

**RAKAIA HUTS CONSERVATION PLAN
SELWYN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Rakaia Huts Conservation Plan

Selwyn District Council

Prepared By Gemma Smith
Resource Management Planner

Opus International Consultants Limited
Environmental
Opus House
20 Moorhouse Avenue, PO Box 1482
Christchurch, New Zealand

Reviewed By Cathryn Barr
Team Leader - Heritage

Telephone: +64 3 363-5400
Facsimile: +64 3 365-7858

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Whakataukī

Ko ngā hau ki ētahi wāhi, ko ngā kai ki Orariki

This whakataukī refers to the year round abundance of food that was available at Orariki, the pā of Te Ruahikihiki. There was mahinga kai in all seasons, in all weather.

Whilst this Whakataukī does not specifically refer to Rakaia, Whakataukī like this one encapsulate the values of tāngata whenua associated with the environment, of particular resources, places, activities, people and events, and show us a glimpse of the world as it was to our tūpuna (ancestors). In this way they are taonga tuku iho, treasures handed down from our ancestors to guide us in our lives today. It is these whakataukī, korero and whakaaro that inspire and motivate us to continue to uphold the mana and mauri of our landscape, of our home.

Certainly from a Ngai Te Ruahikihiki / Ngāti Moki / Te Taumutu Rūnanga perspective, the goal of this Conservation Management Plan is to provide a guide that encapsulates the values of tāngata whenua and that reflects the moa-hunting activities of the previous inhabitants associated with Rakaia Huts.

Contents

Executive summary	1
Threats to the Heritage of Rakaia Huts.....	1
The Rakaia Huts Area	1
Management of threats.....	1
1 Introduction.....	2
1.1 Purpose	2
1.2 Constraints	2
1.3 International Best Practice.....	3
1.4 Cultural Significance	3
1.5 Methodology	3
1.6 Review.....	3
1.7 Status of the place.....	3
1.8 Regulatory requirements	4
1.9 Non- regulatory requirements	9
1.10 Assessing Heritage Values.....	10
1.11 Developing this plan	10
1.12 Changes to this plan.....	11
2 Understanding Rakaia	11
2.1 History	11
2.2 Location Description	15
2.3 Management Zone Descriptions	17
3 Archaeological Site Description	19
3.1 History of Archaeological Investigations	19
3.2 Current Condition Description Moa Hunter Site L37/4	21
4 Significance	25
4.1 Cultural Significance	25
4.2 Scientific Significance.....	25
4.3 Social Significance	26
4.4 Historic Significance	26
4.5 Levels of Significance	26
5 Current and Future Threats	29
6 Management of Threats.....	32
6.1 Regulatory Methods.....	32
6.2 Non-Regulatory Methods.....	35
7 Future Management.....	38

7.1	Further research	38
7.2	Monitoring.....	38
8	Recommendations.....	38
9	Glossary of Terms	39
10	Bibliography.....	39
Appendix 1: ICOMOS NZ Charter 1995.....		Error! Bookmark not defined.
Appendix 2: Copies New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Record Forms		Error! Bookmark not defined.
Appendix 3: Legal Information		Error! Bookmark not defined.
Appendix 4: Current PIM Notes		Error! Bookmark not defined.
Appendix 5: Archaeology Report.....		Error! Bookmark not defined.
Appendix 6: Photos		Error! Bookmark not defined.

Executive summary

Opus International Consultants (Opus) have been engaged by Selwyn District Council to develop the Rakaia Huts Conservation Plan ('Conservation Plan'). The Conservation Plan is a document that recognises threats to the archaeology of the Rakaia Huts area and provides regulatory and non regulatory management tools to manage these threats.

The purpose of the Conservation Plan is to form the first step in developing a master plan strategy for the conservation, future use and development of the Rakaia Huts area. It provides:

- an assessment of the physical condition of the archaeological site and features in the area
- a statement of significance
- the development of best practice conservation policies for the heritage values of the area.

Community consultation was undertaken in the form of a community workshop, a mail out to residents with a feedback form and workshops with the Conservation Plan working party which consisted of Te Taumutu Runanga, Historic Places Trust and Selwyn District Council.

Threats to the Heritage of Rakaia Huts

The identification of threats is a key aspect of the management of heritage places. The threats have been categorised into those that are a result of natural processes, those that are a result of human activities, the access road to the lagoon and information loss.

The Rakaia Huts Area

The Conservation Plan area is the area surrounding and including the Rakaia Huts Township. The area has been investigated by a number of archaeologists. Dan Witter has categorised the area into areas that have low to high archaeological significance.

Management of threats

To manage the threats to Rakaia Huts area regulatory and non-regulatory tools have been proposed. The tools that have been proposed relate to the identified level of significance of the area.

Most of the regulatory tools relate to land that is currently not residentially developed and is known to have archaeological deposits. The tools are also focussed around streamlining existing Resource Management Act and Historic Places Act processes.

The non regulatory tools are focussed on informing and creating awareness of existing legislative processes.

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This Conservation Plan forms the first step in developing a master plan strategy for the conservation, future use and development of the Rakaia Huts area. It provides:

- an assessment of the physical condition of the archaeological site and features in the area
- a statement of significance
- the development of best practice conservation policies for the heritage values of the area.

This document draws elements specific to this place together and through the identification of appropriate solutions, will ensure that the integrity of all archaeological sites and associated cultural values within this area are maintained and where appropriate, enhanced. This Conservation Plan can then be used as a programme for future development opportunities that can be designed, timed and cost estimated, ensuring project risks are recognised, managed or avoided altogether.

The boundaries of the area covered by this Conservation Plan directly reflect the cultural significance of the recorded moa hunter archaeological values, set within the context of a wider landscape of cultural significance to manawhenua, Ngai Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu.

1.2 Constraints

The following constraints should be noted:

- This document is written specifically for the area identified as containing evidence of the Rakaia Huts Moa Hunter Archaeological site (NZ Archaeological Association site L37/4) The extent of the area covered by this report is outlined in Figure 4.
- This plan outlines identified issues and threats, and proposes regulatory and non-regulatory policies and objectives associated with these in relation to the Rakaia Huts Moa Hunter archaeological site It does not provide an outline of day to day management guidelines for the site.
- Issues and threats identified in this document are those identified during site visits and as a result of consultation at the time of writing. It must be acknowledged that over time the level or significance of some issues or threats will change, and for this reason it is necessary that this document is subject to regular review.
- This document should be read in conjunction with the archaeological assessment of the site carried out as part of this project.

1.3 International Best Practice

This Plan is compatible with the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value 1995.

1.4 Cultural Significance

The conservation of places of Māori significance is covered in Section 2 of the ICOMOS NZ Charter 1995 and has been taken as the guiding principle for this work. A copy of the Charter can be found in Appendix 1.

1.5 Methodology

This conservation plan has been prepared in accordance with the recommended guidelines for the preparation of conservation plans published by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT),¹ and J.S. Kerr².

Conservation best practice principles adhere to those contained in the ICOMOS NZ Charter 1995.

This Conservation Plan was sponsored by Selwyn District Council, Te Taumutu Runanga and NZHPT. These parties were part of a working party that has overseen the preparation of this plan.

Three workshops have been held with the Working Party. One workshop was held with the Rakaia Huts Community. A mail out was sent to the Rakaia Huts Community asking for feedback which closed on 27 February 2009.

1.6 Review

Provision for a five-yearly review of the Conservation Plan is recommended. While the overall heritage values of a place may not change, as management and conservation work is carried out the issues and threats identified in this document will change and new issues may arise. A five-yearly review of the Conservation Plan will allow for on-going changes through management or use to be identified and incorporated.

1.7 Status of the place

Ownership and Legal description

The area of land covered by this Conservation Plan is in multiple titles. A list of the legal descriptions and a copy of the survey plans can be found in Appendix 3.

Manawhenua / Kaitiakitanga Status

¹ G. Bowron and J. Harris, (1994) *Guidelines for the Preparation of Conservation Plans*. Wellington, New Zealand Historic Places Trust.

² J. S. Kerr. (1996) *The Conservation Plan – A Guide to the Preparation of Conservation Plans for Places of European Significance*. Sydney, National Trust.

The land and waters around the Rakaia River mouth and Rakaia Huts are of special interest to Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu historically, culturally and archaeologically. The area around the Rakaia river mouth is a known moa-hunter site.

Historic Places Trust Registration

There are no historic areas or places, wahi tapu and wahi tapu areas listed in the Historic Places Trust Register within the area covered by this plan.

