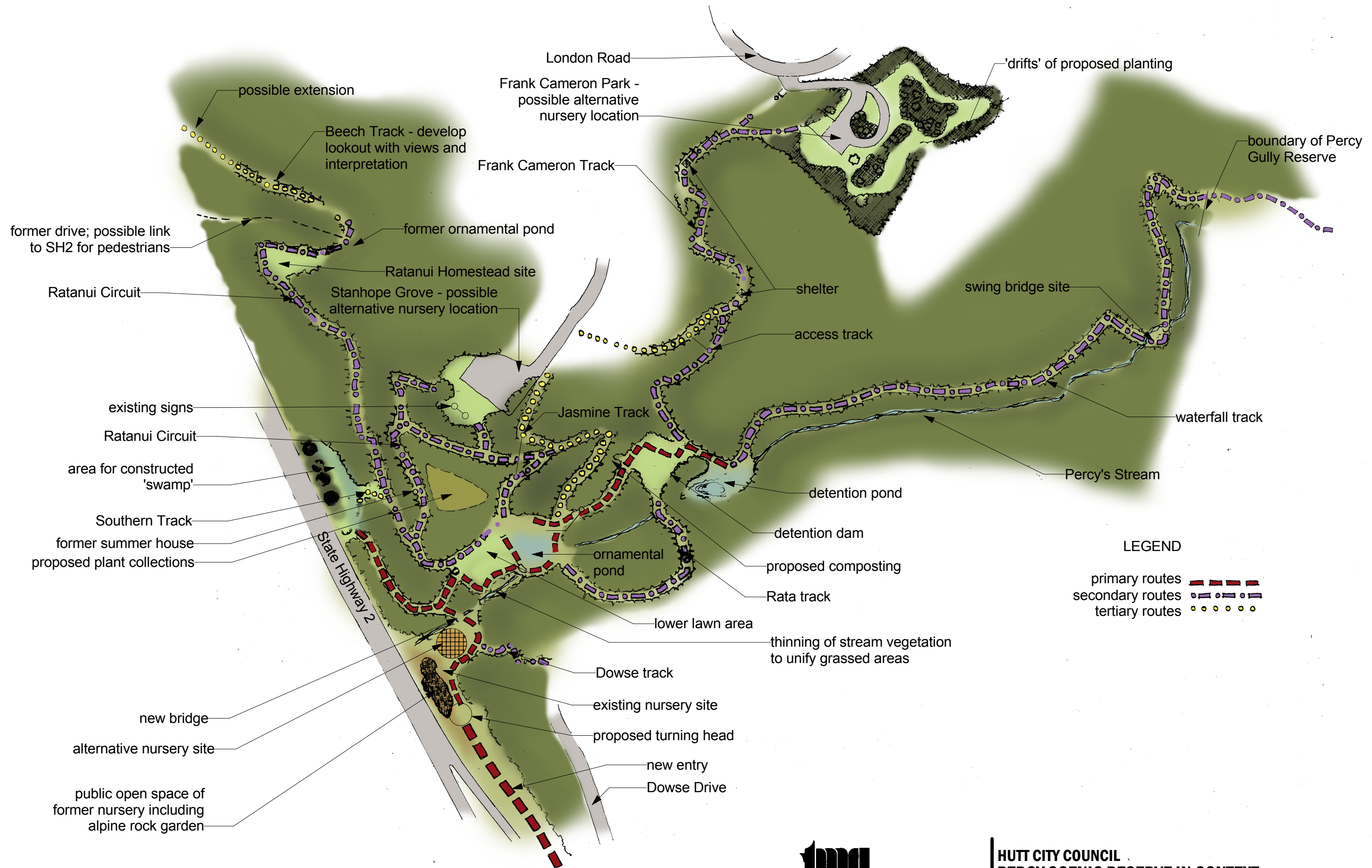
*Locating play equipment in the reserve frontage.*

- ii)** The Council will liaise with DoC on acquiring neighbouring New Zealand Transport Agency land and incorporating it into Percy Scenic Reserve. In the meantime, this area will be managed alongside Percy Scenic Reserve.
- iii)** Ratanui will be incorporated into Percy Scenic Reserve.
- iv)** The Council will work with interest groups such as Korokoro Environmental Group and Wellington Botanical Society to develop a database for natural and cultural resources.
- v)** An irrigation plan will be developed and locations for electrical outlets for events established in consultation with reserve contractors.

*Comment:*

*Irrigation will be used as necessary in areas where it is required to maintain plant health of the collections.*

- vi)** The action plan will be implemented subject to funding through the LTCCP process and/or outside funding.
- vii)** The Council will hold workshops at Percy Scenic Reserve to provide the public with opportunity to input into the development of the reserve as detail plans are developed.
- viii)** The Council will consider Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Principles as part of the detailed design development process for Percy Scenic Reserve.



**LEGEND**

- primary routes
- secondary routes
- tertiary routes



## Development Design Concept

The design concept at this stage is broad and exploratory. It has ideas, suggestions and options, and as part of the draft management planning process seeks responses to these.

When developed and refined, the design concept will be the basis for future development and improvement to Percy Scenic Reserve.

## Key Tasks

Raise the profile of the reserve.

Enhance and celebrate the special character of the reserve.

Provide for a range of visitors and ages.

Provide diverse experiences, interpretation, recreation and leisure.

Highlight native planting, natural and heritage features.

Feature the ex-situ and potted plant collections.

Develop the educational and conservation role of the reserve.

Highlight propagation of rare and endangered plants from the Wellington region.

Develop quality reserve entrances.

Address the loss of the buffer area between SH2 and the nursery.

Feature quality amenity horticulture in the lower amenity area with imaginative and creative gardens and a mixture of native plants, and safe/benign exotic plants.

Increase appeal outside of the peak visitor season (September-March).

### Main entrance and nursery

An arrival experience incorporating the main entrance and nursery.

An interpretive educational facility.

An alternative nursery site is on the lawn side of the utility building and former aviary. Once modified and upgraded, this existing building will act as a noise buffer from the high and constant level of traffic noise from SH2.

Other alternative nursery sites include Stanhope Grove and Frank Cameron Park.

Former nursery site as an additional passive open space with alpine garden.

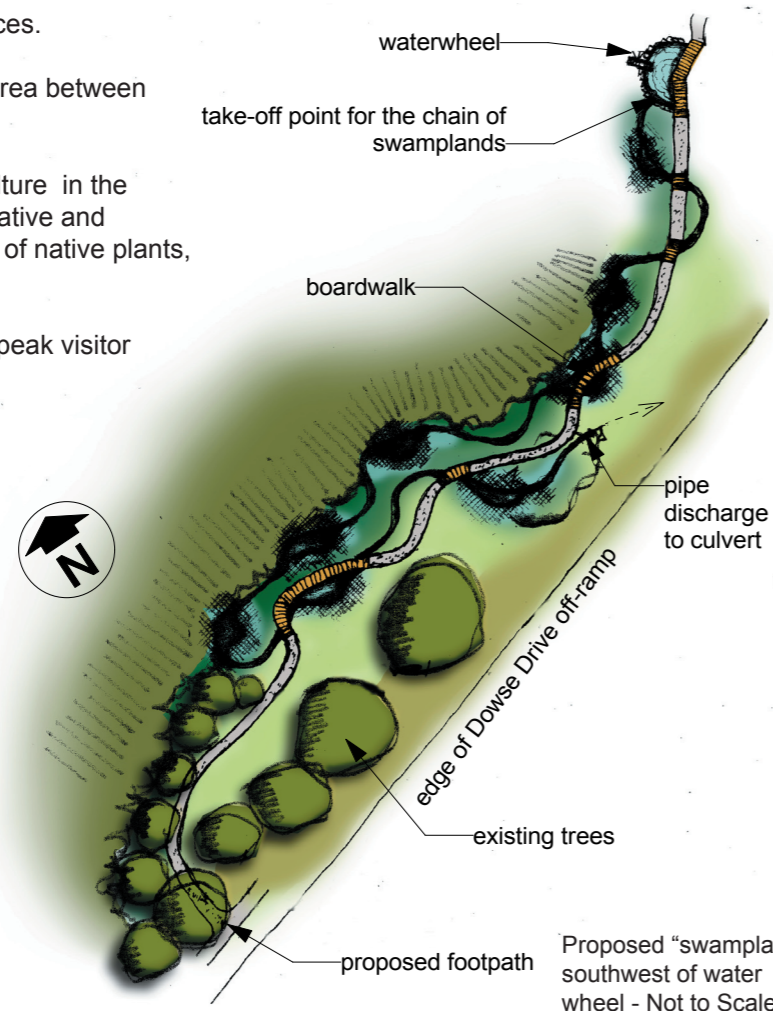
The nursery open to the public with interpretation, displays and propagating area.

A secure area in the nursery.

### Grassed area south-west of the waterwheel

Capitalising on existing boggy areas at the toe of the slope by introducing a permanent source of water from the outfall from the waterwheel.

A constructed swamp with a boardwalk which links with the main track and pedestrian path along SH2.



Proposed "swampland" southwest of water wheel - Not to Scale

### Main lower lawn

Judicious thinning of planting on stream banks to reduce visual barriers, link the two lawn areas and create a larger congregating area.

### Tracks

Clear track hierarchy with extensions and improved linkages, gradient, alignment, surfacing, edging and steps.

### Lower Percy's Stream

Percy's Stream is opened up in certain areas to:

- increase flow capacity and slow it down
- make accessible for natural play.

