RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

CENTRAL PARK RESERVE

(Draft - May 1993)

PREPARED BY CONNELL WAGNER LIMITED

FOR

THE PAPAKURA DISTRICT COUNCIL

How To Use This Plan

This Management Plan has 3 main sections.

The first section is the Introduction (Pages i - iii). This provides information on the reserve management plan process and the Council's recreation aims and objectives. This section also describes relevant terms and provisions of the Transitional District Scheme.

The second section is the Resource Inventory (Pages 1 - 9)

This provides information on the reserve and its environment. It presents a brief summary of historical, cultural and physical resources, licenses, leases and reserve classification. This information provides a background and basis for the management plan, goals, objectives and policies.

The third section of the plan sets out policies and objectives for **Central Park Reserve** (Pages 10 - 16). These objectives and policies are derived from the previous sections of the plan and from public input sought during the planning process. These statements are the guidelines for the future management and development of Central Park Reserve.

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Definition and Purpose of a Reserves Management Plan

1.1 The Reserves Act 1977 requires that every administering body of a reserve to prepare a Reserves Management Plan for each reserve under its control. The aim of the legislation is to ensure that the development and management of reserves and the subsequent use and enjoyment of them by the public is based on sound resource management and that, through involvement, the needs of the public are identified and accommodated as appropriate.

1.2 Reserves Management Plans are documents outlining objectives and policies for the development and operation of individual parks and reserves. Each plan seeks to provide for the wise use of natural resources within a framework of providing for the recreational needs of the community. Therefore, such plans should clearly outline a Council's general intentions for the use, development and maintenance of the reserve and should also indicate the means of implementing the provisions of the plan.

1.3 The process of preparing such plans gives an opportunity to the public to contribute to the formulation of policy and the making of decisions on matters which will affect the future of the reserve. This public participation is vital both at the time when initial decisions about a reserve are made and also when these decisions are reviewed in the future.

1.4 Once adopted by the Council, a reserves management plan is kept under continuous review so that, if necessary, it may be altered in keeping with changing circumstances or in the light of increased knowledge.

1.5 The purpose of this plan is to provide for the use, enjoyment, maintenance, protection and development of Central Park for the needs of the community and in keeping with its existing use and to realise the full potential of the reserve within the limits of the Council's resources.

1.6 To achieve the above purpose, this plan:

(1) Provides a procedure for public participation during its preparation and review;
(2) Clearly states goals and objectives which provide flexibility to deal with matters of detail;
(3) Contains management policies which are readily understandable by both the community and those administering the reserve;
(4) Assist Council by providing clear statements of agreed policy designed to encourage consistency in decision-making;
(5) Reduces the potential for ad hoc decisions by providing a clear policy framework; and
(6) Speeds up reserve administration by providing a clear process for reserve management and policy implementation.

THE MANAGEMENT PLAN PROCESS

The process being followed with this plan is in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

It is intended that the public have the opportunity to express their views of the management of Council's Parks network. Public involvement has been sought by way of public submissions and contact and input from sports groups, interest groups and cultural groups to represent their views.

The notice of intention to prepare a management plan for Central Park was published on 3 March 1993. Submissions closed on 5 April 1993, a summary of which are summarized in Appendix 2.

GENERAL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES FOR RESERVES

Present aims and objectives of the Council in respect to reserves is contained within the Transitional District Plan for Papakura. These guidelines constitute the basic reserve management framework within which this reserves management plan for Central Park Reserve has been established.

Open space areas are of fundamental significance to the general welfare of the community and cannot be ignored. When considered as part of a comprehensive district wide recreation system, areas of reserve within the Papakura District are a vital element for the wellbeing of residents.

Councils general objectives are listed on the following pages.

RESERVES

Introduction

Papakura is well endowed with public reserves. As at November 1986, the area of land used or available for public recreation was 105 hectares, giving a ratio of 4.5 hectares per 1000 population.

Whilst reserves are not located equally throughout all parts of the district, Papakura is of a size where this is not essential and no neighbourhood is an unreasonable distance from a range of recreational facilities.

Reserves throughout the City have been zoned so as to provide users of reserves and owners of surrounding property with certainty as to the uses and buildings that will be permitted on reserves.