1.8 Regulatory requirements

Legislation that is relevant to Rakaia Huts includes:

1.8.1 Historic Places Act 1993

The Historic Places Act 1993 is administered by the NZ Historic Places Trust (NZHPT). The purpose of the Act is to:

To promote the identification, preservation, and conservation of the historical and cultural heritage of New Zealand (Section 4)

The Trust's key area of regulation under the Historic Places Act relates to archaeological sites.

The Act's definition of an archaeological site is *any place in New Zealand that –*

(a) Either –

(i) was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900; or

(ii) is the site of the wreck of any vessel where that wreck occurred before 1900; and

(b) Is or may be able through investigation by archaeological methods to provide evidence relating to the history of New Zealand. (Section 2)

Any person wishing to undertake work that may damage, modify or destroy an archaeological site must first obtain an authority from the NZHPT for that work.

1.8.2 Protected Objects Act 1975

The Protected Objects Act 1975 is administered by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage. The Act regulates the export of protected objects, the illegal import or export of protected New Zealand and foreign objects, and the sale, trade and ownership of taonga tuturu.

The Act's definition of taonga tuturu is "*an object that –*

(a) relates to Maori culture, history or society; and

(b) was, or appears to have been, -

- (i) *manufactured or modified in New Zealand by Maori; or*
 - (ii) *brought into New Zealand by Maori; or*
 - (iii) *used by Maori; and*
- (c) *is more than 50 years old* (Section 2)

There are nine categories of protected objects. Of relevance to the Rakia Huts area are “nga taonga tuturu” and archaeological material associated with New Zealand (Schedule 4). Any newly found taonga tuturu or archaeological artefacts are, in the first instance owned by the Crown, until a determination of ownership is determined by the Maori Land Court. In the interim, the Ministry for Culture and Heritage is legally responsible for recording, custody, facilitating claims for ownership and any conservation treatment that may be required for taonga tuturu. The finding of any objects meeting the definition of taonga tuturu under this Act, must be notified to the Ministry.

1.8.3 Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA)

The Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) provides guidelines and regulations for the sustainable management and protection of natural and cultural resources.

In achieving the purposes of the Act it is stated that account will be taken of the following matters of national importance (relevant to Rakia):

6(e) The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, an other taonga.

6(f) The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use and development.

A definition of Historic Heritage was added with the amendments to the RMA in 2003. This defines Historic Heritage as:

a) Those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures deriving from any of the following qualities:

- (i) *Archaeological*
- (ii) *Architectural*
- (iii) *Cultural*
- (iv) *Historic*
- (v) *Scientific*
- (vi) *Technological; and*

b) Includes –

- (i) *Historic sites, structures, places, and areas; and*
- (ii) *Archaeological sites; and*
- (iii) *Sites of significance to Maori, including waahi tapu; and*
- (iv) *Surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources*

1.8.4 Selwyn District Plan

The Selwyn District Plan contains a number of sections specific to heritage matters. In the Rural and Township volumes the Schedule of Heritage Sites (Appendix 3) does not list any features at Rakaia Huts, however the area is listed in Appendix 5 Sites of Significance to Tangata Whenua. The District Plan notes that Rakaia Huts is susceptible to flooding from the river and coastal erosion. Specific policies that relate to Rakaia Huts and that are relevant to this conservation plan are:

1. *Avoid rezoning any land for new residential or business development on the south-west side of Pacific Drive and restrict further building development on existing Lots 58-108 as shown in Appendix 24.]*

Explanation and Reasons

Land on the south-west side of Pacific Drive is subject to flooding from the Rakaia River. For this reason the Council intends to discourage further zoning of land for living or business purposes in this area and restrict development on the lower terrace within the existing Living zone.

2. *Ensure any land rezoned for new residential or business development at Rakaia Huts does not cause damage or disturbance to archaeological sites or sites that are culturally important to tangata whenua.*

Explanation and Reasons

The area around the Rakaia River mouth is a traditional area of occupation and food gathering for local Maori. Remains of a moa hunting ground exist in the area. The Council encourages any person wanting to rezone land for new residential or business development at Rakaia Huts to consult with tangata whenua and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust Pouhere Taonga about their interests in this area. This policy is consistent with Part 2, Section 3.3, Policy 3.

1.8.5 Regional Coastal Environment Plan

The Regional Coastal Environment Plan has defined hazard zones along the regions coast. Two zones are defined:

- *Hazard Zone 1 This is a zone delimited by a line approximately parallel with the shoreline, set inland from mean high water mark springs, which contains the current active beach system and land that is at risk from coastal erosion within 50 years of this Plan being produced.*

- *Hazard Zone 2 This is inland from Hazard Zone 1, and marks land that is at risk from coastal erosion in the period 50 to 100 years of this Plan being produced.*

The Coastal Plan does not include any land at Rakaia Huts within Zone 1 or 2. However it is necessary to be aware of the zoning approach adopted in the Coastal Plan given the erosion issues with the road and the long term potential impact that this may have on the archaeological site.

1.8.6 Te Taumutu Runanga Natural Resource Management Plan

Under Section 5 Takaroa (coastal and marine environments) of Te Taumutu Runanga Natural Resource Management Plan, the Rakaia Huts area is described and the issues and policies for the area are outlined.

5.3.3 Rakaia Huts

The Rakaia Huts are located where the Rakaia River meets the sea. The small semi-permanent settlement occupies the highest point of coastal land in the area. The land and waters around the Rakaia River mouth and Rakaia Huts are of special interest to Te Taumutu Runanga and Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu historically, culturally and archaeologically. The area around the Rakaia River mouth is a known moa-hunter site. Due to the significance of the area, Te Taumutu Runanga has developed specific policies that apply to any activities (e.g. earthworks) undertaken in the area.

Nga Take/Issues

- *Earthworks and building activity and potential impact on wahi tapu*
- *Recognition of the historical association of Ngai Tahu to the Rakaia River and coastal areas*
- *Enhancement of nohoanga site at Rakaia*
- *Access to mahinga kai*
- *Accidental find of koiwi tangata*
- *Sewage disposal at the huts*

KAUPAPA – POLICY

1. *Any earthworks, including building, in the area of Rakaia Huts requires consent from Te Taumutu Runanga.*
2. *Accidental find protocols will be attached to any consent application.*
3. *An archaeologist is to be on site when any excavations occur, as recommended by the Runanga.*
4. *If any artefacts of significance are found during any excavation activities, these will be returned to Te Taumutu Runanga.*

5. *If any Kōiwi tangata (human remains) are uncovered, Te Taumutu Runanga is to be notified immediately. The Runanga will give urgent priority to any such notification so that the resulting disruption to the excavation activity is kept to a minimum.*
6. *Consistent with the wider Ngāi Tahu Policy, Te Taumutu Runanga will take full responsibility for seeing that any remains are reinterred appropriately and in full consultation with the police.*
7. *Due to the large amount of springs in the area and the importance of Rakaia lagoon as mahinga kai, these waterways must be monitored for contamination from any disposal of treated sewage to land.*
8. *That consents for sewage disposal at the Rakaia Huts be for a duration of 15 years, with a review every 5 years.*
9. *That at such time a reticulated sewage system is established for the Rakaia Huts community, all properties will be required to connect to the system*

Section 4.9 of Te Taumutu Natural Resource Management Plan outlines guidelines for the management of sites and places of significance - Ngā Wāhi Taonga, Ngā Wāhi Tapu

Wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga, or sites of significance, are those places that hold special cultural, historical or spiritual associations for tāngata whenua. Such sites may be a specific location or a more general area such as a waterway or mountain range. Sites may be of tribal significance, or specific to hapū and whānau.

Wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga include specific streams or rivers, urupā (burial sites) sites associated with births or deaths, pā or kāinga (past occupation) sites, battle sites or other places where blood has been spilled, tauranga waka (canoe landing sites), tuhituhi o neherā (rock art sites), places imbued with the mana of the people, or locations where the remains of ovens, middens or kumara pits are found.

There are thousands of significant sites in the Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu takiwā.