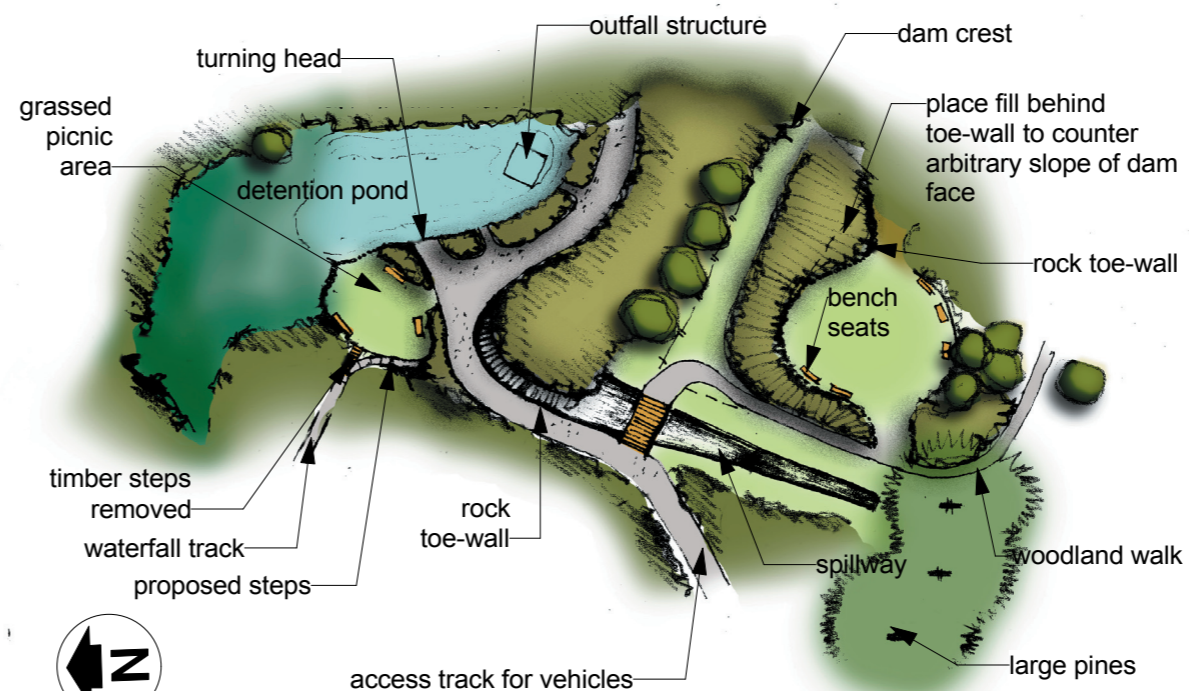
### New plant collections

A new plant collection garden with innovative interpretation and access for maintenance.

Composting area to demonstrate good practice.

### Flood detention pond, dam face, spillway, and outfall

Interpreting and inviting exploration of this major piece of civil engineering and flood control infrastructure.



Detention Dam and Pond Area - Not to Scale

### Ratanui

(any development at Ratanui will be subject to the provisions of the licence between Council and the New Zealand Transport Agency)

Attention drawn to the house site and garden of Sir James Hector and reinterpretation of known elements and themes.

Reinstating the lookout off the Beech Track with views and interpretation.

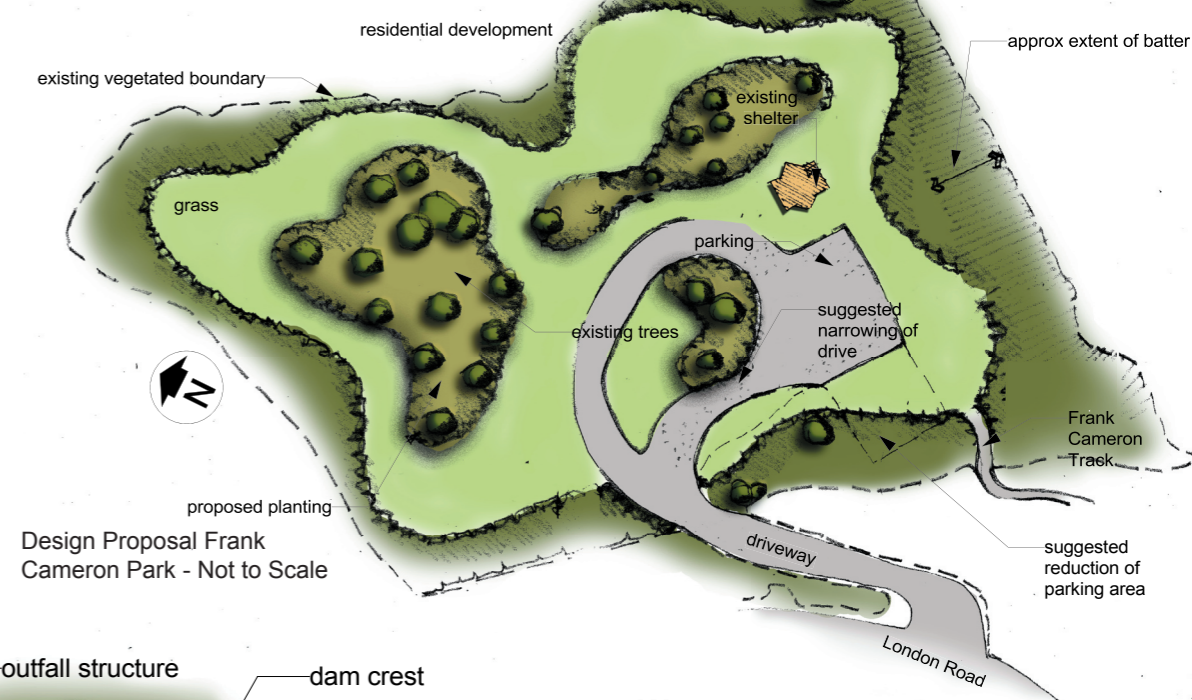
### New signs and interpretation

A sign family based on the existing interpretive panels at the Stanhope Grove entrance to Ratanui but in different dimensions and forms.

### Frank Cameron Park

An entrance area more strongly integrated with Percy Scenic Reserve and the native vegetation below.

Note: Ratanui and Frank Cameron Park are not part of Percy Scenic Reserve but are to be managed contiguously.



Design Proposal Frank Cameron Park - Not to Scale

### Reserve furniture and lighting

A family of quality reserve furniture including seats, rubbish bins and lighting.

### Weta cave

Raising the profile of weta and the weta cave

### Reinstate Viewshafts

Views beyond the reserve such as from shelters in Frank Cameron Park and access tracks, the historic summer house location on the Southern Link track and from Rata Track.

### Next steps

Preparation of agreed design concept.

Prepare detailed landscape plans and design.

Prepare design guidelines for new structures, facilities, signage and interpretation, reserve furniture, handrails, barriers, bridges and lighting.

Collaborate with interpretation specialists to guide visitors and develop innovative interpretation and plant labelling.

## 10. Jubilee Park

Jubilee Park has a special character that is unique within the reserve network of Hutt City and results from the way the park has been shaped by the development of the Western Hutt Road. The park also creates a valuable connection between Normandale and Harbourview, providing a popular link for commuters and recreational users.



### Description

Jubilee Park is situated on the slopes above the Western Hutt Road, just north of the Normandale overbridge. The entrance off the carpark on Normandale Road leads through native bush to Hutt Minoh Friendship House, a feature of the park. The house is a reflection of the sister city relationship between Hutt City, and Minoh, Japan. The ground floor of the house is available to the public for casual hire, and can be accessed from a driveway, or from steps leading from the carpark off Normandale Road.

A track from the house leads down to a bush gully of beech and titoki, with a stream running down the middle of the gully to a pond and the remains of the fernery, and a replica of a pioneer hut resurrected on the site as an exhibit. The pond, the concrete shell of the fernery and stone chimney of the exhibition hut are features of the original park and form part of the site's heritage.

Further on from the gully are several open grassed areas that are the sites of former houses which were demolished when the Western Hutt Road was widened in the 1960s. The remains of these homes, which were built in the early 1890s to the late 1900s, also form the heritage character of the park today. Other remnant house sites and sections of driveways have been overcome by vegetation and can be accessed by tracks from the lawn areas.

The house remnants include a swimming pool, tennis courts, garden walls, paths and orchards. Visitors to the park can trace these remains through a series of signs explaining the history of the houses and their occupants. Remains of the domestic gardens surrounding the properties can also be seen including mature trees such as oak and plantings of wisteria, camellia, roses and rhododendrons.

Tracks link the park to Normandale Road and Gaskill Grove, and a track runs parallel with the Western Hutt Road from the Normandale Road carpark to the fernery.

Recreational use of the park includes a skateboarding half pipe accessible from Normandale Road, walking, jogging and picnicking. A Japanese archery club (Kyudo) uses the lawn off the driveway as a practice area.

## History

Jubilee Park originally opened to the public in 1941 after the Lower Hutt Borough Council purchased the land in 1938. The park was named for the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the Lower Hutt Borough Council and opened the year Lower Hutt was elevated to city status.

The original park was 13 acres of bush clad gully purchased to provide a sanctuary for native bush close to the city. The upper slopes of the park were originally covered by grass and gorse, but this was cleared and native shrubs and trees were planted<sup>32</sup>.

The highlight of the park in the 1940s was the specially built fernery, said to have “the most comprehensive collection of ferns from all parts of the Dominion”<sup>33</sup>. The displays included ferns from around the country and also greenhouse flowers such as begonia and cyclamen. Another feature of the park is the remains of a historic pioneer hut which was re-erected on the site following the centennial exhibition in Wellington. The hut was made of totara slabs, had a thatched raupo roof, a chimney of riverstones and was furnished with antiques from early New Zealand. Today only the stone chimney remains. Near the pond there is also a kauri tree, reportedly planted at the park’s opening in 1941.

A later addition to the park was the former home *Norbury*, now known as the Hutt Minoh Friendship House which was purchased by the Council and incorporated into the park. After the widening of the Western Hutt Road in the 1960s Jubilee Park saw more changes. Carparking near the fernery was lost, and the fernery was eventually demolished. Access to several homes along the Western Hutt Road frontage was lost, and the homes were demolished and the land incorporated into the park.

## Links with Council Plans and Strategies

Jubilee Park falls into the General Recreation Activity Area. A key objective of policies in this area is to ensure that development, including structures, maintains and enhances amenity values including visual amenity of recreation and open space areas and has no adverse effects on other activities. In this activity area ‘recreation activities and ancillary activities’ are permitted, with detailed controls relating to matters such as building size, lighting and hours of operation. Any activity that is not permitted or a permitted activity that does not fully comply with relevant conditions is fully discretionary.

The District Plan defines ‘recreation activity’ as:

*Any activity whose primary aim is the passive or active enjoyment of leisure, whether competitive or non-competitive, casual or organised; and recreation has a corresponding meaning.*

The Hutt City Council Reserves Strategic Directions identifies Jubilee Park as part of the Western Hills Landscape Identity Area. Key features of the Western Hills Landscape Identity Area are:

*The regenerating gullies should be managed and extended to ultimately form ecological corridors and a network of tracks leading from the Hutt Valley floor to the suburbs and Belmont Regional Park hilltops.*

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<sup>32</sup> Rosemary McLennan. *Glimpses into Early Normandale* p.121.

<sup>33</sup> *ibid.*

## Classification

Jubilee Park is made up of a number of separate land titles.