The areas used for reserve purposes are governed by the provisions of the Reserves Act as well as the provisions of the District Plan. The District Plan establishes the permitted uses with particular emphasis being placed on the quantity, location and effect on surrounding properties of reserves. The Reserves Act places emphasis on the control, management, maintenance, preservation, development and use of reserves and is primarily concerned with the quality of reserves and the public enjoyment of them.

Council has endeavoured in creating the reserve zones within the District Scheme to coordinate then with the reserve classifications required under the Reserves Act.

Objectives and Policies

Objective

To provide sufficient reserve land to meet the recreation and community needs of the people of Papakura

Policies

Reserve land will be provided at a rate not less than 4 hectares per 1000 population.

To continue with the policy of requiring the maximum reserve contribution for subdivisions and developments under the Local Government Act, so as to enable the provision and development of further recreation facilities.

Objective

To make provision for a range of recreational and community activities in accordance with residents needs.

Policies

A range of reserve zones will be provided which reflect the size and location of the reserves and the public's recreation and social needs.

Objective

To protect the amenity of properties which are located in the vicinity of reserves.

Policies

The Reserve Zone Ordinances will ensure protection of the amenities of properties which surround reserves.

NAME: Central Park Reserve

LOCATION: Central Park Reserve is located close to the heart of Papakura. It is bounded by Opaheke Road, Chapel Street, Great South Road, King Edward Avenue and Wood Street. Major entrances for pedestrians are from Great South Road and Opaheke Road and the main accessway for vehicles is from Wood Street.

RESOURCE INVENTORY

Statutory

Central Park has been formed as various pieces of adjacent land have been purchased by Council. The first area of land was acquired from the New Zealand Education Board and gazetted in 1979. This area is 1.5681 hectares and is legally described as Lot 205, Section 11, Village of Papakura. It was classified as a Recreation Reserve in 1980.

As a result of a partial closure of King Edward Ave, a second area of land was acquired in 1982. The portion of the road taken is at the northern end of the reserve and is 3321 m^2 in size. This area is legally described as Allotments 224 and 225, Section 2 Village of Papakura.

A third area on the east side of King Edward Ave was acquired and gazetted in 1980. This area comprised of two sections, as follows:

a) 1266 m^2 being Allotment 226, Section 11, Village of Papakura, Block IV, Drury Survey District;
b) 1061 m^2 being Allotment 227, Section 11 Village of Papakura, Block IV, Drury Survey District.