Ngā Take/Issues:

- *Tāngata whenua access to wāhi tapu and wāhi taonga sites*
- *Protection of sites from inappropriate activity*
- *Ownership of cultural materials/archaeological finds*
- *Misinterpretation of information about sites*
- *Protection of sites on lands under private ownership*
- *Levels of access to information*
- *Levels of protection of information*

- *That current lists of significant sites are non-comprehensive*
- *Property rights*

4.9.1 Management guidelines:

- *Any activity that has the potential to affect a wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga or other site of significance shall involve consultation with Te Taumutu Rūnanga.*
- *Te Taumutu Rūnanga is the only one to assess the degree of cultural significance of any given site in the Taumutu takiwā.*
- *That the process for identifying and protecting significant sites recognises and respects that current lists (e.g. silent files) of significant sites are non-comprehensive. These lists are a guide only.*
- *Any archaeological finds remain the cultural property of Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu and Te Taumutu Rūnanga (The Rūnanga is licensed to hold artefacts). This information is not to be made public, unless provided for by the hapū or Rūnanga.*
- *Tikanga Māori shall be observed on wāhi tapu/wāhi taonga sites as these sites shall be protected from inappropriate activities that may denigrate the wāhi tapu status.*
- *On land owned by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu or Te Taumutu Rūnanga, general public access to sites designated as wāhi tapu/wāhi taonga shall only occur in consultation with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and Te Taumutu Rūnanga. On all other lands, public access to significant sites shall only occur under agreed conditions between landowner (private, Crown, etc) and ngā Rūnanga.*
- *Any persons proposing activities, in which earth moving or similar work will occur in an area of known or possible culturally significant sites, are required to enter into an Accidental Find Protocol. In some areas, such as Rakaia Huts, Te Taumutu Rūnanga requires that an archaeologist be on site when any excavations are undertaken. Te Taumutu Rūnanga has a Cultural site/Accidental Discovery Protocol, based on Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu policy. The protocol is between the Rūnanga and the applicant, and will be implemented as a condition on the consent.*

1.9 Non- regulatory requirements

1.9.1 ICOMOS New Zealand Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Value

The ICOMOS NZ Charter outlines principles to guide the conservation of places of cultural heritage values in New Zealand. The Charter is acknowledged in government policy for heritage management developed by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage³,

³ Ministry for Culture and Heritage (2004) Heritage Management Guidelines for Government Departments

and has been formally adopted by the NZ Historic Places Trust and several territorial authorities (Christchurch City Council, Wanganui and Whakatane Councils).

1.10 Assessing Heritage Values

The NZ Historic Places Trust has a statutory role under its Act to assess the heritage significance of places, areas or waahi tapu for identification and inclusion in the national register (Sections 22 – 25 Historic Places Act 1993). Established criteria identified in the Act to assist with this include:

Historical - The association of the place with events, persons, or ideas of importance; and its potential to provide knowledge of all aspects of New Zealand history.

Cultural - The spiritual, traditional, political, national or any other cultural response of the place to tangata whenua, the local community or the public.

Aesthetic - The formal qualities of the place and its setting. This includes the assessment of the space or its parts, and its contribution and aesthetic significance to the overall integrity of the place.

Architectural - The design and architectural aspects of the place and the contribution of the place to its greater context. While this concept is normally used to discuss historic buildings and sites, notions of context are applicable to prehistoric sites.

Archaeological - The degree to which the space can be said to have archaeological potential.

These criteria are also used as a guide when making statements as to the archaeological values of a place.

As outlined in section 1.8, the RMA contains a definition of historic heritage that includes a list of qualities to be considered. As managing the effects of activities on sites or buildings with heritage or cultural values is a function of district councils, the Selwyn District Plan also contains guidance, in the form of policy, to protect sites with cultural and heritage values.

1.11 Developing this plan

The names of the organisations and separate consultant practitioners involved in developing this Plan are:

- Selwyn District Council
- Te Taumutu Runanga
- New Zealand Historic Places Trust
- *Rakaia Huts residents who attended workshop (20 attendees)*
- Opus International Consultants Ltd

- Dan Witter from Witter Archaeology

1.12 Changes to this plan

Any management proposals not discussed below (in this Plan) will require a change to the Plan before the proposals proceed. Changes in management or standards should be discussed and must be agreed to, in writing, by all members of the Working Party (Te Taumutu Rūnanga, NZ Historic Places Trust and Selwyn District Council). It is recommended that the Conservation Plan is reviewed every 5 years to enable any changes to be incorporated into the plan.

2 Understanding Rakaia

2.1 History

2.1.1 Traditional History⁴

Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki ki Taumutu are the primary kaitaki (guardians) of the Te Waihora catchments within which the Rakaia Huts is located. Te Taumutu Rūnanga is the administrative council of the hapū. In this role, the Rūnanga has a responsibility to protect the natural resources, mahinga kai, archaeological, cultural heritage and other values of the takiwa for the benefit of those people of Ngai Tahu descent who have customary interests in the area. The land and waters around the Rakaia River mouth and Rakaia Huts are of special interest to Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Te Rūnanga o Ngai Tahu historically, culturally and archaeologically.

Ngai Tahu oral tradition tells us that the first people to arrive in central Canterbury were those on the Uruao waka under the captaincy of Te Rakihouia. Rakaihautū, the father of Te Rakihouia proclaimed Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere) as Te kete Ika a Rakaihautū – the Great Fish Basket of Rakaihautū. Some generations later the Ngāti Māmoe and then Ngai Tahu people established pa near Te Waihora including Waikākahi, Hakitai, Orariki (the place of chiefs), te Pa o Te Ikamutu (the village of the backwash of the fish) and Te Pa o Moki. A place of occupation for over 600 years, Taumutu has a longstanding cultural history. As such a significant number of waahi tapu (places or sites that hold special historical, spiritual, cultural associations for takata whenua) and waahi taonga (places that hold the respect of the people, of tribal significance in accordance with kawa and tikanga) are located in the area.

2.1.2 Rakaia and Te Waihora

The Rakaia River was formerly known as O Rakaia meaning "the place where people were ranged in rank". Both the Rakaia River and Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere), which means 'spreading water', have been important mahinga kai for Maori and remain central to the lives of many Maori who live in the area. Preservation of the lake and its resources is a major focus for Te Taumutu Runanga (Tau, et al). Under the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, ownership of the lake

⁴ Te Taumutu Runanga (2003) *Te Taumutu Runanga Natural Resource Management Plan*

bed of Te Waihora was returned to Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, who now reassert their rangatiratanga over this significant site through direct control of its management. Lake Ellesmere is the largest lake in the Canterbury region (around 20,000 hectares in area), and the fifth largest enclosed body of water in New Zealand. Today, it is about half the size it was when Europeans began settling in Canterbury. Shallow and slightly brackish, it was an abundant source of eel and flounder for Māori. It remains a wildlife habitat of international significance because of the birdlife⁵.



Figure 1: Topographical map of wider area showing the location of Rakaia Huts (lower left)

2.1.3 The Moa Hunter Occupation

The coastline from Kaitorete Spit south to the Rakaia River mouth, including Rakaia Lagoon and Rakaia Island, contains a number of recorded archaeological sites that relate to the Maori occupation and settlement of the area

The human occupation of sites associated with moa, and moa hunting is attributed to the earliest periods of human habitation in New Zealand, based on evidence of the decline of the moa. Evidence of occupation and use of the site indicates that the Upper Terrace area contained hundreds of ovens, middens dominated by moa remains, but also containing seal and dog bone, and smaller quantities of bird, fish

⁵ Wilson, J. 'Canterbury places', Te Ara - the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand

and shellfish; and artefacts, particularly flakes and blades⁶. The Middle Terrace was also used, with evidence of further ovens as well as several house sites.

2.1.4 European History

The arrival of Europeans in the Canterbury district resulted in considerable changes to land use as well as tenure. Despite these changes, traditional use of many areas continued, including in the Rakaia area. The early runs along the coast between the Rakaia and Lake Ellesmere were first licensed in 1853. From west to east these included the Waterford (covering the Rakaia Huts area), Homebrook and Prices Station. All of the stations were free-held and divided up early, most of Homebrook by 1865, and most of Waterford by 1866 and the same year most of Prices Station was sold to the neighbouring Birdling Brook. The three stations east of the river were on heavy land and all ran cattle, while Acton a station on the south of the river, like the majority of early Canterbury runs, ran merino sheep⁷. Early free-holding in the Selwyn district was dominated by the need to drain the swamps. This was accomplished in a remarkably short time, from 1860 to 1880. To drain the swamps successfully, not only did Lake Ellesmere have to be opened to the sea and maintained at a much lower level that Maori had been accustomed, but the various artificial drains, Coopers Lagoon and the small rivers to the west, all had to be punched through the beach to the sea. There are still remains of these 'piped outfalls' along the Rakaia River mouth coastline. Concrete culverts have replaced the original iron pipes or wooden box culverts, but traces of the earlier structures are still evident today⁸. Another activity along the coastline was gold mining which began in the early 1880s. The individual miners did not last many years, and attempts to recover gold on a larger scale were unsuccessful. Mining was reactivated during the depression of the 1930s, at a time of government support employment programmes such as gold mining⁹.