Legal Description	Area	C/T	Gazette	Owned/managed	Land Taken For/Classified As	Proposed Classification/Actions
<b>Jubilee Park</b>						
Lot 1 Deposited Plan 17284	1.9440 ha	612/81	28 <sup>th</sup> July 1988	Hutt City Council	Scenic Reserve Section 19 (1) (b)	No further action required
Section 949-950 Hutt District	5.0410 ha	22C/772	28 <sup>th</sup> July 1988	Hutt City Council	Scenic Reserve Section 19 (1) (b)	No further action required
Section 948 Hutt District	1890m <sup>2</sup>	35C/45	1992 p.1059	Hutt City Council	Scenic Reserve Section 19 (1) (a)	Reclassify Scenic B Reserve in line with the rest of the park
Lot 1 Deposited Plan 55346	4.9318 ha	25B/384	28 <sup>th</sup> July 1988	Hutt City Council	Scenic Reserve Section 19 (1) (b)	No further action required
Lots 1-4 Deposited Plan 89938	1.7343 ha	55D/669	N/A	Hutt City Council	Fee Simple	Declare and Classify Scenic B Reserve
Lot 1 DP88473	0.878 ha	55D/668	Vested DP 88473	Hutt City Council	Vested as Local Purpose Reserve (Cultural Exchange Centre) on DP 88473	Register classification and Gazette

## Vision

*To manage Jubilee Park for passive recreation activities in the bush areas and on the sites of former house and gardens*

*To manage the former house sites as remnant heritage gardens in a native bush setting*

*To manage Minoh House in collaboration with appropriate interest groups in the general style of a pre-1940s domestic woodland garden for public recreation and enjoyment*

*To recognise the role of Minoh Friendship House as an historic building in the history of Lower Hutt and as a reflection of the sister city relationship.*

### 10.1 Hutt Minoh Friendship House

The house is named to reflect the sister city relationship between Hutt City, and Minoh, Japan. The house is used by community groups and as accommodation for visitors from Minoh. Hutt Minoh Friendship House was formerly known as *Norbury* and has historical significance for its association with the politically prominent Fitzherbert family as well as with Professor Von Zedlitz, the first professor of modern languages at Victoria College (now Victoria University)<sup>34</sup>. The house is listed as a heritage building in the City of Lower Hutt District Plan and is recognised by the NZ Historic Places Trust as a Category I historic building.



## Objectives

- Maintain the heritage qualities of Minoh Friendship House while reflecting the sister city relationship with Minoh, Japan

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<sup>34</sup> Beaglehole, Tim. 'Zedlitz, George William Edward Ernest von 1871 - 1949'. *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, updated 22 June 2007 URL: <http://www.dnzb.govt.nz/>

- Promote and manage Minoh Friendship House for appropriate community activities.

## Policies

- i) Interpretation signage (in the style of the abandoned house sites) will be developed to outline the history of Minoh Friendship House.
- ii) Minoh Friendship House will continue to be managed in line with the policies in the Facility Reserves Management Plan<sup>35</sup>.
- iii) The use of Minoh Friendship House will be promoted for appropriate events (see Policy 10.10 for details).
- iv) The Hutt Minoh Friendship House committee will continue to be responsible for managing the house only.
- v) The grounds surrounding the house will be landscaped in a style that is reminiscent of a pre-1940s domestic woodland garden with the exception of the Japanese garden influence around the driveway turning circle which is planted in prunus species, and north of the carpark which is a memorial to the mayor of the Japanese sister city.

## 10.2 Forest/Gully Area

The forest gully area between Minoh Friendship House and the house sites (east of Minoh Friendship House) is an area of mixed titoki and beech forest. Other tree species include tawa, rata, kahikatea, pukatea and kohekohe.

### Objective

- Maintain the native character of the forest/gully area as separate entity to Minoh House.

### Policy

- i) Existing species will be identified and recorded and used in all future planting in the forest/gully area.
- ii) The existing track network will be upgraded and maintained to meet SNZ HB8630:2004 requirements and the council's Making Tracks 2009.

## 10.3 Former House Sites

The former house sites include the remains of homes from some of the most important and influential families in early Lower Hutt. There are four sites: - "The Pines" formerly the Vickery family home, which had extensive gardens; Allports house, owned by George Allport, a Supreme Court barrister and solicitor; "Longmynd" owned by early surveyor JD Climie whom Mt Climie (the southern and eastern backdrop to Upper Hutt) is named after and "Ridgeside" originally owned by civil engineer Augustus Marius Heaton.

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<sup>35</sup> Refer Council's Facility Reserves Management Plan April 2002.

## Objectives

- Establish planting guidelines for the ruined house sites
- Identify and record heritage plants and investigate their suitability for propagation and future use on the reserve
- Catalogue relics of the former house sites.

## Policies

- i) Planting guidelines for ruined house sites will be established and include a species list and guidelines for the “domestic garden” style of planting (refer Landscape Development Plan Appendix 5).

*Comment:*

*A “domestic garden” style of planting will avoid cultivated mass plantings and instead focus on planting a range of plant species as would have been found in the former domestic gardens of the site.*

- ii) Native and exotic plants, including heritage plants on the house sites will be recorded and an investigation undertaken into propagating a selected number as iconic heritage plants for use in planting around the sites.
- iii) A register and map of historic relics such as remains of steps, swimming pools, garden walls, paths and drains will be established to identify and record these items.

## 10.4 Fernery and Pond Area

The fernery was constructed in 1941 for the celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee of the Lower Hutt Borough Council and the celebration of its elevation to city status. Much of the fern collection was donated by the mayor at the time, Jack Andrews, a keen fern collector. The fernery and nearby pond area were popular attractions of the park until the development of the Western Hutt Road cut off parking access. The fernery was eventually demolished and the remaining ferns planted out into the park. In 2003 the fernery area was cleared to reveal some of the original built features.

### Objective

- Continue to maintain and develop the old fernery and pond.

### Policy

- i) Continue planting ferns, orchids and low native herbaceous species within the shell of the fernery and develop and maintain the pond as outlined in the Draft Landscape Development Plan (see Appendix 5).

## 10.5 Facilities, Structures and Tracks

The current track network of Jubilee Park provides connections between Normandale Road and Gaskill Grove and from the lower slopes of Normandale Road and the Western Hutt Road to upper Normandale Road where the skateboard ramp is situated.

Extending these tracks as part of the wider track network leading up to Belmont Regional Park is important and is identified as a key action in the Hutt City Council's Reserves Strategic Directions <sup>36</sup>.

The Wellington Kyudo Club has a lease with the Council for the utility shed located halfway down the Minoh Friendship House driveway. The Club has also expressed an interest in having structures/facilities for the sport including a covered shooting platform and a covered target area.

## Objectives

- Establish the Jubilee Park track network as a connected integral part of the wider city network, in particular linking Jubilee Park with the Hutt River Trail and central city as an exercise/recreation option
- Provide for a range of low impact recreational uses including walking, running and picnicking
- Investigate strengthening the relationship between the park and the Kyudo Club
- Close unused tracks which lead to the motorway and no longer provide access to the park
- Replace routes above State Highway 2, which were lost due to slips
- Investigate the need for cycle connections through Jubilee Park
- Investigate improved all weather access to open grassed areas where community events are held, for maintenance and public recreational purposes
- Investigate alternative track access through the park from Normandale Road.

## Policies

- i) Tracks within Jubilee Park will be linked with the wider track network leading to the Hutt River Trail and for those who wish to venture further to Belmont Regional Park.
- ii) The use of the reserve as a pedestrian throughway between Normandale and Harbourview will be encouraged by developing and maintaining all weather tracks and signage.
- iii) The main entrance and pathways will be developed and maintained as outlined in the Landscape Development Plan (Appendix 5).
- iv) Unused tracks which no longer provide pedestrian links, such as those leading to the motorway, will be closed.
- v) The need for quality all weather cycle connections through Jubilee Park will be investigated.

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<sup>36</sup> Hutt City Council, *Reserves Strategic Directions* October 2003, p.11.

*Comment:*

*A suggested route for cycle connections is between Gaskill Grove and the Normandale Bridge. This would further develop the walkway connection already provided by the park between Normandale and Harbourview, and could be achieved by widening this existing track and making it of a suitable surface and level for cyclists. Creating additional cycling infrastructure where needs have been identified is an objective of the Hutt City Council Cycling Strategy.*

- vi)** Improved access for recreation and operational maintenance to open grassed areas where community events are held will be investigated.

*Comment:*

*Currently access to open grassed areas where community events are held is difficult for people with small children.*

- vii)** Developing alternative track access through the reserve from Normandale Road will be investigated.

*Comment:*

*A suggested starting point for this access is from opposite 79 Normandale Road. This could link through areas of kauri planting to existing tracks in the northwestern part of the park.*

- viii)** The Council will investigate establishing further parking for reserve users at Harbourview.

- ix)** Walking routes above SH2 which were destroyed by slips will be cleared, repaired and reopened as appropriate.

## 10.6 Entrances and Signage



### Objectives

- Clearly identify entrances to Jubilee Park, through design and signage
- Improve access control to Minoh Friendship House.

### Policies

- i)** All signs shall comply with the provisions of the City of Lower Hutt District Plan.

- ii)** The main and secondary entrance points will be identified as follows:
  - Main pedestrian and vehicle entrance will be from the carpark off Normandale Road;
  - Secondary entrance for pedestrians and vehicles accessing Minoh Friendship House will be from Minoh Friendship House driveway off Normandale Road;
  - Other pedestrian entrances - Gaskill Grove, off the skate park from Normandale Road and Normandale Road bush entrance (as shown on the Landscape Development Plan Appendix 5).
- iii)** The main carpark and entrance will be more clearly signposted on Normandale Road.
- iv)** Vehicle access to Minoh Friendship House will be restricted to house users. The gate at the top of the driveway on Normandale Road will continue to be open during the day but will be locked nightly and the key made available to Minoh Friendship House users and contractors only.
- v)** A main interpretation sign will be developed for the shelter near the Normandale Overbridge, to provide interpretation on the special character of Jubilee Park, in addition to the existing site map.
- vi)** All signs shall be durable, stylish and good quality.
- vii)** The Council will investigate installing a gate at the overbridge carpark to increase visitor safety.

## 10.7 Maintenance

### Objectives

- Identify and control invasive weed species
- Establish guidelines for mowing the grassed areas of house sites.

### Policies

- i)** Invasive weed species such as blackberry and sycamore will be removed and followed up with appropriate planting or turf.
- ii)** The Council will investigate the removal of the pines north of the fernery to increase sunlight in the winter months.
- iii)** The use of ride-on mowers for the open grassed areas will be investigated as an alternative to tractors, in order to maintain clearly defined edge and the original size of the grassed areas and to avoid damage during damp periods.
- iv)** Guidelines will be established for the maintenance of garden and house relics such as steps and swimming pool remains.
- v)** Provision of all weather tracks linking the fernery to the Gaskill Grove track to improve mowing, maintenance and recreational access will be investigated.

- vi) The Council will investigate ways to improve drainage of tracks and to prevent slips onto tracks and onto SH2.