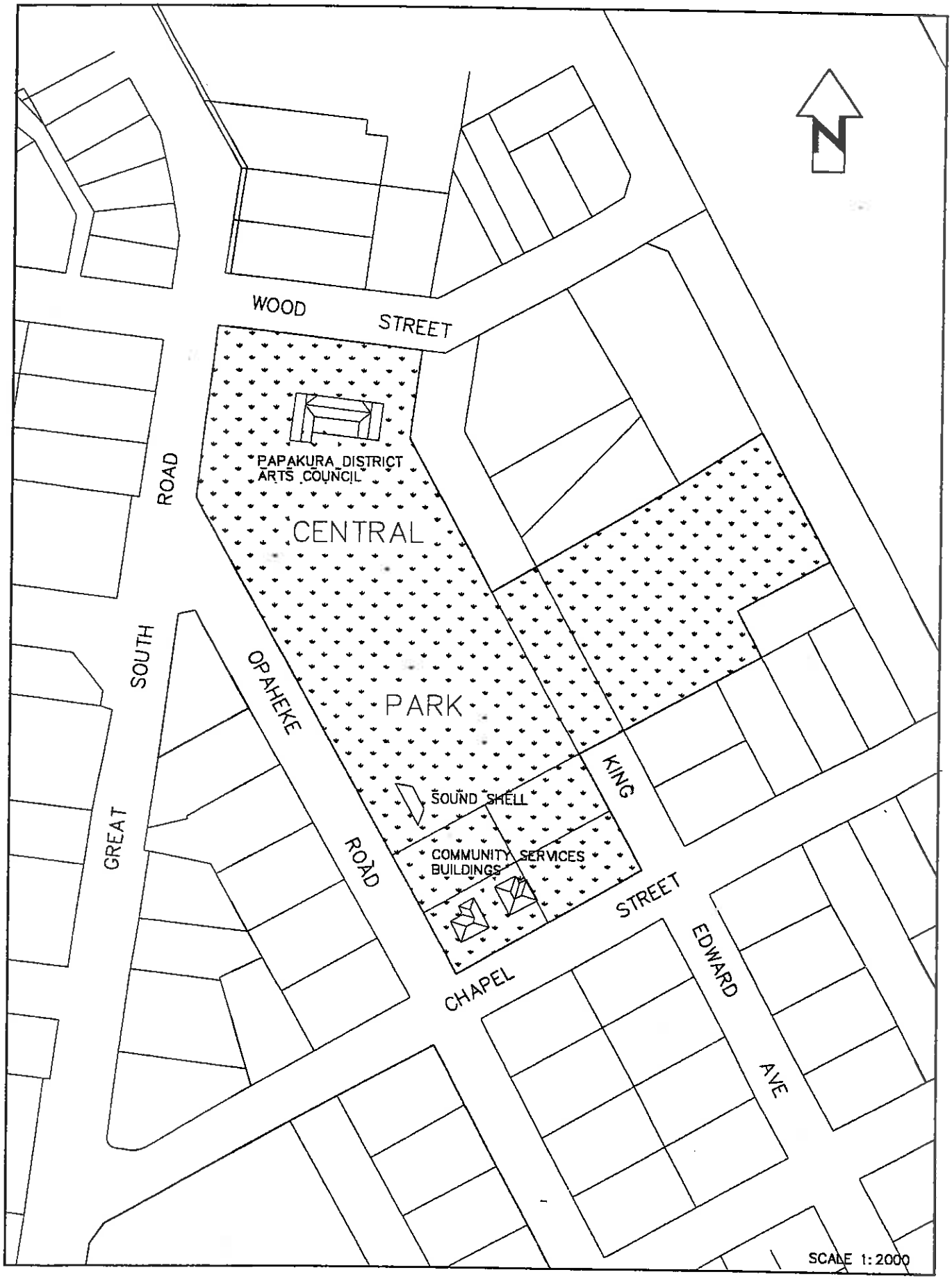
All of the areas that contribute to Central Park were individually declared Recreation Reserves pursuant to Section 14 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The reserve is owned and administered by the Papakura District Council.

Buildings on the Reserve and Fixed Ground Leases

Buildings on the reserve constitute the home of several organisations. The Old Central School Standards Building is situated close to Wood Street. The Old Courthouse is located to the east and there is a concentration of buildings set in the Opaheke Road and Chapel Street corner. These include the Ike Mack Memorial Wall, the sound shell, the Plunket Society and Maori Wardens and Maori Womens Welfare League. Adjacent to these buildings are two other small structures which house the Womens Support Centre and the Citizens Advice Bureau and Budget Service.

Other facilities on the reserve include amenity light standards and cobbled pathways.



RECREATION RESERVE

CENTRAL PARK

In 1991, the most recent agreement between the Papakura District Council and the Papakura District Community Arts Council was renewed and signed. The premises leased include the Old Central School Building and Old Courthouse Building. The complex is leased rent free to the Arts Council for the development and enhancement of art in the Papakura district in general.

The agreement is for a term of one year but has an annual right of renewal. The lessee is responsible for payment of all services charges, and cleaning. The council is generally responsible for exterior maintenance and major structural or refurbishment work.

To assist the Arts Council in the running of the facility, user groups are charged small fees. The fee levels are monitored by the Council to ensure that charges allow easy access for all community groups to the facility.

Other leases for premises on the reserve are those held for the use of small houses by the Maori Womens Welfare League at 2 Opaheke Road. This building was purchased by the Council in 1978 as part of the Central Park Reserve development. It was originally rented to council staff and later leased to the Auckland Hospital Board. In 1984, the Maori Womens Welfare League took over the lease. 2A King Edward Avenue was acquired in 1985 from New Zealand Railways Corporation as part of the Oak Tree land exchange.