Canterbury people use the word 'huts' for a fishing and holiday settlement at a lake or river mouth. The main areas of these in Canterbury are the Rakaia Huts, Greenpark Huts and Selwyn Huts.

Before the turn of the 20th century huts were built by fishermen for temporary shelter on the north side of the Rakaia River near the mouth. Later Ellesmere County land became available for lease and in 1924 land owned by F. Pierson and A. Gridge was subdivided into 17 freehold sections. Over time others than just fishermen were attracted to the area such that eventually it became a weekend escape for some city folk and their families with 'better' accommodation and gardens resulting.

More recently, in 2003 land was formally subdivided by Selwyn District Council to provide titles for 50 existing dwellings. This also allowed for the houses and huts to be used for permanent residences.

⁶ Smith, I 1996 *Rakaia River Mouth: Condition ,Potential, Significance and Treats* unpublished report to NZ Historic Places Trust pg 1

⁷ Witter, D. and A. Witter 2003. *Archaeological survey for a gold prospecting licence on the Taumutu-Rakaia coast*. Witter archaeology report for Cedric Livingston, Plains Prospecting Ltd.

⁹ Witter, D. and A. Witter 2003. *Archaeological survey for a gold prospecting licence on the Taumutu-Rakaia coast*. Witter archaeology report for Cedric Livingston, Plains Prospecting Ltd.

In 1876 five thousand quinnat salmon were liberated into the Rakaia River unsuccessfully. By 1916 however salmon up to twenty five pounds in weight were recorded in the river¹⁰ The river is still well known for its salmon fishing with the mouth of the river and lagoon being popular spots, particularly between January to March. Trout are also found in the river and during whitebait season the river mouth is a popular location.

In 1949 Clarrie and Maggie Turner built and opened a store which only sold sweets, biscuits and ice cream, but as the settlement grew this became the general store¹¹.

The camping ground was established on 28 acres of land owned by the North Canterbury Acclimatisation Society. While there was little interest from the Domain Board in establishing the ground, it is now in constant use and owned by Selwyn District Council. The campground was originally located on the lower river terrace, but was moved in the mid 1990s as a result of regular flooding.

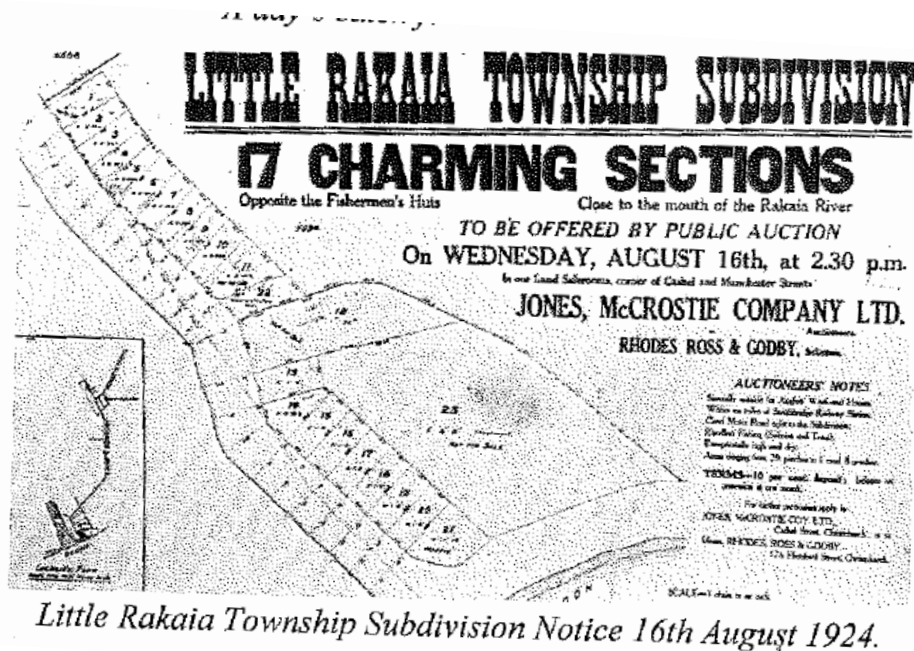


Figure 7: 1924 Subdivision notice (Graham and Chapple, 1965)

The Rakaia Huts settlement has intriguing examples of early New Zealand bach architecture¹², mixed with more recent homes. There are approximately 85 permanent residents currently living at Rakaia Huts, but the population increases significantly during whitebait and fishing seasons.

¹⁰ Graham G. W. & L. J. B. Chapple, 1965, Ellesmere County the Land, the Lake & the People

¹¹ Ellesmere Camera Club (publisher) 1997. Selwyn from the Hills to the Sea. Lincoln University Printery.

¹² Wilson, J. 'Canterbury places', *Te Ara* - the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand

2.2 Location Description

The Rakaia Moa Hunter archaeological site complex is located on the eastern terraces of the Rakaia River where it enters the sea (Figure 1). The Rakaia River is one of the great Canterbury braided rivers, where the huge gravel and boulder bed load carried down from the Southern Alps is dropped on the plains as an enormous alluvial fan. The river is wide with multiple channels, and at its entrance to the sea an extensive barrier bar of boulders and gravel has built up, with a lagoon behind it. The channel where the river breaks out to sea shifts regularly. The lagoon which extends behind the bar on the eastern side is sometimes called the Little Rakaia. This however terminates further east where the bar merges with the coastal plain. The bar and lagoon are in a dynamic process of erosion and deposition.

The terraces where most of the known archaeological sites are located consist of a lower, middle and upper terrace. The lower terrace is at the south west corner and is small and inconspicuous. The middle terrace is partly built up as the Rakaia Huts settlement and is where the Council campground is located. This is often mistakenly called the lower terrace. The upper terrace is extensive; part of it is built up, but most of it is cultivated paddock.

The Council campground was originally located on the lower terrace but was moved onto the middle terrace in mid 1990s due to consistent flooding of the original site.