## 10.8 Management and Development



### Objectives

- Protect Lots 1-4 Deposited Plan 89938 under the Reserves Act 1977
- Investigate reclassifying Section 948 Hutt District Scenic B Reserve in line with the rest of the land in Jubilee Park
- Regularise recreation use of the skateboard ramp area opposite 79 Normandale Road
- Record the reserves heritage and natural resources
- Investigate the acquisition of lands contiguous with the park to extend the park's natural resources.

### Policies

- i) Lots 1-4 Deposited Plan 89938 will be declared reserve and classified Scenic Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 in line with the remainder of the park.
- ii) The Council will investigate reclassifying Section 948 Hutt District off the end of Gaskill Grove from Scenic A Reserve, to Scenic B Reserve, in line with the rest of the land in Jubilee Park.
- iii) The active recreational use of the area across from 79 Normandale Road (the site of the current skateboard half pipe) will be regularised to reflect the recreational use of this area.

*Comment:*

*This area is currently occupied by a skateboard half pipe (which is allowed under a Scenic Reserve B classification). However this may not be the best community use of this space. Possible recreational development for this area in the future could include the provision of a half basketball court. In this case, reclassification of this area to Recreation Reserve would need to be considered.*

- iv) Interest groups such as the Hutt Minoh Friendship House committee, the Wellington Botanical Society and the Tenth's Trust will be consulted to develop a database for the park's natural and cultural resources.
- v) The acquisition of privately owned lands with regenerating vegetation contiguous with Jubilee Park will be investigated to extend the park's natural resources.

## 10.9 Stakeholders

Stakeholders with an interest in Jubilee Park include the Hutt Minoh Friendship House Committee, Wellington Kyudo Club, Wellington Botanical Society, the Global Volunteer Network and Reserve Contractors.

### Objective

- Liaise with appropriate stakeholders to assist with the development of Jubilee Park.

### Policy

- i) Council will liaise with key stakeholders of Jubilee Park to enhance recreational opportunities and enhance and protect the natural, cultural and heritage features of the reserve.

## 10.10 Promotion

### Objectives

- Encourage public awareness of Jubilee Park through the development of promotional material
- Promote Minoh Friendship House as a cultural exchange and events centre.

### Policies

- i) A brochure will be developed detailing reserve features, use of walking routes and times, and public use of Minoh Friendship House for events and the information posted on the Council's website.
- ii) Hutt Minoh Friendship House will be promoted as a cultural exchange centre through the staging of events such as the Blossom Festival and as a facility for small public or private events.
- iii) Annual/seasonal events will be organised to take place in the park such as Teddy Bears Picnic, guided walks with a botanical/historical focus and school field trips.



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# Glossary

**Amenity** - Natural or physical qualities or characteristics of an area that contribute to people's appreciation of its pleasantness, aesthetic coherence, and cultural and recreational attributes.

**Conservation** - (as defined in s.2 Conservation Act 1987). The preservation and protection of natural and historic resources for the purpose of maintaining their intrinsic values, providing for their appreciation and recreational enjoyment by the public, and safeguarding the options for future generations.

**Endemic** - Endemic species are native to and restricted to a particular geographical region. Endemic subspecies, species, genera etc are distinct from native taxa, which are native to more than one ecological region.

**Exotic species** - species or genetic variants from countries other than New Zealand.

**Ex-situ collections** - Plant collections held and grown outside their natural habitat. Percy Scenic Reserve ex-situ collections include plants from Mt Burnett, Northland and the Chatham Islands.

**Hard landscape elements** - Built structural elements such as garden walls in Jubilee Park and the weir and mill pond in Percy Scenic Reserve.

**Indigenous planting** - Species or genetic variants of plants found naturally in New Zealand.

**Indigenous species** - Refers to plants and animals that have established in New Zealand without the assistance of human beings and without the assistance of vehicles or aircraft. This includes species that are unique to New Zealand as well as those that may be found elsewhere in the world. Use of the words 'indigenous' and 'native' have the same meaning in this management plan.

**Insurance populations** - Populations of rare plants that are grown in another area of the reserve labelled collections or outside the reserve boundary to provide replacement plants should identified planting die, be attacked by disease or stolen. Secondary populations of less rare plants can be grown and used in other areas throughout the city to increase the population of plants available for maintenance purposes e.g. by planting on road islands.

**Native species** - species or genetic variants found naturally in New Zealand.

**Natural features** - Include features on a reserve that are part of nature (for example indigenous biodiversity, geological features and streams) and may include individual plant or tree specimens and ecosystems that by their nature require special care and attention for their preservation.

**Natural resources** - Include plants and animals and their habitats, landscape and landforms, geological features and systems of interacting living organisms and their environment (*Conservation Act 1987*).

**Non-indigenous** - species which have established in New Zealand through outside assistance.

**Pest plants** – those considered a serious threat to the region’s natural environment. Greater Wellington Regional Council has identified four levels of control for pest plant species:

Eradication pest plants include:

*Pennisetum macrourum*, *Xanthium spinosum*, *Passiflora caerulea*, *Celastrus orbiculatus*, *Vallisneria spp* (except twisted leaf variety), *Zizania latifolia*, *Anredera cordifolia*, *Araujia sercifera*, *Urtica dioica*, *Carthamus lanatus*, *Asparagus asparagoides*, *Polygala myrtifolia* (excluding seedless varieties) and *Solanum mauritianum*

Containment pest plants. Those relative to Lower Hutt include:

*Rhamnus alaternus*, *Ceratophyllum demersum* and *Carduus nutans*

Suppression pest plants include:

*Passiflora tripartita*, *P. tarminiana*, *P. mixta*; *Cobea scandens*, *Clematis vitalba*, *Hedychium gardnerianum* and *H. flavescens*

Site led pest plants include: *Ulex europaeus*, *Senecio jacobaea* and *Silybum marianum*.

**Provenance** - the origin, or the source, of something, or the history of the ownership or location of an object.

**Safe, benign or valuable exotic plants** – trees and shrubs that are non-seeding, without berries and/or are not frost tender.

**Site fabric** – The physical material of the reserve including components, fixtures and objects. At Percy Scenic Reserve this includes the cave, mill pond, mill pond Cordyline plantings; mill pond bank, eastern pond area, weir, aviary area Pseudopanax plantings, Stanhope area, earth bund and Percy Gully Reserve.

**Taxa** - (plural of taxon) any taxonomic group

**Threatened species** - species (including animals, plants, fungi, etc.) which are vulnerable to extinction in the near future.

# Appendices

Appendix 1: Property Information

Appendix 2: Action Plan

Appendix 3: Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park Feature Plans

Appendix 4: Other Lands Managed as Reserve in the Percy Scenic Reserve Catchment

Appendix 5: Jubilee Park: Draft Landscape Development Plan

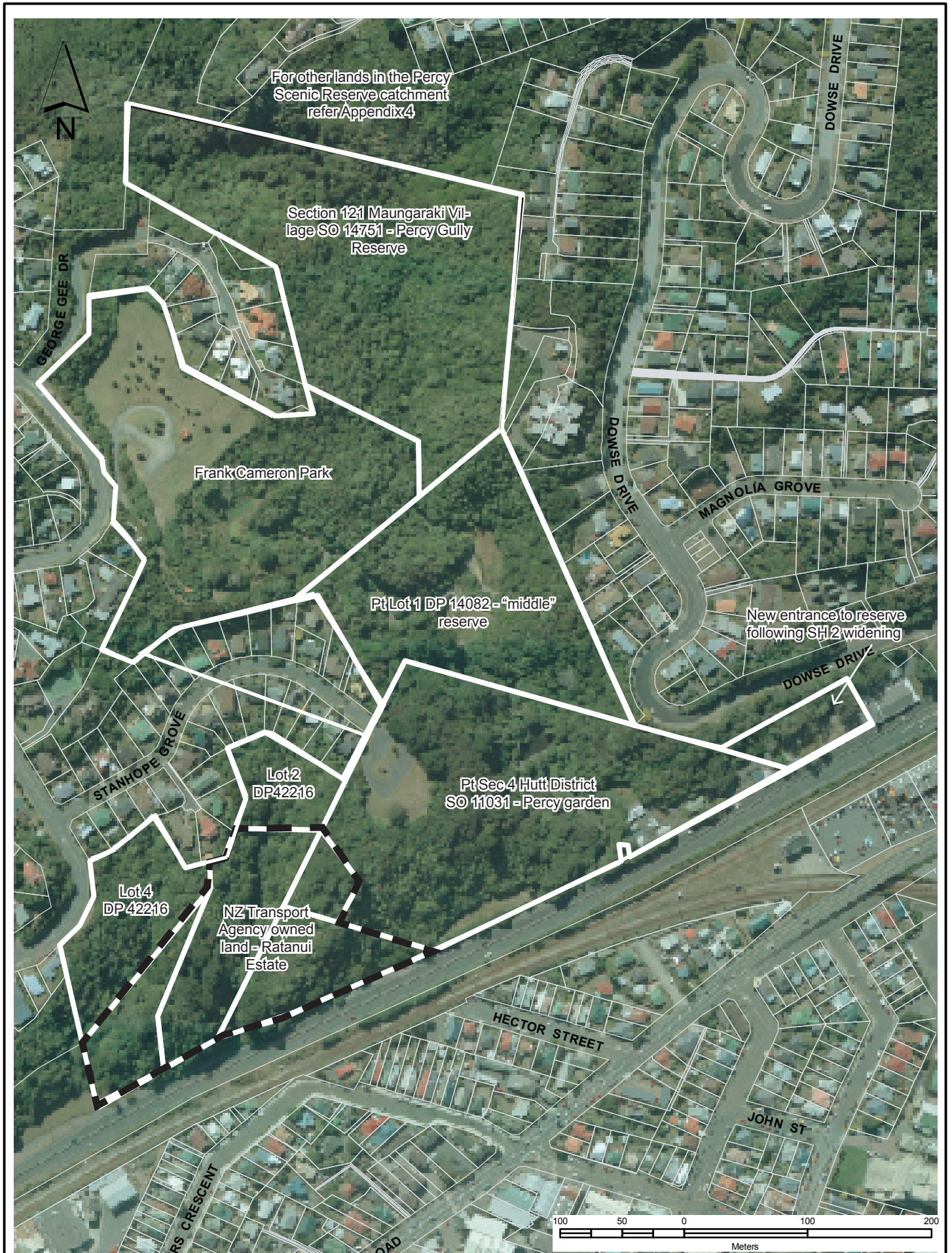
Appendix 6: ICOMOS New Zealand: Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value



# Appendix 1: Property Information



# Percy Scenic Reserve - Property Information



Land Information Services

Compiled : M.J.Justicem  
 Instigated : J.Robb (HCC)  
 E.Corbett  
 Job Ref : 06-07/la3625  
 Date : 19 Oct 2006

## Percy Scenic Reserve and adjoining land

Although the information displayed has been prepared with care and in good faith, this map is designed to be illustrative only. The council cannot guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information and accepts no liability for any loss suffered as a result of reliance on it. Property boundaries may not be survey-accurate, and can only be verified by a registered surveyor.