The building was leased by the Crippled Childrens' Society for a period of six years and then leased by the Royal NZ Plunket Society Inc. 4 Opaheke Road was purchased by the Council in 1974 and rented until 1985 at which time the Papakura Womens Support Group took up the lease. 1 King Edward Avenue was purchased in 1974 as part of the Central Park Reserve development and rented until 1985. This house was relocated to the back of 4 Opaheke Road and constitutes number 4A which is currently leased to the Community Advice Bureau and Budget service. These groups all have a one year, rent-free renewable lease for their premises within the reserve.

Conditions of lease are similar to those of the Papakura Arts Council.

Historical Development

In 1970 it was brought to the attention of the Council that, as the relocation and completion of the New Central School approached, this area of land was surplus to the needs of the Education Board. Initial Council proposals included the use of the site in conjunction with a redevelopment of the adjacent railways' land. Railways themselves put forward a proposal for the site which was later withdrawn.

The proposal became known as the Union Street Development and included a road and rail transport centre and the location of several Government Departments. The area was seen as a last opportunity to create a green town centre with well-located buildings.

A rearrangement of the roading layout and a sizable shopping complex, with new Government buildings and a large carparking zone, were integral to the plan.

Proposals became complex and varied so, in the interim before the Commissioner of Crown Lands, the Regional Council, Railways and the Council could resolve conflicts of interest the land was given to the Council.

A temporary lease, renewable on a monthly basis, was established in 1973 and the care-taking responsibility given to Council. Councils own proposal was that as much land as possible should be set aside for the purposes of Crown Reserve.

In the interim, various groups were allocated space for one-off events and community organisations submitted their own proposals for the use of existing buildings. A great deal of interest was received over the fate of the site and the matter was topical within Parliament, largely due to the fact that Mr Merv Wellington was a local MP.

A report was commissioned by a specifically formed Officials Committee and discussed at ministerial level in 1977 as there had still been no decision made. The report included a conceptual development plan that would be implemented by the Council in due course.

The Central School Buildings

At the time of the school's re-establishment there were three buildings on the site. The Infant Block was sited on the railway side of King Edward Ave, the main Standards Block was opposite the Police Station and a small building was being used for a speech clinic. In addition, there were other small sheds. Some buildings were simply old and in need of substantial upgrade before being inhabitable. Nonetheless, several community groups were based in this complex permanently during the mid-seventies.

In 1977, the Education Board decided which areas of land were surplus. This decision allowed them to retain ownership in the Infant Block which was Lot 204 comprising 1.35 acres on the corner of Wood Street and the closed King Edward Avenue.

In 1978, the Minister of Lands approved the reservation of Lot 205 and part Lot 204 (all of the standards block and some of the infant block) for the purposes of recreation. The forma notification by the Minister of Lands to vest the land in the Council was announced in 1978 and notified in 1981. With the land in Council's legal possession, development plans were considered for the reserves future.

Exchange of Land N.Z.R and Papakura District Council

In 1985, an area of land owned and designated by New Zealand Rail, comprising one small residential lot and a number of mature trees including the Oak Grove, was given to the Council in exchange for an area of Railway Street West between Chapel street and Wood Street. This area was subsequently given to the New Zealand Railways to assist in their development plans.

Council acknowledged that the road closure which would be necessary as a result of the exchange, would create traffic circulation changes and it was thus decided that a change be part of a district scheme change under section 118 of the Planning Act.

Negotiations between Railways and the Council continued for several years as the necessary planning requirements were established and the district scheme changed. In 1987, payments and gazette were completed.

In 1979 changes to the Central School Block provided Council an additional 2,400 m^2 of land to be designated as recreation reserve. Inherent in the agreement was a provision that the Education Boards Teacher's Resource Centre maintain use of the storage area for the next five to ten years.

For the purposes of the development of Central Park, a public notice in 1979 advised the public of the intention to close a substantial portion of King Edward Avenue. No objections were received and the road closure was formalised in 1980. Work progressed to remove the carriageway in 1981 and 1982, and the portions of road were entitled Allotments 224 and 225.

General development of Central Park Reserve was progressive through the 1970s with several appeals made by groups who wished to establish their own and public facilities. The Council researched various options such as additional carparking and the positioning of a band rotunda.

Capital works carried out by the Council included the removal of bike sheds, lifting of seal to be west of the school buildings,laying of new paths, gardens and tree planting. After an initial success, the Council organised and instituted a five-year work plan which included more of the above as well as the relocation of the hockey field to another reserve. After the end of the 1981 winter season, undergrounding of power and removal of specific buildings and swimming pool was undertaken.

