

***Lots 1 & 2 DP 487281, Frontier Road: Assessment of
Archaeological Values and Effects***

By Warren Gumbley

3 June 2020

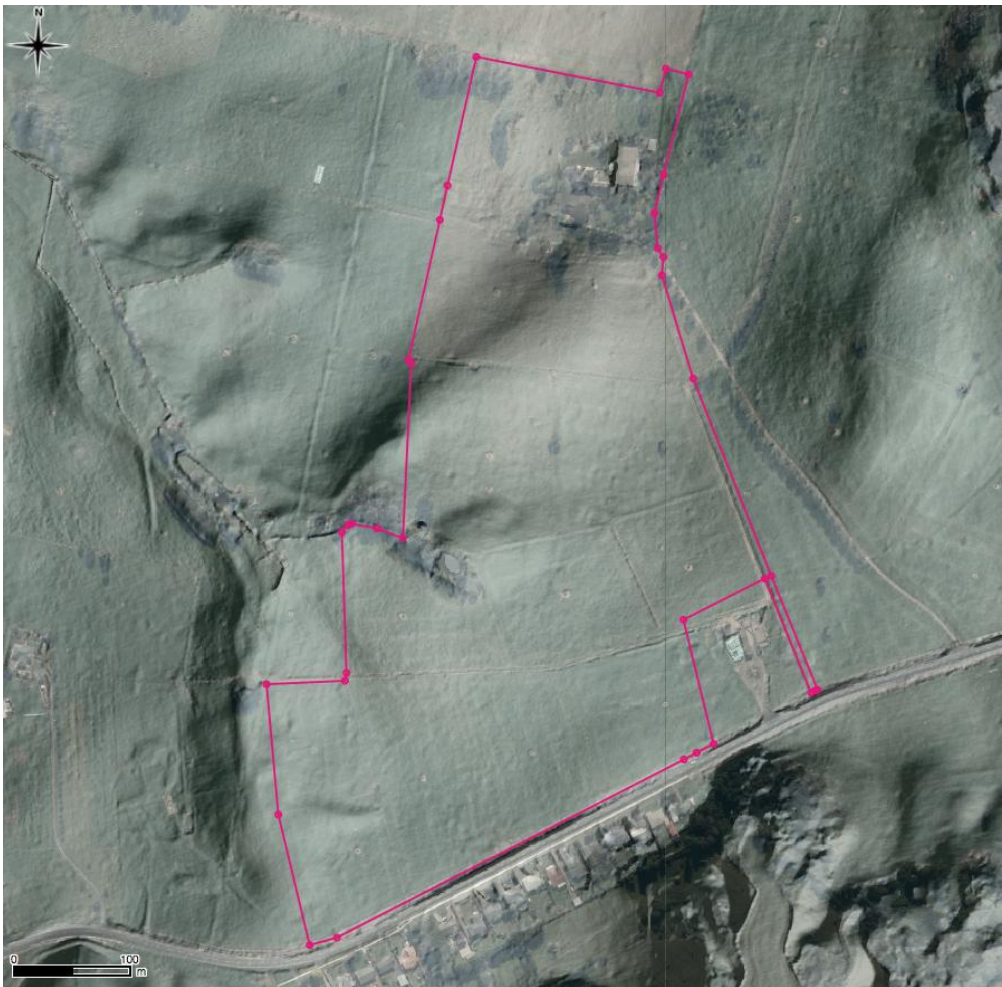


Figure 1: Project area outlined in red with Frontier Road to the bottom of the map.

Preamble

Sanderson Group propose to developed a residential retirement village on Lots 1 and 2 DP 487281 located on Frontier Road, Te Awamutu. The proposed development will encompass approximately 18 hectares.

An archival search of the NZ Archaeological Association site recording scheme via its on-line portal (Archsite) was carried out and historic maps and aerial photography was also reviewed.

Archsite

No archaeological sites have been recorded on or adjacent to the proposed development area. However, it should be noted that the area and its surrounds has not been subject to systematic archaeological survey and all of the archaeological sites recorded locally have been recorded on an ad hoc basis. The only systematic archaeological survey locally was carried out by Leahy and Walsh in 1980 and this was focused on the Puniu River.