This map is drawn on the New Zealand Transverse Mercator projection, using New Zealand Geodetic Datum 2000.

Cadastral information sourced from Land Information New Zealand data. Crown Copyright Reserved.

Scale : 1:4,000

Sheet Size : A4-P



# Jubilee Park - Property Information



## Appendix 2: Action Plan

Policy No.	Action	Priority (Subject to available resources)
<b>9.0 Percy Scenic Reserve</b>		
<b>9.1 Classification</b>		
	Declare and classify Scenic B Reserve: Lot 4 DP 42216 Lot 2 DP 42216 Pt Sec 4 Hutt District SO 11031 Pt Lot 1 DP 14082 Sec 121 Maungaraki Village SO 14751	Begin within 1 year
<b>9.1 Conservation and Plant Collections</b>		
<b>i), iv) xviii)</b>	Develop a clear vision and guidelines for the future direction of the plant collections and their management.  Explore the potential for partnerships to support the vision of Percy Scenic Reserve as a nationally significant centre for research and conservation of threatened indigenous species.	Begin within 1 year
<b>ii)</b>	Recognise formally the gift of the alpine collection by A.P (Tony) and Helen Druce in the late 1990s by calling the collection the "Druce Alpine Collection".	Begin within 1 year
<b>vi)</b>	Record digitally the plant collections using BG-Base (Botanical Gardens Base) or some other BG Mapping System with a GIS interface.  Also record digitally non- plant material (such as irrigation), both above and below ground.  Establish sources for funding for the digital database (refer 9,11 policy v).	Begin within 2 years  Begin within 2 years  Begin within 1 year
<b>vii)</b>	Investigate opportunities to share the BG-Base system (or other mapping system) with other agencies.	Begin within 1 year

<b>xii)</b>	Initiate propagation programme using original source material to ensure replacement of tree stock, and retention of exotic heritage tree stock.	Begin within 3 years
<b>xiii)</b>	Undertake formal identification of species and cultivars of all significant vegetation. Samples will be gathered and lodged with the Te Papa herbarium.	Begin within 2 years  Begin within 4 years
<b>xix)</b>	Investigate nursery redevelopment by 2012, exploring options in bringing to the public eye the potted collections and 'behind the scenes' nursery activities (including investigating alternative nursery sites e.g. Stanhope Grove, Frank Cameron Park - see also development Design Concept) .	Begin within 3 years
<b>xx)</b>	Investigate the protection and security of displays in the rockery as part of the design development of the reserve.	Begin within 2 years
<b>xxi)</b>	Consider the installation of a security system as part of the nursery development.	Begin within 4 years
<b>9.2 Staff Development</b>		
<b>ii)</b>	Investigate upgrading staff facilities, including the provision of computer access for the use of BG-Base software.	Begin within 2 years
<b>iii)</b>	Develop staff succession plans to ensure that staff knowledge is not lost with any changes in staff and to manage staff changeover.	Begin within 2 years
<b>9.3 Amenity Areas</b>		
<b>ii)</b>	Develop a hierarchy for values to guide selection of exotic plants for amenity areas (advisory group).	Begin within 1 year
<b>iii)</b>	Develop new entrance and carparking as part of SH2 widening.	Begin within 1 year
<b>iv)</b>	Investigate and implement reducing the major negative impact of increased traffic noise on people's enjoyment of the reserve.	Begin within 3 years

v)	Investigate, and if feasible, construct a wetland containing representative indigenous Wellington wetland plants in the area of the former entrance lawn.	Begin within 3 years
<b>9.4 Percy Gully Reserve (Waterfall Gully)</b>		
iii)	Protect any significant trees within Percy Gully Reserve and Frank Cameron Park as outlined in policies 6.2.4 and 6.2.7 of the Percy Reserves Draft Conservation Plan, May 2006 <sup>37</sup> .	Begin within 3 years
vii)	Remove concrete, rubble, posts, tyres and other rubbish from Percy Stream upstream of the flood detention dam.	Begin within 4 years
<b>9.5 Heritage</b>		
iii)	Maintain and protect any site fabric identified within the Percy Scenic Reserves: historical investigation and conservation plan as having cultural significance. This includes the cave, mill pond, mill pond Cordyline plantings, mill pond bank, eastern pond area, weir, Pseudopanax plantings in the former aviary area, Stanhope Grove area, earth bund and Percy Gully Reserve.	Begin within 3 years
iv)	Document through photos and measured drawings all significant hard landscape elements as identified in the Percy Scenic Reserves: historical investigation and conservation plan along with any significant elements identified in the future. This presently includes: weir, cave, mill pond structures and earth bund.	Begin within 3 years
v)	Undertake an historical archaeological assessment of the flour mill site, summerhouse site, mill pond and earth bund.	Begin within 3 years
vi)	Address the overflow from the ornamental waterwheel as identified in the Percy Scenic Reserves: historical investigation and conservation plan.	Begin within 3 years
x)	List and protect all significant trees not identified as invasive within Section 5 of the Percy Reserves Draft Conservation Plan in the District Plan Schedules.	Begin within 3 years
xii)	Investigate whether any oak trees planted by the Percy brothers remain in the reserve.	Begin within 3 years
xiv)	Interview John Percy, other Percy relatives and local residents that visited the reserve before 1950, with their oral histories held in Council archives.	Begin within 3 years

<sup>37</sup> John P Adam and Louise Beaumont *Percy Scenic Reserves: Historical Investigation and Conservation Plan (Draft) May 2006*. p.60.

xv)	Investigate and list heritage designations on the reserve.	Begin within 3 years
xvi)	Consider capturing the elements of success and failure of propagation and care of plants from current personnel on site as part of the oral history project.	Begin within 3 years
<b>9.6 Recreation and Leisure Activities</b>		
i)	Reopen former tracks (see also policy 9.9 (iv)) and develop new tracks to provide a variety of tracks and experiences as per the Development Design Concept.	Begin within 3 years
<b>9.7 Signage and Interpretation</b>		
ii)	Establish a comprehensive signage plan, including themes, design and placement of directional, informational and interpretive signage that reflects the high profile of the reserve.	Begin within 1 year
iii)	Establish signage to the main and secondary entrances to the reserve as listed in policy 9.7, iii).	Main entrance begin within 1 year, secondary entrances begin within 3 years
ix)	Establish interpretational signage detailing include areas within the reserve - former Percy Garden, 'middle' reserve area, waterfall/gully reserve (Percy Gully Reserve) and Ratanui Estate. Interpretation signage should also include heritage elements including, but not limited to, the mill pond, dam, the mill race, cave and old sledge track.	Ongoing as areas are developed
x)	Investigate developing signage for heritage and significant trees.	Begin within 1 year as part of the comprehensive signage plan (see 9.7 ii)
<b>9.8 Ecological Habitat</b>		
i)	Identify, record and protect native fish, birds, lizards and invertebrates that are part of the natural habitat within the reserve.	Begin within 4 years

ii)	Develop visitor experience of weta such as 'weta-motels' and raise the profile of the weta cave (see Development Design Concept).	Begin within 4 years
iii)	Extend, attract and introduce native fauna such as birds, fish, eels, lizards and frogs to develop visitor experience and interpretation, as resources and staffing permit.	Begin within 4 years
<b>9.9 Structures and Tracks</b>		
iv)	Re-establish existing but unused tracks <sup>38</sup> . These tracks may require some realignment to avoid established plantings.	Begin within 2 years
v)	Investigate extending the track network over time to establish better connections of the track system of Percy Scenic Reserve with the tracks in Korokoro-Maungaraki bush, for example via the waterfall track.	Begin within 2 years
vi)	Improve tracks used by commuters which allow access from the Korokoro/Maungaraki suburbs to the valley floor.	Begin within 2 years
<b>9.10 Stormwater Management</b>		
i)	Develop the detention pond area in conjunction with Capacity to improve visual amenity.	Begin within 4 years
ii)	Develop a working relationship with Capacity for the purpose of integrating and interpreting the stormwater structures as outlined in the Development Design Concept for the reserve.	Begin within 4 years
<b>9.11 Stakeholders</b>		
iii) & iv)	Establish a 'friends of' or an 'advisory group' for Percy Scenic Reserve. Once established, investigate developing a Trust for Percy Scenic Reserve (subject to formal Council approval).	Begin within 1 year
<b>9.12 Promotion and Education</b>		
i)	Explore options to increase guided nursery visits each year by various organised groups, and the general public. The number of visits will be based on resourcing, availability of guides - possibly volunteers - and demand.	Begin within 3 years
ii)	Develop an overall interpretation concept for the plant collections and forested areas in collaboration with interpretation specialists (see also 9.7 ii), iii), ix), x))	Begin within 1 year

<sup>38</sup> Where these comply with Making Tracks 2009.

iii)	Develop and distribute to regional tourism promoters a brochure emphasising the reserve's attributes. Add information on the reserve to the Council's website.	Begin within 2 years
iv)	Investigate the use of Percy Scenic Reserve as an educational model for sustainable systems and low impact design solutions, involving the input of local schools.	Begin within 4 years
v)	Establish sources of ongoing funding in addition to the Council for plant collections.	Begin within 1 year
vi)	Establish special funding sources for setting up and maintaining a database for the plant collections (see also policy 9.1 iv).	Begin within 1 year
vii)	Explore special funding sources for guided nursery visits for schools, students, tourists and the general public. Sources could include funding from corporate sponsors.	Begin within 1 years
viii)	Develop promotional information material for adjacent landowners.	Begin within 2 years
ix)	Investigate developing a reserve visitor centre, funded as part of the development of the reserve (subject to formal Council approval).	Begin within 5 years
<b>9.13 Management and Development</b>		
ii)	Liaise with DoC on acquiring neighbouring New Zealand Transport Agency land and incorporating it into Percy Scenic Reserve.	Begin within 2 years
v)	Develop an irrigation plan with locations for electrical outlets for events established in consultation with reserve contractors (develop as part of the concept or master plan).	Begin within 1 year
vii)	Hold workshops at Percy Scenic Reserve to provide the public with opportunity to input into the development of the reserve as detail plans are developed (as part of development of the concept or master plan).	Begin within 1 year