A revised conceptual development plan was created in 1980. The brief for this plan was "to design a park for the citizens of Papakura". Several components of this design were adopted in terms of walkways and spatial definition.

In addition, a memorial scented garden was established and officially opened in 1987 as a tribute to the late Ike Mack. This consists of seating around a raised garden.

Several organisations over time have donated picnic tables, chairs, trees and shrubs to be planted in the reserve and at Government subsidised labour has been utilised in development work. In 1989, a skateboard plywood ramp was placed in the park. This structure suffered from vandalism and substantial use also caused rapid deterioration. The ramp was moved to another public reserve in 1993.

Presently a colourful timber structure, is used as the Soundshell and is located in the south-west area of the reserve park. This structure has been well used over summers as a venue for Council-funded music concerts and is often booked by performance groups for concert use.

Visual and Physical Landscape

Central Park provides a large inner city green space that is able to be enjoyed and used by the public. The open space development allows for multi use and access is gained by a number of paved pathways.

The physical landform of the reserve is very even and flat. There are no obvious mounds or depressions in the landscape.

The visual landscape is characterised by large open spaces of lawn which are loosely-defined by planting. Several stands of vegetation are visually dominant and provide spatial definition and scale to the boundaries of the reserve. Through the centre of the reserve, several features provide focal points for the public. These include a paved area originally designed for placement of a band rotunda and which has had been planted, a sound shell and further circular, paved area.

Recreation and Public Use of the Reserve.

The reserve is centrally located and therefore prominent as a Papakura landmark. The location enables the reserve to be used for a great variety of events. It has been primarily developed as a multi purpose space for passive recreational pursuits. All active recreational groups based there in the past have been relocated.

Over the years, Central Park Reserve has hosted events such as gala-days, brass band concerts, Christmas caroling, Scout and Girlguides Celebrations, craft and pottery fairs and festivals, private weddings, dog shows, service group events and other public social events. Several of the groups, such as the Papakura Potters, the Papakura Municipal Band and some smaller arts groups, have been based at the centre since 1975. A number of the original reserve users have since been re located including the Papakura Hockey Club, Karate Club and the Maori Marae Committee. In addition, there is an agreement between the Council and the New Zealand Police that they may use an area of the reserve to land the Police helicopter "Eagle" in emergencies.

Current Usage

The Old Central School building presently serves as a co-ordination centre for the Papakura Community Arts Council. This is a non-profit organisation helping to cater for the needs of the Papakura public. An arts administrator is employed for fifteen hours a week to co-ordinate hire of the buildings and to design and implement school holiday art programmes.

The main building facility, which was known as the Standards Building, comprises several separate rooms that can be individually hired. Hirege fees are kept at very low and competitive rates to allow community groups (many of which are non-profit organisations) easy access to indoor facilities.

There is a variety of size of rooms and those with certain facilities available for hire include the Old Courthouse, known as the Gallery. The rooms are progressively being refurbished by Council and this work includes the interior and exterior painting, carpet laying and purchase of curtains. The building is relatively sparsely decorated inside with minimal furniture, heating and kitchen facilities. However, this also contributes to low hirege costs.

There are a variety of arts, crafts and musical groups using the facilities regularly on a weekly, monthly or more casual basis. User groups include formal organisations such as Barnadoes, Alcoholics Anonymous, Papakura Potters and IHC and informal groups such as porcelain painting, spinning and weaving, music, speech and drama and brass band. There is a great variety of casual bookings throughout the year.

The Papakura Schools Resource Centre

The Papakura School's Resource centre is situated to the north of the Standards Building on Wood Street and adjacent to Railways owned land. This area of land is not physically a part of the reserve but conceptually sits well in the Central Park Reserve context. The organisation is housed within original school buildings which are located in close proximity to one another (see site and location plan). The organisation is dedicated to fostering education as a co-operative enterprise. The Centre advocates the sharing of ideas and knowledge through professional exchange and materials between schools and teachers.

The Infants Building and surrounding land is still owned by the Department of Education. The building houses educational apparatus and books for joint use among local schools and these schools are invited to participate and provide material for the common purpose.