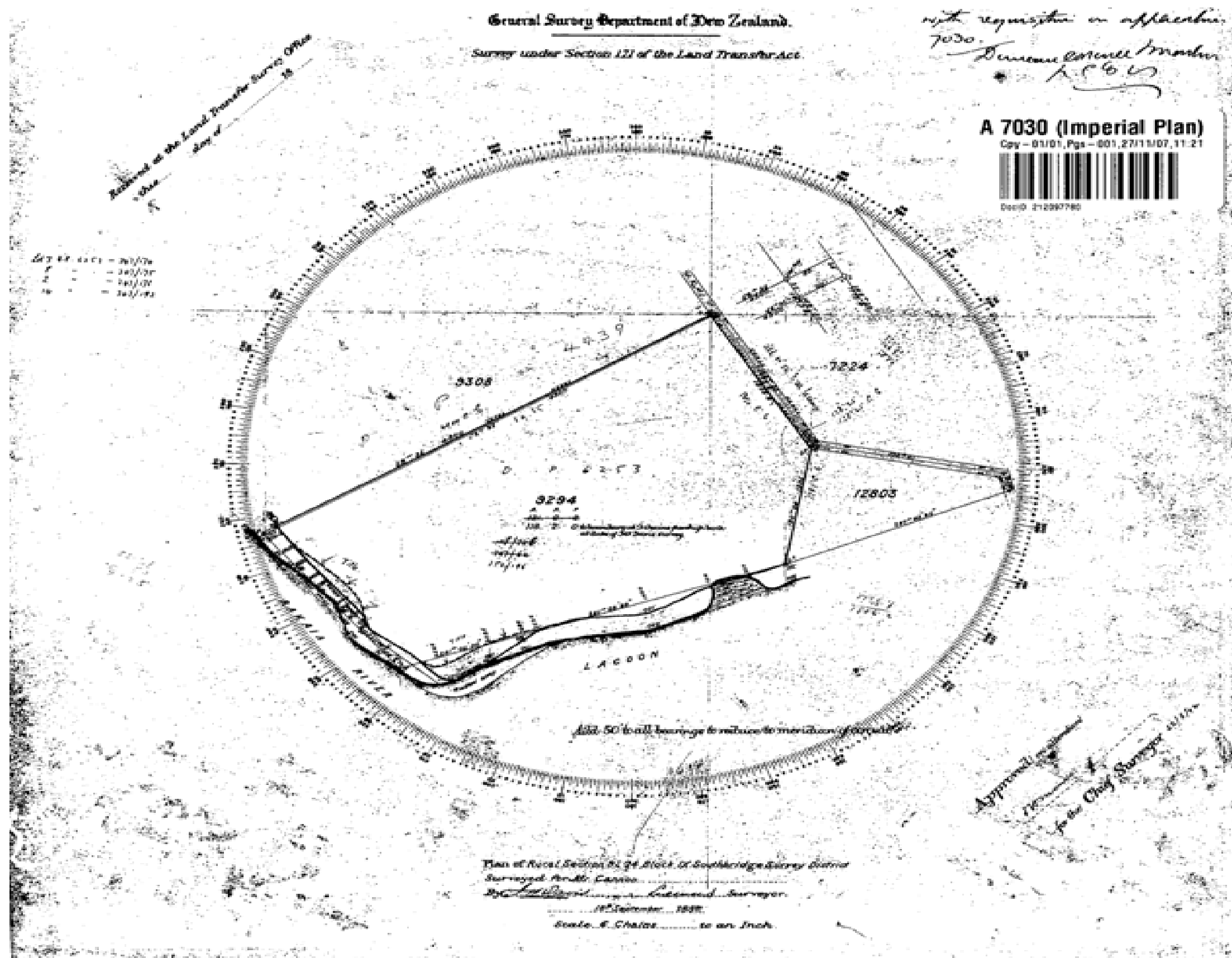


2.3 Management Zone Descriptions

To assist in the discussion and guide management decisions for the Rakaia Huts archaeological area, the land at the settlement has been divided into five management areas, as illustrated on Figure 4 and discussed in Witter (2008). The areas have been defined by a combination of current land use, topography, and known or identified archaeological resources. These areas are:

- **Foreshore Bank / Cliff Edge** – This includes the current vehicle access along the lagoon edge. Land included in this zone is that area between the existing fence between the campground and open field and the waters edge, including the steep cliff edge between the track and the lagoon.
- **Middle Terrace (Selwyn District Council Campground)** – This zone includes the entire area of the campground and is known to have been a focus area of habitation associated with the moa hunter site.
- **Middle Terrace (Residential)** – this area contains some of the older original huts and is located either side of the main access road into Rakaia Huts, Pacific Drive. Located on the same natural terrace, the area potentially contains archaeological material associated with that identified in the campground area.
- **Upper Terrace (Cultivation Area)** As indicated on Figure 4, this area is located to the immediate north east of the campground. This area appears to have been a focus of moa butchery and cooking. Despite over 100 years of cultivation, Witter's work (2008) has indicated that there remains some spatial integrity to the archaeological information. There is likely to be intact archaeological material remaining below the plough zone.
- **Upper Terrace (Residential)** Witter suggests that this area was on the fringe of the moa hunter site, but that there remains potential for archaeological material to be identified. This area contains more recent residential development (early 1990s) and as a result the physical impacts of this development on archaeological material will have been greater than in the middle terrace residential area. The exception to this is the area of older huts (baches) along either side of Pacific Drive.

Statements in this conservation plan are made in relation to these areas or management areas, their archaeological values, specific threats and recommended management requirements or policies.



3 Archaeological Site Description

A summary of the history of the Rakaia Huts moa Hunter site and archaeological work carried out at the site has been compiled by Dan Witter as part of this project (Witter 2008) and his report is attached with this conservation plan as Appendix 5. A brief summary of information from the Witter report is provided here to provide some context to statements made in the conservation plan.

3.1 History of Archaeological Investigations

The Rakaia Moa Hunter site was first identified in the late 1860s, and was investigated by Julius von Haast between 1869 and 1871. His findings from the site were later used to identify and define a Moa Hunter culture in New Zealand¹³. Subsequent work by other archaeologists¹⁴ has further identified the extent of the archaeological material located on the middle and upper terraces at the Rakaia River mouth. As a result of archaeological work by various researchers a date of 1300 to 1400AD has been established for the Rakaia River archaeological site (Witter 2008:14).

Work carried out in the 20th century appears to correlate with the plan of the extent of the archaeological site compiled by von Haast during his original work (See Figure 6). The site appears to contain clearly differentiated use areas, with evidence of habitation focussed on the middle terrace and the upper terrace used for the butchering and cooking of moa as well as some possible tool manufacture (Witter 2008: 21 – 22).

Although the evidence of archaeological material at the Rakaia Huts is extensive, there remains only one recorded archaeological site, NZAA site L37/4 (Figure 7). All archaeological work that has been carried out at Rakaia Huts over thirty years has related all information to this one site.

¹³ Von Haast, J 1872 Moas and moa hunters in *Transactions and Proceedings of the Royal Society of New Zealand* 4: 66 -107

¹⁴ Trotter 1972, Jacomb 2005, Witter 2008

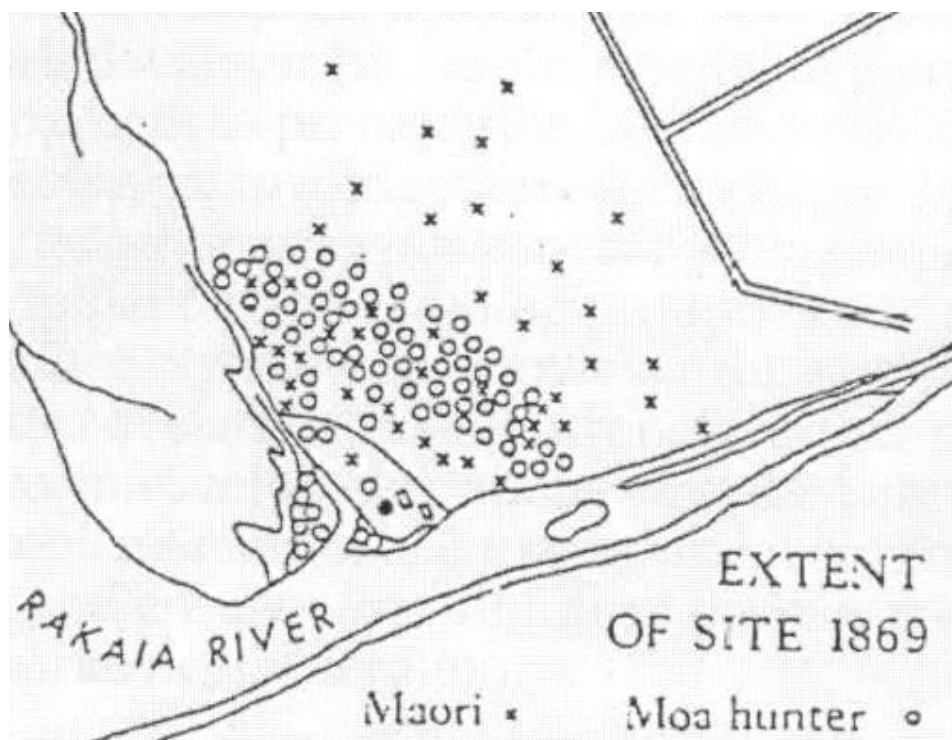


Figure 6: Rakaia River Mouth showing extent of archaeological site in 1869 (From Trotter 1972)



Figure 7: Map showing location of all recorded archaeological sites in general Rakaia area. Site 4, indicated to the right of Pacific Drive represents the Rakaia Moa Hunter site

Summary details of the recorded archaeological sites are provided in Table 1 with a full copy in Appendix 2.

Table 1: Summary details of recorded sites from NZAA site record forms

NZAA Site Number	Site Description
L37/1	Occupation site
L37/2	Occupation site
L37/3	Oven
L37/4	Moa hunter site
L37/5	Artefact find spot
M37/18	Midden / ovens

3.2 Current Condition Description Moa Hunter Site L37/4

The current condition of archaeological deposits associated with site L37/4 is based on the results of a site survey and assessment carried out as part of this project by

Dan Witter (see Appendix 5 for full copy of report). The results of that assessment are discussed here in summary and in reference to the proposed management areas outlined in Section 2.3 of this conservation plan. It must be noted that inspection of the area as part of this project was limited to public land, and no private property was visited.

Foreshore Bank / Cliff Edge Land included in this zone is that area between the existing fence between the campground and open field and the waters edge, including the steep cliff edge between the track and the lagoon. The vehicle access track to the end of the lagoon is included in this area. The cliff edge is vertical, approximately 3 metres high along the entire length and is prone to slumping.