Development Design Concept		
	Develop and refine the design concept as the basis for future development and improvement.	Begin within 1 year
	Prepare detailed landscape plans and design.	Begin within 1 year
	Prepare design guidelines for new structures, facilities, signage and interpretation, handrails, barriers, bridges, reserve furniture and lighting as part of design concept development.	Begin within 1 year
	Collaborate with interpretation specialists to guide visitors and develop innovative interpretation and plant labelling.	Begin within 1 year
	Reduce visual barriers between the two main lawn areas in the Percy Garden area, thinning planting on the stream banks and linking the two lawn areas.	Begin within 2 years
	Open up Percy's Stream in certain areas to increase flow capacity and slow it down and make the stream more accessible for natural play opportunities.	Begin within 4 years
	Develop natural play opportunities within the reserve.	Begin within 4 years
	Develop new plant collection garden area with innovative interpretation and access for maintenance (between jasmine Track and former summer house site).	Begin within 4 years
	Develop composting area to demonstrate good practice.	Begin within 4 years
	Interpret and invite exploration of flood control infrastructure - detention pond, dam face, spillway and outfall.	Begin within 4 years
	Draw attention to the Ratanui house site and garden of Sir James Hector and reinterpret known elements and theme (interpretation is subject to provisions of the licence between the Council and NZ Transport Agency).	Begin within 4 years

	Reinstate viewshafts e.g. from the site of the former summer house on the Southern link track, Rata Track and Beech Track (see also 9.9 Structures and Tracks).	As part of track development beginning within 2 years
<b>10 Jubilee Park</b>		
<b>Classification</b>		
	Reclassify Scenic B Reserve Section 948 Hutt District, in line with the rest of the park.	Begin within 1 year
	Declare and classify Scenic B Reserve Lots 1-4 Deposited Plan 89938.	Begin within 1 year
	Register classification and Gazette: Lot 1 DP88473.	Begin within 1 year
<b>10.1 Hutt Minoh Friendship House</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Develop interpretation signage (in the manner of the abandoned house sites) to outline the history of Minoh Friendship House.	Begin within 1 year
<b>10.2 Forest/Gully Area</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Identify and record existing species, and use in all future planting in the forest/gully area.	Begin within 3 years
<b>ii)</b>	Upgrade and maintain the existing track network to meet SNZ HB8630:2004 requirements and the council's Making Tracks 2009.	Begin within 1 year
<b>10.3 Former House Sites</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Establish planting guidelines for ruined house sites and include a species list and guidelines for the "domestic garden" style of planting (refer Landscape Development Plan Appendix 3). Focus on planting a range of species and avoid cultivated mass plantings.	Begin within 1 year
<b>ii)</b>	Record native and exotic plants, including heritage plants on the house sites, and investigate propagating a selected number as iconic heritage plants for use in planting around the sites.	Begin within 1 year
<b>iii)</b>	Establish a register and map of historic relics such as remains of steps, swimming pools, garden walls, paths and drains to identify and record these items.	Begin within 3 years

<b>10.5 Facilities, Structures and Tracks</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Link tracks within Jubilee Park with the wider track network leading to the Hutt River Trail and for those who wish to venture further to Belmont Regional Park.	Begin within 2 years
<b>ii)</b>	Develop and maintain all weather tracks and signage, encouraging the use of the reserve as a pedestrian thoroughway between Normandale and Harbourview.	Begin within 2 years
<b>iii)</b>	Develop and maintain the main entrance and pathways as outlined in the Landscape Development Plan (Appendix 3).	Begin within 2 years
<b>iv)</b>	Close unused tracks which no longer provide pedestrian links, such as those leading to the motorway.	Begin within 1 year
<b>v)</b>	Investigate the need for quality all weather cycle connections through Jubilee Park. A suggested route for cycle connections is between Gaskill Grove and the Normandale Bridge.	Begin within 2 years
<b>vi)</b>	Investigate improving access for recreation and operational maintenance to open grassed areas where community events are held. Current access is difficult for people with small children.	Begin within 1 year
<b>vii)</b>	Investigate developing alternative track access through the reserve from Normandale Road. A suggested starting point is from opposite 79 Normandale Road.	Begin within 3 years
<b>viii)</b>	Investigate establishing further parking for reserve users at Harbourview.	Begin within 3 years
<b>ix)</b>	Clear, repair and reopen as appropriate those walking routes above SH2 which were destroyed by slips.	Begin within 1 year
<b>10.6 Entrances and Signage</b>		
<b>ii)</b>	<p>Identify the carpark off Normandale Road as the main pedestrian and vehicle entrance.</p> <p>A secondary entrance for pedestrians and vehicles accessing Minoh Friendship House will be from Minoh Friendship House driveway off Normandale Road.</p> <p>Other pedestrian entrances are Gaskill Grove, off the skate park from Normandale Road and Normandale Road bush entrance (as shown on the Landscape Development Plan Appendix 3).</p>	<p>Begin within 1 year</p> <p>Begin within 1 year</p> <p>Begin within 1 year</p>

<b>iii)</b>	Clearly signpost the main carpark and entrance on Normandale Road	Begin within 1 year
<b>iv)</b>	Restrict vehicle access to Minoh Friendship House to house users only. The gate at the top of the driveway on Normandale Road will remain open during the day but locked nightly and the key made available to House users and contractors only	Begin within 1 year
<b>v)</b>	Develop a main interpretation sign for the shelter near the Normandale Overbridge, to provide interpretation on the special character of Jubilee Park, in addition to the existing site map.	Begin within 1 year
<b>vii)</b>	Investigate installing a gate at the overbridge carpark to increase visitor safety.	Begin within 3 years
<b>10.7 Maintenance</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Remove invasive weed species such as blackberry and sycamore, and follow up with appropriate planting or turf	Begin within 2 years
<b>ii)</b>	Investigate the removal of the pines north of the fernery to increase sunlight in the winter months	Begin within 4 years
<b>iii)</b>	Investigate the use of ride-on mowers for the open grassed areas as an alternative to tractors, to maintain clearly defined edge and the original size of the grassed areas, and to avoid damage during damp periods.	Begin within 1 year
<b>iv)</b>	Establish guidelines for the maintenance of garden and house relics such as steps and swimming pool remains.	Begin within 1 year
<b>v)</b>	Investigate the provision of all weather tracks linking the fernery to the Gaskill Grove track to improve mowing, maintenance and recreational access.	Begin within 1 year
<b>vi)</b>	Investigate ways to improve drainage of tracks and to prevent slips onto tracks and onto SH2.	Begin within 1 year

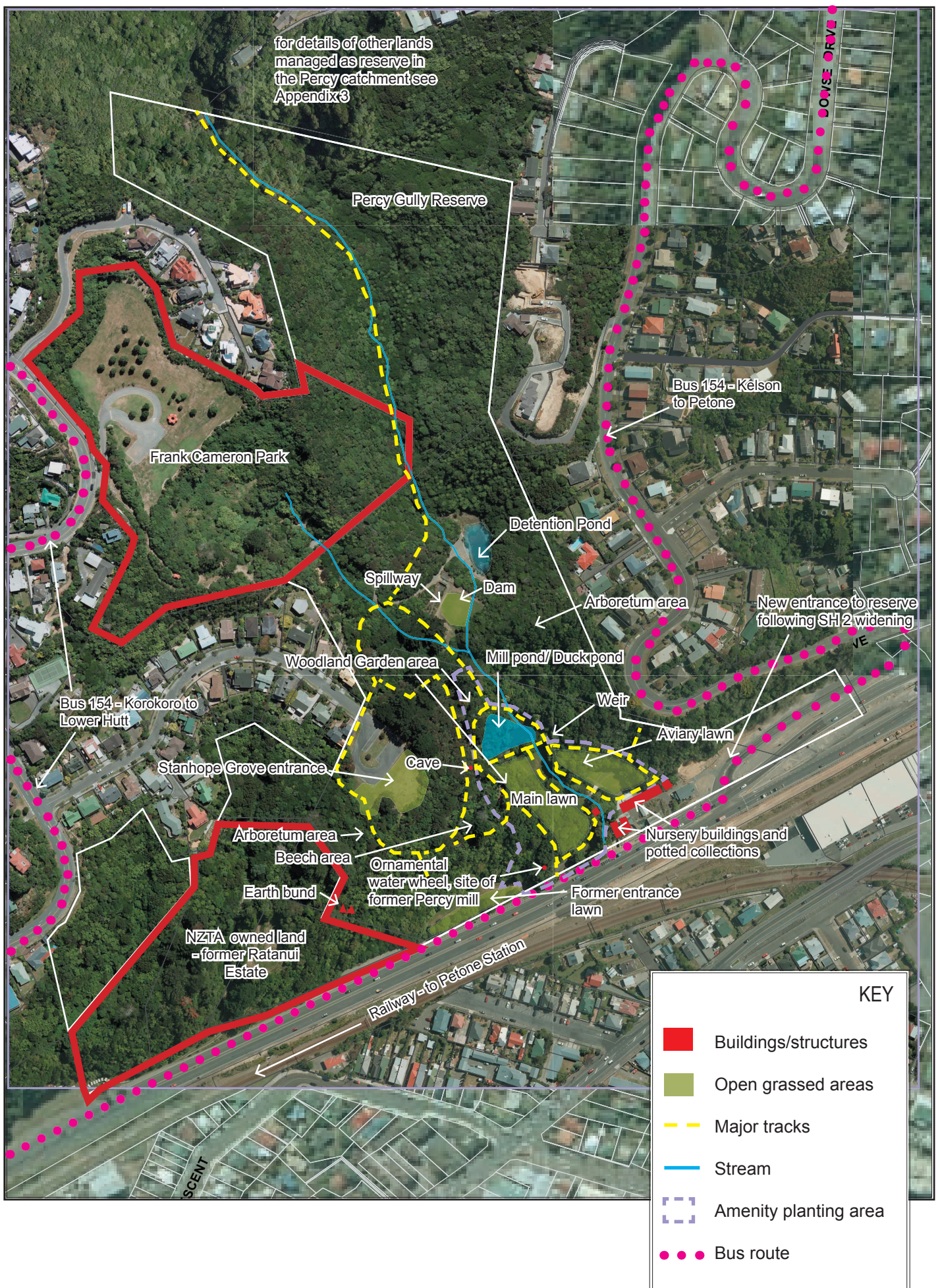
<b>10.8 Management and Development</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Declare as reserve Lots 1-4 Deposited Plan 89938, and classify as Scenic Reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 in line with the remainder of the park.	Begin within 1 year
<b>ii)</b>	Investigate reclassifying Section 948 Hutt District off the end of Gaskill Grove from Scenic A Reserve, to Scenic B Reserve, in line with the rest of the land in Jubilee Park.	Begin within 1 year
<b>iii)</b>	Regularise the active recreational use of the area across from 79 Normandale Road (site of the existing skateboard half pipe) to reflect recreational use of this area.	Begin within 2 years
<b>iv)</b>	Consult interest groups to develop a database for the park's natural and cultural resources.	Begin within 2 years
<b>v)</b>	Investigate the acquisition of privately owned lands with regenerating vegetation contiguous with Jubilee Park to extend the park's natural resources.	Begin within 4 years
<b>10.9 Stakeholders</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Liaise with key stakeholders of Jubilee Park to enhance recreational opportunities, and enhance and protect the natural, cultural and heritage features of the reserve.	Ongoing, begin within 1 year
<b>10.10 Promotion</b>		
<b>i)</b>	Develop a brochure detailing reserve features, use of walking routes and times, and public use of Minoh Friendship House for events; and the information posted on the Council's website.	Begin within 1 year
<b>ii)</b>	Promote Hutt Minoh Friendship House as a cultural exchange centre through the staging of events such as the Blossom Festival and as a facility for small public or private events.	Begin within 1 year
<b>iii)</b>	Organise annual/seasonal events to take place in the park such as Teddy Bears Picnic, guided walks with a botanical/historical focus and school field trips.	Begin within 1 year