FLORA (Historical)

The original vegetation of this area has been completely removed by substantial geomorphological processes of the Pleistocene period. All that remains are remnants of native vegetation re-growth or native plantings re-introduced by hand.

The low lying land of Papakura encouraged many native species to grow including

NZ native flax (Phormium tenax),
Tree ferns (Cyathea dealbata and Dicksonia squarrosa)
Manuka and Kanuka (Leptospremum sp)
Cabbage tree (Cordyline)

and possibly Kauri forests dominated by Agathis australis.

Certainly large portions of kauri trunk (between 4 and 8 metres in length) have, in the past, been found buried deep in Papakura's soil layers. Kauri stumps were discovered during the profitable era of kauri gum harvesting. However, it is believed that some kauri had been transported by geomorphological processes to its resting place in the Papakura District.

FLORA (Present day)

Central Park Reserve contains a selection of native and exotic flora. There are several good examples of specimen trees some of which were planted over fifty years ago by the forefathers and teachers of the old school. The Old School Committee had annual tree planting days which were responsible for the stand of monkey apple (Acmena species) along the boundary of Wood Street and the twin kauris situated on the boundary of Opaheke Road. These latter trees were planted by the school committee in 1922.

Listed below is a selection of prominent trees within the reserve.

New Zealand Kauri (Agathis australis)
Acer species
Betula pendula and other varieties
Monkey Apple (Acmena Smithii)
Totara (Podocarpus Totara)
Rimu (Dacrydium cupressinum)
American Sweetgum (Liquidamber)
Lacebark (Hoheria populnea)
Plane trees (Platanus sp)
Lemonwood (Pittosporum eugenoides)
English Oak (Quercus species)
Tulip Tree (Liriodendron tulipifera)
various Thuya Cupressaceae species
Japanese Ceder (Cryptomeria Japonica)

There is a stand of mature Oaks situated adjacent to railway land which were planted by the parks foreman and engineer in the early 1900s. The oaks are visually dominant and, as such, form an important boundary to the reserve. The stand has a projected life of twenty to thirty years and there are approximately sixty trees in the group with a few eucalyptus species. As a private donation, many spring bulbs have recently been sown beneath this grove

There is a wide variety of amenity shrubs and perennials planted within the reserve. Annual bedding plots, intensively maintained by the Council, also provide colour and detail throughout the year. There are three major areas of planting located at the corner of Wood Street and Opaheke Road, and the historic stand of oaks located adjacent to the railway. Other planting is relatively low-key and presently immature.

BIRDLIFE

Birdlife around the reserve is representative of that found in suburban localities. Starlings, thrush, and blackbirds have been observed within the boundaries of the reserve.

SOILS AND GEOLOGY

Soils in the immediate area are characteristically fluviatile and possibly coastal sediments from the Hawera Series of the Pleistocene Age. In this area is a layer of firm peat under lined by varying depths of very black soil. Peat layers appear to continue in uniform strata below the surface. The peat material is more accurately described as organic clays and silts.

The geology of the area has been dictated by the Hunua Fault system with some impact and formation attributable to the Papakura and Drury faults. The action of waterways in places has exposed variations in the sub-base strata. The topography of the area has been modified by the advent of settlement which involved the clearing of the bush, some drainage and the cultivation of soil for agriculture.

SIGNAGE AND LINKAGES

Linkages

There are minimal linkages in Central Park Reserve. A formal entrance has been created at the corner of Wood Street and Opaheke Road which is framed by reconstructed memorial gates. This main entry is visually dominated by mature vegetation which defines the access. In addition, there is vehicle access and car parking adjacent to the Standards Building off Wood Street. The carpark is sealed and has a capacity for 45 cars.

At the southern end of the carpark is a circular focal point for pedestrians which is the origin for three other paths that take different routes across the reserve. As the reserve is surrounded by major roads and public footpaths on all sides, pedestrian access is freely available. There are no fences to prevent this informal public entry. Access to the Standards Building is unclear as mature vegetation screens the main small door entry from Wood Street.

Signs

There is very little directional signage on the reserve except those names attached to individual buildings. There is a need to define the location of the various community service groups and building functions within the reserve. Those are presently unclear.