Figure 8: Photo looking north showing erosion along the edge of the road

As the area slumps it will eventually cut into the area of the cultivated land containing archaeological material associated with the moa hunting site. There is evidence in the eroding face of black stained deposit and oven stones although this is not extensive, and it is likely that over time archaeological evidence in this area has disappeared as a result of erosion. The area between the access track and the fence is unlikely to have been heavily modified and has potential to contain significant archaeological deposit associated with the moa hunting site.



Figure 9: Photo from lagoon edge looking up to road edge showing small archaeological oven eroding

At the northern end of the lagoon there is evidence of an early European ditch and bank fence, which while not associated with the moa hunting site, is of archaeological and historic significance. This feature is not formally recorded as an archaeological site at present, but is included within the overall recorded area for L37/4.

Middle Terrace (Selwyn District Council Campground)

The campground is located on the known habitation area of the moa hunter site. Until the campground was moved to this site in the mid 1990s from the lower terrace, this area was cultivated, and it is considered that the potential for archaeological material to remain intact in this area is high. This is reinforced by the results of investigations carried out in the area by Chris Jacomb in the late 1990s (Jacomb 2005). There is no visible evidence of the archaeological material associated with the site, but there is sufficient information available to allow statements on the nature and significance of this area.

Within the campground facilities that have been constructed include an amenities block, lighting, picnic areas and fences. The construction of all these facilities will have impacted on archaeological material in the area. The construction of any further facilities or installation of any services in this area will affect archaeological material.

Middle Terrace (Residential)

This area has been modified as a result of the construction of baches along either side of Pacific Drive. Many of the houses in this area are older baches however, and it is likely that the foundations of the buildings will have resulted in less ground

disturbance than more recent houses in the settlement. While there is no visible evidence of archaeological material (inspections of private properties were not carried out as part of this assessment), the area is located within that identified originally by von Haast as containing material associated with the moa hunter site.

The potential for archaeological material to be located in this area is considered to moderate to high. Work that may affect archaeological deposits in the area includes earthworks associated with replacement of septic tanks, installation of services (trenching for sewerage, power, water etc) and the demolition and replacement of older baches with new houses.

Upper Terrace (Cultivated Area)

This area is considered to be of high archaeological potential. The recent work carried out by Witter has identified that although the area has been ploughed regularly over the last 100 years, there remains a degree of spatial integrity in soils. Archaeological work has also identified that intact deposits associated with the early occupation of the site will also remain below the depth of the plough zone (approximately 20cm below current ground surface).

This area contains evidence of moa butchery, associated stone tools and cooking areas and is considered as potentially containing significant archaeological information.

Upper Terrace (Residential)

This area contains much of the settlement area developed in the late 1980s and 1990s and the development of this area will have adversely impacted on any archaeological material surviving in the area. Witter also identifies that part of this area is on the fringe of the Upper Terrace moa butchery / cooking area. On the southern edge of this management zone is an area of older baches, and these will have had less physical impact on subsurface archaeological deposit than newer houses. As a result this area within this zone should be considered as potentially containing more intact archaeological material than newer housing areas. There does remain throughout this area however the potential for deposits associated with the moa hunter archaeological site to be located during earthworks (see McFadgen n.d. report on find in 1989)

As is noted above in discussion of the Middle Terrace Residential area, no inspection of private property was carried out as part of this assessment.

4 Significance

Cultural heritage significance is based on the ability of a place to provide an understanding of the past and thereby enrich the present and future (NZ HPT 1994:6). The NZ Historic Place publication *Guidelines for Preparing Conservation Plans* outlines criteria to be used in the compilation of statements of significance when writing plans. These are: *social, aesthetic, scientific* and *historic*. These criteria are used below to assist in making statements of significance associated with the Rakaia Moa Hunter site. In addition to these however, statement is also made as to the cultural significance of the site.

4.1 Cultural Significance

The land and waters around the Rakaia River mouth and Rakaia Huts are of special interest to Te Taumutu Runanga and Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu historically, culturally and archaeologically. Statements on the association of Te Taumutu with this place are provided in sections 1.8.6 and 2.1 of this report. .

Because of the association of Te Taumutu with this site:

- Any activity that has the potential to affect a wāhi tapu, wāhi taonga or any site of significance, particularly within and around the Rakaia Huts area, shall involve consultation with Te Taumutu Rūnanga.
- Additionally, the process for identifying and protecting significant sites recognises and respects that current lists (e.g. silent files) of significant sites are non-comprehensive. These lists are a guide only.

4.2 Scientific Significance

The Rakaia Huts Moa Hunter archaeological site is of considerable national and regional significance. The site played a central role in the development of New Zealand archaeology, it was a focus in the definition of early Moa Hunter culture in New Zealand archaeology, and the site is one of the earliest dated sites within not only Canterbury, but nationally (1300 – 1400AD). Although modified through development, land use and previous archaeological investigations, the site retains relatively intact archaeological deposits.

Investigations at the site, carried out in the 1800s, 1967, 1996 -1997 and in more recent years (Witter 2003, 2005, 2005 – 2006, 2007) have provided considerable information on the nature of the site. Recent work (particularly Trotter, Jacomb and Witter) has shown that despite modifications, particularly in the ploughed area on the upper terrace, there remains significant information in the ground, representing the lower or earliest occupation of the site.

In terms of size and condition there are few other Moa Hunter sites identified in the archaeological record, and very few that would have as much surviving research potential¹⁵.

Smith (1996) highlighted the following in a summary of the site:

¹⁵ Witter 2008: 19

- The site played a central role in the development of archaeology in New Zealand giving it *historical* significance.
- It contains relatively intact deposits with the potential for further information giving it *scientific* significance
- It is one of the earliest dated sites in Canterbury giving it *regional* significance.
- It is an example of a specialised site type, of which there are few if any other examples, giving it *national* significance.

4.3 Social Significance

As is noted above, the Rakaia Moa Hunter site has played a significant role in the development of New Zealand archaeology, and in defining what is known as the Moa Hunter period of Maori Culture.

Rakaia Huts settlement also has a social history based around: the huts; fishing, including whitebaiting; boating; and other recreational pastimes. The built heritage landscape of the Rakaia Huts is unique. Due to the number of developments occurring in the area the heritage of the huts face a number of threats. The threats that face the huts include: information loss as there is no written history of the area; modifications due to maintenance, rebuilding, demolition; and natural disasters.

4.4 Historic Significance

Although the Moa Hunter site of is dominant interest and the focus of this conservation plan, there are other features and sites of heritage value in the Rakaia River Mouth area. The coastal route was used for many years as the main travelling route, with many early European settlers and travellers crossing the Rakaia near the mouth, including Bishop Selwyn (1844), Commissioner Mantell (1848) and surveyor Charles Torlesse in 1849¹⁶.

There is also evidence in the area of early European period occupation and land use. There is a ditch and bank system in a paddock adjacent to the lagoon that has been identified as a European pre-1900 feature – a common feature built before fencing wire became available¹⁷.

4.5 Levels of Significance

Of the identified management areas (Section 2.3; Figure 4) the following levels of scale of significance apply, based on the HPT guidelines (NZ HPT 1994 Section 4.2). These levels or degrees of significance are:

- Exceptional Significance - the element or place is of exceptional or outstanding importance to the overall significance of place

¹⁶ Witter 2008 pg 18

¹⁷ ibid

- Considerable Significance - the element or place is of considerable importance to the overall heritage significance of place
- Some Significance - the element or place is of some importance to the overall significance of place
- No Significance - the element or place is of little or no importance to the overall significance of place.

Foreshore Bank / Cliff Edge:

There is evidence in the eroding bank edge of archaeological material. This is not dense deposit, but will be linked with the early occupation of the Terraces during the Moa Hunter period and later. The area has been modified as a result of the construction of the road, but it is likely that intact archaeological material remains, particularly between the road and the fence with the campground and ploughed field.

This area is considered to be of considerable heritage significance, with the area between the road and fence considered to be of exceptional significance.

Middle Terrace (Selwyn District Council Campground)

The campground is located on the known habitation area of the moa hunter site, and until the campground was moved to this site in the mid 1990s this area was part of the cultivated ground. There have been some modifications to the area that will have affected the survival of archaeological material – the installation of services, the construction of the amenity block, lighting and fences. In all other areas the potential for archaeological material to remain is high.

This area is considered as being of exceptional heritage significance.

Middle Terrace (Residential)

This area has been modified as a result of the construction of baches or houses on either side of Pacific Drive. Where older houses remain however ground modification will be less than more recent developments. This area is within that first identified by von Haast as containing material associated with the Moa Hunter site, and there does remain some potential for archaeological material to be found in this area.