## Appendix 3: Percy Scenic Reserve and Jubilee Park: Features Plans



# Percy Scenic Reserve - Features Plan



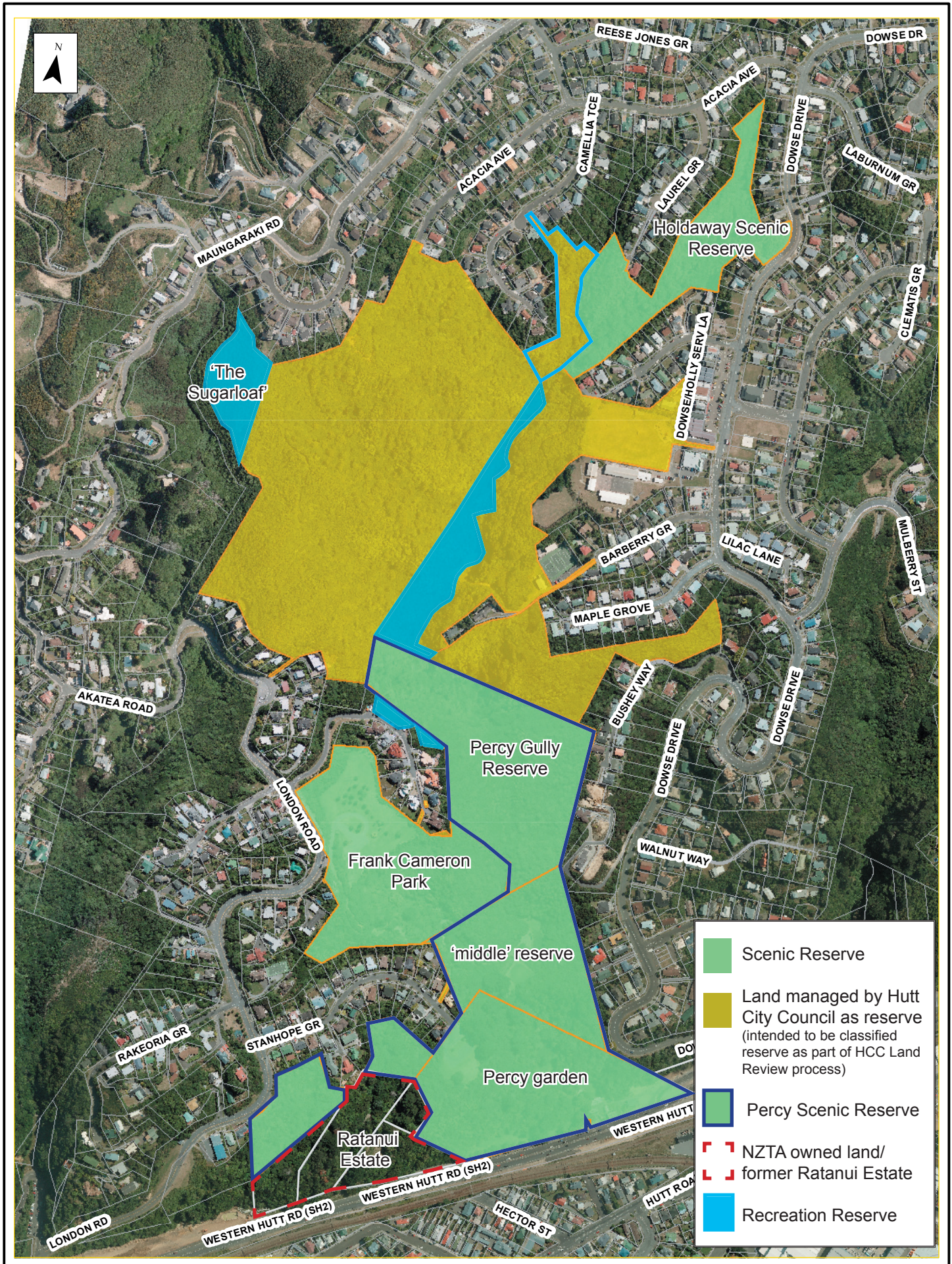
# Jubilee Park - Features Plan



## Appendix 4: Other Lands Managed as Reserve in the Percy Scenic Reserve Catchment.



# Appendix 4: Other Lands Managed as Reserve in the Percy Scenic Reserve Catchment

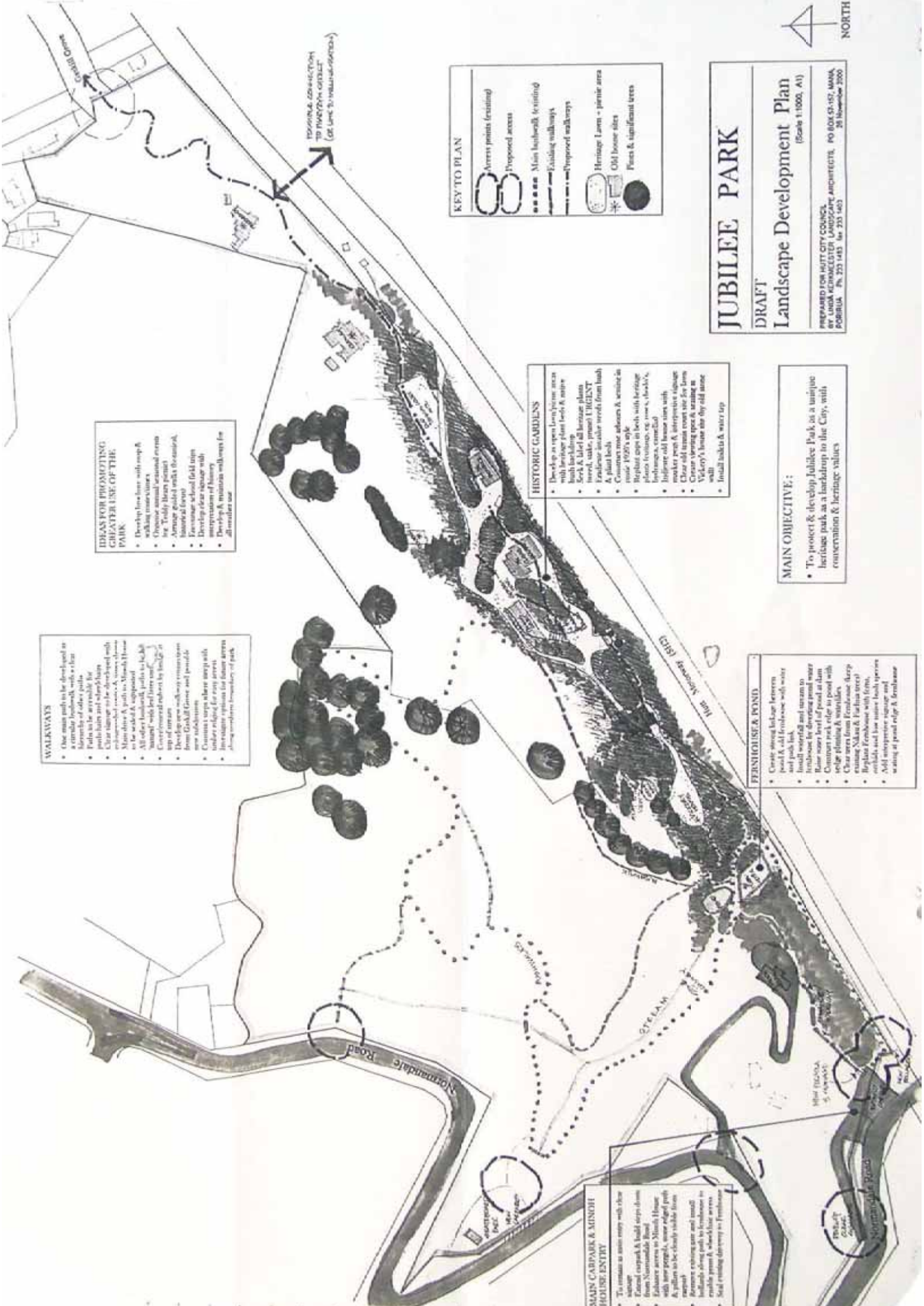


- Scenic Reserve
- Land managed by Hutt City Council as reserve (intended to be classified reserve as part of HCC Land Review process)
- Percy Scenic Reserve
- NZTA owned land/  
former Ratanui Estate
- Recreation Reserve



# Appendix 5: Jubilee Park: Draft Landscape Development Plan





**KEY TO PLAN**

- Access points (existing)
- Proposed access
- Main boulevard (existing)
- Existing walkways
- Proposed walkways
- Heritage Lawn - picnic area
- Old boiler sites
- Trees & significant trees

**JUBILEE PARK**  
**DRAFT**  
**Landscape Development Plan**  
 (Scale 1:1000, A1)

PREPARED FOR HULL CITY COUNCIL  
 BY LINDA GERRARD/CESTER LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PO BOX 63-167, MANA  
 POHIBUA PH. 231 1463 fax 231 1463  
 20 November 2000

**IDEAS FOR PROMOTING GREATER USE OF THE PARK**

- Develop law-lawn with open & walking zones
- Organise annual seasonal events eg. Teddy bears picnic
- Arrange guided walks (tourist, historical focus)
- Encourage school field trips
- Develop clear signage with interpretation of history
- Develop & maintain walkways for all weather use

**WALKWAYS**

- Once main path to be developed as a circular boulevard with a clear hierarchy of other paths
- Paths to be accessible for people with and without disabilities
- Clear signage to be developed with interpretative content
- Main drive & path to Minoh House to be wider & paved
- All other paths to be paved
- Green painted edges to be used at junctions
- Develop open walkway connection from Gable Gate and provide new stationery
- Construct steps where necessary under ridges for easy access
- Investigate options for future access along north-west boundary of park