MANAGEMENT PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

To encourage and facilitate the public use of the reserve and to realise the full potential of Central Park Reserve by providing, maintaining and upgrading facilities appropriate for the needs of passive recreation and public events in accordance with the needs of the people of the district.

MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- To develop and maintain Central Park Reserve for a variety of community uses with particular emphasis on passive recreation.
- To develop and enhance the intrinsic and aesthetic quality that the reserve contributes to local amenity.
- To provide for multiple use and maintain adequate access to the reserve.

STATUTORY AND PLANNING CONTEXT

Objective

- To ensure that all statutory requirements pertaining to the reserve are met.

Policy

- To enhance and administer Central Park according to the Reserves Act 1977.
- To restrict the number of other service clubs and community groups establishing a long term fixed ground lease.
- To control and direct all public activity on the reserve in accordance with the Papakura District Council Consolidated Bylaws and any other appropriate legislation.
- To ensure that organisations with a fixed ground lease are fulfilling contractual agreement in terms of maintenance and upkeep of facilities and buildings.
- To encourage access and casual bookings of the buildings and outdoor space for all recreational pursuits in accordance with any lease agreements.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Objective

- To give appropriate recognition and protection to the reserve for its use and enjoyment for the people of Papakura and to raise public awareness of the history of the reserve.

Policy

- Maintain and enhance the existing park facilities.

- To create a conceptual development plan for the park in terms of spatial layout including planting, buildings and access.

- To improve public awareness and understanding of the historic merit of the reserve and buildings within.

- Upgrade the interpretation panel that shows the location and features within the reserve and provide pamphlet information regarding the history of buildings and structures within the reserve for self guided walks.

PUBLIC RECREATION USAGE

Statement

Central Park Reserve is a central open space providing many opportunities for passive recreation. The reserve is well-used on an informal and daily basis for a variety of uses as well as those activities that are regularly housed within the existing buildings. The over-all size of the reserve improves its adaptability to be used for active recreation on a casual basis. Active pursuits, however, are not seen as an appropriate permanent use and should not be considered in future management plans.

Objective

- To maintain and enhance the reserve as a multi purpose area suitable for high levels of passive recreation and lower levels of casual active recreation in accordance with the needs of all park users.

Policy

- To progressively provide additional facilities for public picnicking (such as tables, chairs and rubbish receptacles), opportunities for children's play, wheelchair and pram access.

- To enhance the visual appearance of the carparking area for such multiple use as a fair and market space by encouraging the development of paving design and texture.

- To enhance and encourage access to and development of facilities related to the soundshell.

- To ensure that some large spaces within the reserve remain open and free of intensive development.

Objective

- To encourage physical development and enhancement to improve the opportunities for the enjoyment of passive recreation and increased public use within Central Park Reserve.

Policy

- To define the open spaces by appropriate tree planting.
- To provide additional shelter planting where appropriate.
- To encourage the planting of tree species and vegetation of specific botanical interest including rare and spectacular specimen trees.
- To ensure open space is protected and future development such as carparking and additional buildings is appropriately designed.
- To maintain and upgrade public facilities to a high standard

PHYSICAL AND VISUAL LANDFORM

Statement

The present landscape and layout of Central Park Reserve reflects historical changes and, as a result, the reserve constitutes an important component of the districts open space network. The present physical and visual landform will be developed and enhanced to fulfil its role as a Recreation Reserve.

Objective

- To recognise, protect and enhance the landscape character, atmosphere and visual amenity of the reserve.

Policy

- To ensure that development decisions build on existing landscape character in order to enhance the present qualities of the reserve.
- To restrict any activity or use that would modify the landform of the reserve to the detriment of park users.

Objective

- To maintain views within, into and out of the reserve.

Policy

- To restrict tree planting to defined areas.

- To restrict building development in areas that may compromise exterior views and views to focal points within the reserve.

FLORA, GEOLOGY AND SOILS

Statement

Soils and vegetation within the reserve today are a result of historical management. The soils appear to be fertile in this area although the exact soil quality and type is unclear.

The vegetation in the reserve is a mix of mature and exotic specimen trees. Some tree groves and groupings have been developed over time with planting being undertaken over time for reasons of definition, security and amenity.

Some areas lack good structural planting and improvements to these areas should be a priority for example to define all entrances, some paths and focal points and individual spaces.