The heritage values of this area are considered to be considerable.

Upper Terrace (Cultivation Area)

Of all of the areas identified as forming part of the Rakaia Moa Hunter Site, this area retains high archaeological potential. Recent work carried out by Witter has identified that despite regular ploughing of the area for over 100 years, there does remain a degree of spatial integrity in the soils. Archaeological work carried out over many years has also indicated that much of the archaeological deposit, particularly associated with the earliest occupation of the site, is located below the level of the plough zone.

This area is considered as being of exceptional heritage significance.

Upper Terrace (Residential)

This area was the main focus of residential development in the 1980s and 1990s, and as such any archaeological material that may have been located in this area will have been adversely impacted upon. Part of this area is located on the fringe on the Upper Terrace Moa Hunter ovens area. There do remain some older huts or baches in this area, and ground modification, and therefore the potential impact on subsurface archaeological material in these areas, will be less.

This area is considered as having some heritage significance.

5 Current and Future Threats

One key aspect of the management of heritage places is the identification and management of threats, in conjunction with maximising any associated opportunities. Below are the principal threats that have been identified with the working party. The management of these threats to be addressed in Section 6.

The threats have been separated into two sub-categories: those that could affect the archaeological sites and those that could affect the built heritage.

Natural processes

Type of Threat	Nature of the Threat
Erosion	<p>The coastal edge is vulnerable to erosion which has an affect on the stability and condition of the area. Erosion could result in the loss of archaeological material/sites. Specific erosion threats are:</p> <p><u>Location of the river mouth</u> – this effects the potential for erosion along the lagoon edge</p> <p><u>Road access to lagoon</u> - erosion of road currently occurring that threatens archaeological material/sites. Any remedial works involve alignment of road and the need for hard engineering structures (eg. gabion baskets) to protect archaeological values could also impact the natural character and amenity of the area (<i>also see specific section on access road to lagoon</i>).</p> <p><u>Stability of foreshore</u> - Stability of foreshore area and eroding cliff face.</p>
Vegetation	<p>The presence, removal and planting of vegetation is a complex threat that can cause damage to archaeological material/sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mechanical removal of vegetation can disturb the ground surface and impact on archaeological material• Planting new plants that are inappropriate or in inappropriate locations may result in damage to subsurface archaeological material• Damage caused by growth of plants – eg. the roots of large trees and shrubs can grow causing fracturing and uplift.• Trees, branches or limbs can fall and damage buildings.• Ground cover can also mask underlying problems with the condition of buildings or soil erosion.• Vegetation can provide a good surface cover that limits erosion
Natural Disasters	<p>Disasters present a risk through the loss or damage to archaeological sites. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flooding – could increase erosion at coastal edge. Additional damage could occur as a result of clean up works.

Human activities

Type of Threat	Nature of the Threat
Development pressure and change of landuse (excluding existing huts area)	<p>Landuse changes and development can alter the values of a site through disturbing the ground or changing the physical characteristics. Specific threats come from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp ground – further development such as greywater, picnic facilities, stormwater and infrastructure would all involve disturbing the ground. • Camp ground – general maintenance activities involving disturbing the ground • Changes in farming practices – new farm buildings, different machinery used, change in grazing or cropping regime • Earthworks for the installation and removal of septic tanks/greywater systems involves earthworks • General further development • Risk of subdivision of farmland
Earthworks/farming	<p>Disturbance of the ground could disturb/expose archaeological sites/material. Earthwork related activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machinery use • Grazing • Cropping • Excavation below 20cm
Visitor impacts	<p>Visitors unfamiliar with the values of the area could damage, disturb or expose archaeological sites/material eg. casual campers that do not use the campground.</p> <p>General wear and tear to sites or accidental damage from vehicles can cause detrimental effects to the fabric of the place. In this instance this includes increased vehicle access along the coastal track and pedestrian tracking down the coastal face to the beach.</p> <p>Vandals – those intent on doing damage. Intentional damage can range from arson to graffiti to purposeful damage.</p>
Management impacts	<p>Inadequate quality of management at an historic place may constitute a threat. This includes poor planning, delays in commencing work, undertaking inappropriate remedial work or maintenance; the erection of inappropriate new structures; and the failure to act on known threats. Specifically at the campground a threat may arise when structures are such as concrete pads are placed in the ground.</p>
Road maintenance activities	<p>If engineers and contractors are unaware of the archaeological values, damage could occur or inappropriate works carried out.</p>
Stormwater management	<p>Uncontrolled runoff can could cause or increase erosion potential.</p>

Access Road to Lagoon

The access road to the lagoon has been included as a specific threat that needs to be discussed and managed in its own right.

Type of Threat	Nature of the Threat
Coastal erosion	The foreshore area is unstable with an eroding cliff face. Erosion could result in the loss of archaeological material/sites. Erosion along the coastal edge could be exacerbated by increased vehicle use of the access track.
Status of the road	The status is unknown – this is a risk in terms of what development could happen to the road
Possibility of upgrading of road	Any remedial works could involve alignment of road and the need for hard engineering structures (eg. gabion baskets) this could impact on the natural character and amenity and archaeological values, particularly if there is a need to realign the road inland, close to the existing paddock on the upper terrace.
Increased vehicle use and change in types of vehicles	Changing vehicle use patterns could cause adverse physical impact on the land, increasing erosion.
Road maintenance	If engineers and contractors are unaware of the archaeological values, damage could occur or inappropriate works carried out. This includes when upgrades to the raoding stormwater occur.

Information Loss

Type of Threat	Nature of the Threat
Lack of knowledge of formal management agreement with campground management	Lack of knowledge can lead to inconsistent decision making, fragmented and inappropriate management and loss of information.
Lack of public support and awareness	Without public understanding of the significance of the place, and support implementing management practices will be difficult.
Lack of knowledge or understanding of Ngāti Moki / Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki	Lack of knowledge of Ngai Te Ruahikihiki / Ngāti Moki / Te Taumutu Rūnanga cultural values limits misunderstanding about why Rakaia has significance and therefore, why it requires protection.
Lack of understanding of cultural values	The pressures of development are continual, which can minimise or negate cultural and archaeological values due to the need or desire for more housing, more intensive land development etc...

6 Management of Threats

In order to manage the threats identified above, there are both regulatory methods and non-regulatory methods that could be adopted and used for the Rakaia Huts area¹⁸. There are also management tools that apply to particular parts of the area, due to the threats being area specific. The management tools are detailed below.

6.1 Regulatory Methods

The following regulatory methods have been proposed as a way to address the threats to the Rakaia Huts area. Regulatory methods should be used in conjunction with non-regulatory methods and show the significance of the area through the level of control required.

¹⁸ Ministry for the Environment –Sustainable management Fund. 2005. Cooperative Community Historic Heritage Identification, Protection and Management

Identified Threat	Proposed Management Tool	Responsibility
Development pressure and change of landuse (excluding existing huts) Excavation below 20cm Management impacts Road maintenance activities Stormwater management Status of Access Road to Lagoon	<p>(a) The Selwyn District Plan to show all of the areas identified within the Conservation Plan as 'Sites of Significance to Tangata Whenua' in Appendix 5 'Sites of Significance to Tangata Whenua'. This includes differentiating between the 'hatched area' in the district plan from the conservation plan. The 'archaeological site boundary' in the district plan needs to accurately determine the boundary of the archaeological site.</p> <p>(b) Develop standardised resource consent conditions for work within identified area of 'Sites of Significance to Tangata Whenua' at Rakaia Huts. Determine what actions need to be taken in the different areas. Provide certainty to people applying for resource consent by making the activities 'controlled'. Provide a partially completed resource consent application to make it easy for people to apply for resource consent.</p> <p>(c) Archaeological Authority to be required for works on the middle and upper terraces. This includes works below 20cm and any work involving machinery.</p> <p>(d) Streamlining of the Historic Places Trust archaeological authority process. This could be achieved by providing a partially completed archaeological authority application containing standardized statements of archaeological significance. Specific details about the project can then be added by the applicant.</p> <p>(e) Cross reference Accidental Discovery Protocol provided as Appendix 6 of the Selwyn District Plan in the rules relating to heritage and sites of significance to Tangata Whenua. This will ensure awareness and application of the protocol.</p> <p>(f) Ensure that all LIMs and PIM's generated for the Rakaia Huts area have a standard clause alerting to the fact that the area is of high archaeological and cultural value and an Accidental Discovery Protocol should be followed. Also include the Rakaia Huts area on the internal checklist for PIM staff to be aware that projects being</p>	<p>(a) Selwyn District Council, Historic Places Trust, and Te Taumutu Rūnanga</p> <p>(b) Selwyn District Council</p> <p>(c) Historic Places Trust</p> <p>(d) Historic Places Trust</p> <p>(e) Selwyn District Council, Historic Places Trust and Te Taumutu Runanga</p> <p>(f) Selwyn District Council</p>