**HISTORIC GARDENS**

- Develop as open lawn/picnic area with heritage plant beds & native bush landscaping
- Seek & label all heritage plants (herb, native, pruned) URGENT
- Eradicate invasive weeds from bush & plant beds
- Construct rose arbours & screen in rose 1920's style
- Replant gaps in beds with heritage plants (various eg. rose, bush's, herbaceous, variegated)
- Integrate old bench sites with modern bench & interpretive signage
- Clear old tennis court site for lawn
- Create viewing space & seating in Vickery's house for day old stone wall
- Install ladder & water tap

**MAIN OBJECTIVE:**

- To protect & develop Jubilee Park as a unique heritage park as a backdrop to the City, with conservation & heritage values

**FURNHOUSE & POND**

- Create strong linkage between pond & old Furnhouse with water and path link
- Install waterfall and stream to linkhouse by diverting road water
- Raise some level of pond at dam
- Construct rock edge to pond with slope finishing & waterfalls
- Clear area from Furnhouse deep existing Māori & Fenchon trees
- Replant Furnhouse with ferns, orchids and low native bush species
- Add interpretive signage and seating at pond edge & Furnhouse

**MAIN CARPARK & MINOH HOUSE ENTRY**

- To remain as main entry with clear signage
- Extend carpark & build steps down from Normanville Road
- Enhance access to Minoh House with new paths, new edged path & pillars to be clearly visible from carpark
- Remove existing gate and install bollards along path to linkhouse to enable access & wheelchair access
- Seal existing driveway to Furnhouse



## Appendix 6: ICOMOS New Zealand: Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value



# ICOMOS NEW ZEALAND

## Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value

### Preamble

New Zealand retains a unique assemblage of places of cultural heritage value relating to its indigenous and its more recent peoples. These areas, landscapes and features, buildings, structures and gardens, archaeological and traditional sites, and sacred places and monuments are treasures of distinctive value. New Zealand shares a general responsibility with the rest of humanity to safeguard its cultural heritage for present and future generations. More specifically, New Zealand peoples have particular ways of perceiving, conserving and relating to their cultural heritage.

Following the spirit of the [International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites](#) (the Venice Charter 1966), this charter sets our principles to guide the conservation of places of cultural heritage value in New Zealand. It is intended as a frame of reference for all those who, as owners, territorial authorities, tradespersons or professionals, are involved in the different aspects of such work. It aims to provide guidelines for community leaders, organisations and individuals concerned with conservation issues. It is a statement of professional practice for members of ICOMOS New Zealand.

Each section of the charter should be read in the light of all the others. Definitions of terms used are provided in [section 22](#).

Accordingly this charter has been adopted by the New Zealand National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites at its Annual General Meeting on 4 October 1992.

### 1. The Purpose of Conservation

The purpose of conservation is to care for places of cultural heritage value, their structures, materials and cultural meaning. In general, such places:

- i. have lasting values and can be appreciated in their own right;
- ii. teach us about the past and the culture of those who came before us;
- iii. provide the context for community identity whereby people relate to the land and to those who have gone before;

- iv. provide variety and contrast in the modern world and a measure against which we can compare the achievements of today; and
- v. provide visible evidence of the continuity between past, present and future.

## **2. Indigenous Cultural Heritage**

The indigenous heritage of Maori and Moriori relates to family, local and tribal groups and associations. It is inseparable from identity and well-being and has particular cultural meanings.

The [Treaty of Waitangi](#) is the historical basis for indigenous guardianship. It recognises the indigenous people as exercising responsibility for their treasures, monuments and sacred places. This interest extends beyond current legal ownership wherever such heritage exists. Particular knowledge of heritage values is entrusted to chosen guardians. The conservation of places of indigenous cultural heritage value therefore is conditional on decisions made in the indigenous community, and should proceed only in this context. Indigenous conservation precepts are fluid and take account of the continuity of life and the needs of the present as well as the responsibilities of guardianship and association with those who have gone before. In particular, protocols of access, authority and ritual are handled at a local level. General principles of ethics and social respect affirm that such protocols should be observed.

## **3. Conservation Practice**

Appropriate conservation professionals should be involved in all aspects of conservation work. Indigenous methodologies should be applied as appropriate and may vary from place to place. Conservation results should be in keeping with their cultural content. All necessary consents and permits should be obtained.

Conservation projects should include the following:

- i. definition of the cultural heritage value of the place, which requires prior researching of any documentary and oral history, a detailed examination of the place, and the recording of its physical condition;
- ii. community consultation, continuing throughout a project as appropriate;
- iii. preparation of a plan which meets the conservation principles of this charter;
- iv. the implementation of any planned work; and

- v. the documentation of any research, recording and conservation work, as it proceeds.

## **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

### **4. Conservation Method**

Conservation should:

- i. make use of all relevant conservation values, knowledge, disciplines, arts and crafts;
- ii. show the greatest respect for, and involve the least possible loss of, material of cultural heritage value;
- iii. involve the least degree of intervention consistent with long term care and the principles of this charter;
- iv. take into account the needs, abilities and resources of the particular communities; and
- v. be fully documented and recorded.

### **5. Respect for existing evidence**

The evidence of time and the contributions of all periods should be respected in conservation. The material of a particular period may be obscured or removed if assessment shows that this would not diminish the cultural heritage value of the place. In these circumstances such material should be documented before it is obscured or removed.

### **6. Setting**

The historical setting of a place should be conserved with the place itself. If the historical setting non longer exists, construction of a setting based on physical and documentary evidence should be the aim. The extent of the appropriate setting may be affected by constraints other than heritage value.

### **7. Risk Mitigation**

All places of cultural heritage value should be assessed as to their potential risk from any natural process or event. Where a significant risk is determined, appropriate action to minimise the risk should be undertaken. Where appropriate, a risk mitigation plan should be prepared.

### **8. Relocation**

The site of an historic structure is usually an integral part of its cultural heritage value. Relocation, however, can be a legitimate part of the conservation process where assessment shows that:

- i. the site is not of associated value (an exceptional circumstance); or
- ii. relocation is the only means of saving the structure; or
- iii. relocation provides continuity of cultural heritage value.

A new site should provide a setting compatible with cultural heritage value.

## **9. Invasive Investigation**

Invasive investigation of a place can provide knowledge that is not likely to be gained from any other source. Archaeological or structural investigation can be justified where such evidence is about to be lost, or where knowledge may be significantly extended, or where it is necessary to establish the existence of material of cultural heritage value, or where it is necessary for conservation work. The examination should be carried out according to accepted scientific standards. Such investigation should leave the maximum amount of material undisturbed for study by future generations.

## **10. Contents**

Where the contents of a place contribute to its cultural heritage value, they should be regarded as an integral part of the place and be conserved with it.

## **11. Works of Art and Special Fabric**

Carving, painting, weaving, stained glass and other arts associated with a place should be considered integral with a place. Where it is necessary to carry out maintenance and repair of any such material, specialist conservation advice appropriate to the material should be sought.

## **12. Records**

Records of the research and conservation of places of cultural heritage value should be placed in an appropriate archive. Some knowledge of place of indigenous heritage value is not a matter of public record, but is entrusted to guardians within the indigenous community.

# **CONSERVATION PROCESSES**

### **13. Degrees of Intervention**

Conservation may involve, in increasing extent of intervention: non-intervention, maintenance, stabilisation, repair, restoration, reconstruction or adaptation. Where appropriate, conservation processes may be applied to parts or components of a structure or site.

Re-creation, meaning the conjectural reconstruction of a place, and replication, meaning to make a copy of an existing place, are outside the scope of this charter.

### **14. Non-intervention**

In some circumstances, assessment may show that any intervention is undesirable. In particular, undisturbed constancy of spiritual association may be more important than the physical aspects of some places of indigenous heritage value.

### **15. Maintenance**

A place of cultural heritage value should be maintained regularly and according to a plan, except in circumstances where it may be appropriate for places to remain without intervention.

### **16. Stabilisation**

Places of cultural heritage value should be protected from processes of decay, except where decay is appropriate to their value. Although deterioration cannot be totally prevented, it should be slowed by providing stabilisation or support.

### **17. Repair**

Repair of material or of a site should be with original or similar materials. Repair of a technically higher standard than the original workmanship or materials may be justified where the life expectancy of the site or material is increased, the new material is compatible with the old and the cultural heritage value is not diminished. New material should be identifiable.

### **18. Restoration**

Restoration should be based on respect for existing material and on the logical interpretation of all available evidence, so that the place is consistent with its earlier form and meaning. It should only be carried out if the cultural heritage value of the place is recovered or revealed by the process.

The restoration process typically involves reassembly and reinstatement and may involve the removal of accretions.

## 19. Reconstruction

Reconstruction is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of additional materials where loss has occurred. Reconstruction may be appropriate if it is essential to the function or understanding of a place, if sufficient physical and documentary evidence exists to minimise conjecture, and if surviving heritage valued are preserved. Reconstruction should not normally constitute the majority of a place. Generalised representations of typical features or structures should be avoided.

## 20. Adaptation

The conservation of a place of cultural heritage value is usually facilitated by it serving a socially, culturally or economically useful purpose. In some cases, alterations and additions may be acceptable where they are essential to continued use, or where they are culturally desirable, or where the conservation of the place cannot otherwise be achieved. Any change, however, should be the minimum necessary and should not detract from the cultural heritage value of the place. Any conditions and alterations should be compatible with original fabric but should be sufficiently distinct that they can be read as new work.

## 21. Interpretation

Interpretation of a place may be appropriate if enhancement of public understanding is required. Relevant protocol should be complied with. Any interpretation should not compromise the values, appearance, structure or materials of a place, or intrude upon the experience of the place.

## 22. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this charter:

- **adaptation** means modifying a place to suit it to a compatible use, involving the least possible loss of cultural heritage value
- **conservation** means the processes of caring for a place so as to safeguard its cultural heritage value
- **cultural heritage value** means possessing historical, archaeological, architectural, technological, aesthetic, scientific, spiritual, social, traditional or other special cultural significance, associated with human activity
- **maintenance** means the protective care of a place
- **material** means physical matter which is the product of human activity or has been modified by human activity

- **place** means any land, including land covered by water, and the airspace forming the spatial context to such land, including any landscape, traditional site or sacred place, and anything fixed to the land including any archaeological site, garden, building or structure, and any body of water, whether fresh or seawater, that forms part of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand
  - **preservation** means maintaining a place with as little change as possible
  - **reassembly** (*anastylosis*) means putting existing but dismembered parts back together
  - **reconstruction** means to build again in the original form using old or new material
  - **reinstatement** means putting components of earlier material back in position
  - **repair** means making good decayed or damaged material
  - **restoration** means returning a place as nearly as possible to a known earlier state by reassembly, reinstatement and/or the removal of extraneous additions
  - **stabilisation** means the arrest of the processes of decay
  - **structure** means any building, equipment, device or other facility made by people and which is fixed to the land.
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