Objective

- To protect, maintain and enhance the identifiable vegetative character of Central Park Reserve.

Policy

- To prepare vegetation management plans as required to ensure the longevity of the distinctive exotic and native vegetative character of the reserve.

- To encourage the establishment of new plantings of specific botanical interest.

- To prepare a maintenance programme to improve the health and growth of trees in the reserve.

- To prepare planting concepts for areas of the park that require definition and structural planting.

- To encourage memorial and commemorative plantings limited to appropriate areas of the reserve.

- To ensure planting provides a diversity of native and exotic species and thus support desirable birdlife.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Statement

Whilst Central Park Reserve is predominantly an open green space, it contains some buildings and structures of historical merit and significance. These should be recognised as such and protected accordingly.

Objective

- To ensure that all buildings of historical merit and their landscape context are protected and managed for their conservation values.

Policy

- To ensure that the Old Central School and Old Courthouse buildings are classified and protected by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and that they be scheduled in the District Plan.

- To relocate or remove the vacant and inappropriately sited pre fabricated building.

- To ensure that all uses and development proposals are in accordance with any resource consent granted in terms of the appropriate provisions of the District Plan.

- To ensure that future improvements are sensitively designed and appropriately located within the reserve with minimal visual impact.

Policy

- To impose design and appearance guidelines in respect of all buildings and structures in the reserve.

- To require that all new buildings and re-decoration of existing buildings be of materials, colours and styles as will complement the environmental amenity of the reserve to the satisfaction of the Council.

Furniture and Signage

Objective

- To provide site furniture to cater for the needs of all users through the provision of well-located, functional, aesthetically-pleasing and appropriately-designed facilities.

Policy

- To use specific heritage-style furniture (to match existing) where appropriate.

Objective

- To improve the level of information for reserve users whilst minimising any visual intrusion by signage.

Policy

- To limit the number of signs to those necessary for the purpose of information for users.

- To design signage specific to Central Park to be clear, easily discernible, low key and complementary to the historical, cultural and passive recreational values of the reserve.

Carparking and Access

Objective

- To provide functional carparking facilities adequate for the needs of users and to ensure their appearance and development does not physically or visually dominate the reserve.

Policy

- To create multi-purpose, sealed spaces for parking but with interesting texture and design to encourage their use for alternative functions such as markets and craft fairs.

- To maintain the existing carparking area to accepted Council engineering standards.

- To ensure that no further open green space is allocated to parking layout, and that alternative road marking for on street parking be implemented should the need arise.

Objective

- To ensure that pedestrian and vehicle access be maintained.

Policy

- To maintain planting clear of carpark sightlines necessary for vehicle access and manoeuvrability.

- To keep main accessways clear of obstruction and available for the public at all times according to the normal hours of public usage.

SUMMARY OF SUBMISSIONS

One written submission was received in respect of this reserve. The Papakura City Brass Band request the establishment of a public toilet for the use of spectators during concerts at the Soundshell. The band also request consideration of a Soundshell cover.

APPENDIX 1

MANAGEMENT PLAN PROCESS

Advisory Committee formed for
(a) "City-wide" Parks comprised of Reps; Community Boards,
Community Services Committee and Planning and Transportation Committee, or
(b) Local Parks comprised of Community Services Committee of
relevant Community Board. Appropriate specialist advisers for both Committees as required

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Public notification of intention to prepare Plan (Issues statement
provided to inspire comments)(Not less than 2 month period)

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Issues identified from public comment

↓

Proposed Draft Plan produced

↓

Advisory Committee or Community Services Committee
of relevant Community Board debates and comments on Draft Plan

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Draft Plan advertised for Public Submission (Not less than 2 month period)

↓

Hearing of Submissions for
(a) "City-wide" Parks by Management Plans Hearings Committee, or
(b) "Local" Parks by Community Services Committee or relevant Community Board

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Draft Plan incorporating changes resulting from Submissions prepared

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Draft Plan (with amendments) reported to Advisory Committee or
Community Services Committee or relevant Community Board

↓

Community Services Committee makes changes if necessary and adopts
Plan on behalf of Council (Power to Act)

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Plan sent to Department of Conservation for Ministerial approval where
required under Act and subsequently kept under continuous review