Identified Threat	Proposed Management Tool	Responsibility
	<p>undertaken in the Rakaia Huts area, people need to contact Historic Places Trust and Te Taumutu Rūnanga. Please refer to Appendix 4 for notes that are currently used on PIMs.</p> <p>(g) Identify areas of heritage and archaeological items on all property files for land within the conservation plan.</p> <p>(h) Review Parts "B3.3 Culture and Heritage" of the Selwyn District Plan to reflect the protection of historic heritage as a matter of national importance under s6. (2003 Resource Management Act Amendment). Review the nature and placement of the rules relating to culture and heritage (including sites of importance to tangata whenua) in the Plan</p>	<p>(g) Selwyn District Council</p> <p>(h) Selwyn District Council, Historic Places Trust, and Te Taumutu Rūnanga</p>
<p>Excavation below 20cm</p> <p>Lack of information</p>	<p>(i) Selwyn District Council give consideration to an alteration to the Selwyn District Plan to ensure that in areas at Rakaia Huts identified as having high archaeological significance (middle terrace – campground, upper terrace -cultivated area) within the conservation plan. That resource consent for a ground disturbance greater than 20cm in depth is required. This depth has been provided as the depth below which has not been disturbed. If Selwyn District Council are made aware of the works being undertaken they may wish to have an archaeologist monitor the site, thus resulting in more information being gathered on the area. If it is in high risk area works will require an archaeological authority from Historic Places Trust, Council should provide advice note to this effect.</p>	<p>(i) Selwyn District Council</p>
<p>Excavation below 20cm</p>	<p>(i) Monitoring of major works under 20cm in areas classified as having high archaeological significance (middle terrace – campground, upper terrace -cultivated area). Monitoring of the site does not need to occur for activities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - digging vegetable gardens - ploughing fields 	<p>(j) Selwyn District Council</p>

Identified Threat	Proposed Management Tool	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - burying pets - Trenching in compost <p>For all other works the NZ Historic Places Trust may require an Archaeological Authority under the provisions of the Historic Places Act 1993. If it is determined that an authority is not required, runanga may wish to monitor or alternatively Selwyn District Council can recommend that monitoring of the site is undertaken.</p>	
<p>Status of the access road to lagoon</p> <p>Possibility of upgrading of road</p>	<p>(k) Need to formalise or review the status of the road to the lagoon, once more information is found out about this access road. Need to formalize or close access to it including sorting out the appropriateness of 4WD access.</p>	<p>(k) Selwyn District Council</p>

6.2 Non-Regulatory Methods

Non-regulatory methods are encouraged to be used as these methods only require the cooperation of the community.

Threat	Management Tool	Responsibility
<p>Development pressure and change of landuse</p> <p>Excavation below 20cm</p> <p>Road maintenance activities</p> <p>Increase vehicle use of access road to lagoon</p>	<p>(l) Formulation of an Accidental Discovery Protocol (ADP) when works are undertaken in the area and the protocol to be made clear to landowners, community, contractors, council and utilities service providers/contractors.(This could be a joint ADP developed between SDC, NZHPT and Taumutu Runanga)</p> <p>(m) Provision of advice to residents and information on what to do if they find a suspected archaeological deposit or artefact. Create an easy to read document for residents on what should be done in each area and contact details of the appropriate people.</p>	<p>(l) Selwyn District Council, Historic Places Trust and Te Taumutu Rūnanga</p> <p>(m) Selwyn District Council, Historic Places Trust, and Te Taumutu Rūnanga</p>

Threat	Management Tool	Responsibility
Lack of public support Visitor impacts Information loss	<p>(n) Establishment of a public education and interpretation strategy to inform landowners, the community, Council staff, contractors, utility authorities of the significance and regulatory controls of the area.</p> <p>(o) Have information available on the community notice board/information kiosk to inform visitors of the importance of the area. Sign posts and notice boards would also inform people and add interest to the area.</p> <p>(p) Provide information on suitable (secure and long term) storage options for historical information eg. Archives New Zealand, museum.</p> <p>(q) Investigate funding options.</p>	(n) to (q) Selwyn District Council, in consultation with Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Historic Places Trust
Lack of public support and awareness	<p>(r) Establishment of a 'Friends of the Rakaia Huts Heritage' group comprising of local residents, interest groups, bach owners, Selwyn District Council, NZHPT, NZAA, TRONT and Te Taumutu Rūnanga.</p> <p>(s) Waiving of resource consent fees is occurring currently. The cost associated with an archaeological authority has been reduced through the preparation of this document as the research it contains is sufficient to meet the requirements of the NZ Historic Places Trust for an archaeological assessment.</p> <p>(t) Investigate funding options.</p>	<p>(r) Selwyn District Council</p> <p>(s) Selwyn District Council and Historic Places Trust</p> <p>(t) Selwyn District Council and Historic Places Trust</p>
Natural Disasters	(u) Make local fire authority aware of heritage and cultural values of area and what could be done both during and after a fire.	(u) Fire Service and Rural Fire Authority
Vegetation	(v) Management of both new plantings and any tree removal on all of the terraces. Particularly at the middle terrace, camping ground. For example, raised planter beds. In other areas the residents could be educated to reduce the impacts of vegetation.	(v) Campground lessee and Selwyn District Council

Threat	Management Tool	Responsibility
Development pressure and change of landuse Machinery use Grazing	(w) Investigate making the upper terrace, cultivated area into a reserve owned by Selwyn District Council to be leased for light grazing. Funding options would need to be investigated.	(w) Selwyn District Council and Landowner
Lack of knowledge of management agreement with campground managment	(x) Make the campground management aware of the potential risk and have a management plan for new developments and maintenance on the campground site. Selwyn District Council to proactively determine what management agreements exist.	(x) Selwyn District Council and Campground manager
Road Maintenance Stormwater management	(y) Selwyn District Council internal processes, there needs to be a trigger to inform potential contractors of the archaeological value of the site. If the people involved with managing the area are aware of the archaeological values associated with the area they will be able to recognise when there may be a potential threat, for example uncontrolled stormwater management. Include the Rakaia Huts area on an internal checklist when undertaking projects.	(y) Selwyn District Council
Coastal erosion	(z) Stability of the foreshore bank cliff should be assessed by a geomorphologist. (aa) Proactive management of Rakaia River mouth to reduce erosion potential including investigating options for funding.	(z) Environment Canterbury (aa) Environment Canterbury and Selwyn District Council

7 Future Management

7.1 Further research

Considerable information on the archaeological history of the Rakaia Huts Moa Hunter site exists. Further information could be obtained however on the built up area at Rakaia Huts to provide a better picture of the existing archaeology. There is the potential for this to happen through the non regulatory management tools as information is gathered.

Historic research into the ditch and bank system along the foreshore bank cliff area of the site could be undertaken in the future.

As information is collected a central point for storing information on site should be considered.

7.2 Monitoring

Monitoring is part and parcel of overall archaeological site management and allows an effective measure of the success of any conservation policies and management systems over time. A monitoring strategy should form part of any long term management of this place and should include recording any change in management regime, vegetation, natural landscape, and visitor impacts.

8 Recommendations

This Conservation Plan identifies the values and threats of the nationally significant Rakaia Moa Hunter archaeological site. To assist in the long term protection and management of this place, the following recommendations are made: .

- The regulatory management tools outlined in this plan should be adopted. Some of the regulatory tools relate to a plan change being made to the Selwyn District Plan, this should be progressed.
- The non regulatory measures, including the development of a system for monitoring the condition of the site and the effectiveness of policies outlined in this plan should be adopted and carried out to ensure the community is involved and further information is not lost.
- It is recommended that this document is reviewed within 5 years. A five-yearly review of the Conservation Plan will allow for on-going changes through management or use to be identified and incorporated.

9 Glossary of Terms

ICOMOS	International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites
SDC	Selwyn District Council
NZHPT	New Zealand Historic Places Trust
RMA	Resource Management Act 1991
ADP	Accidental Discovery Protocol

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