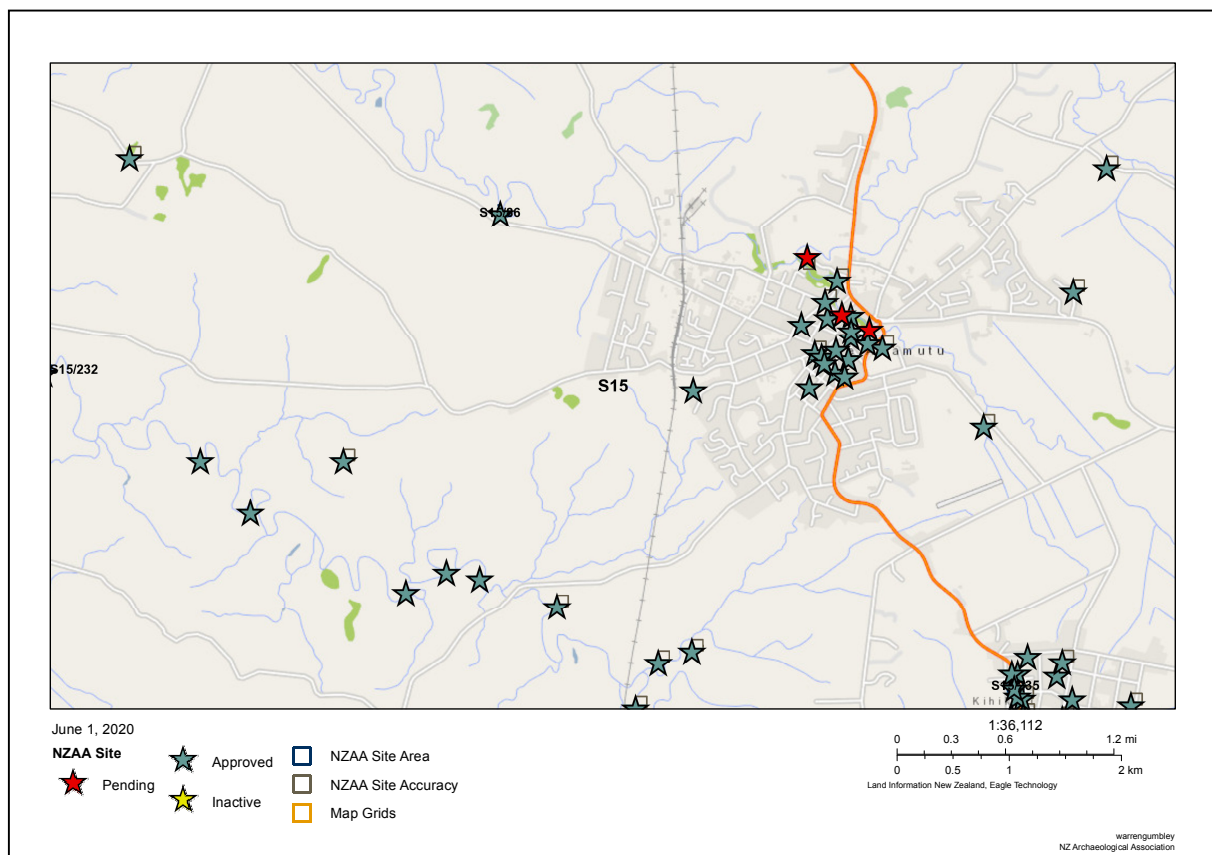


Figure 2: Map showing the locations of recorded archaeological sites in the Te Awamutu district.

However, despite the absence of systematic archaeological site surveying and recording in the district that identified archaeological sites appear to follow generally distinctive patterns. Archaeological sites relating to Māori settlement of the locality are strongly clustered to the Puniu River and the Mangapiko Stream and their navigable tributaries. This applies particularly to the distribution of pā, but with one notable exception; Ōtawhao Pā is located approximately 1.3 kilometres east of the proposed development site and was a significant pā occupied in the early 19th Century until the 1940s.

Early European settlement began with the establishment of a Church Mission Society (CMS) mission station first at Ōtawhao Pā but which soon relocated to the Te Awamutu mission site a couple of years later. This mission operated until immediately prior to the British invasion of the Waikato in 1863. From 1864 Te Awamutu was used the principal forward base for the British and Colonial expeditionary force and was, together with Kihikihi one of the foci for the establishment of the military settler scheme. Te Awamutu itself remained a minor centre compared to Kihikihi, Alexandra (Pirongia) and Cambridge until the construction of the railway line from Hamilton in the 1880, after which Te Awamutu quickly overcame Kihikihi and Alexandra.

Historic Maps

Altogether, eleven historic 19th Century maps and plans were examined but none of them contained any annotations referencing the proposed development area.

List of maps consulted:

SO 487, SO156-1, SO156-2, SO960, SO2401, SO1394-C1, SO1394-C2, SO2112, SO4109, SO3908, DP275-1

Historic Aerial Photographs

Historic aerial photographs were searched and viewed through the on-line portal Retrolens.nz.

The earliest historic aerial photograph covering the proposed development area is SN266/840/48, flown on 21 March 1944. This image shows this area as pasture with a farm house and out-buildings located in the same area as the current house. However, it is clear that all of buildings shown in this photograph have been demolished to make way for the current house and grounds. The age of the earlier buildings is unknown. Otherwise the image shows no evidence of earthworks or other marks that may indicate the presence of an archaeological site.

Further earlier surveys were flown in 1957 (SN1039/2621/17) and 1958 (SN1051/2687/35), 1961 (SN1039/2622/17), 1966 (SN1812/F/1), 1967 (SN1889/5058/11) 1971 (SN3470/4517/7), 1974 (SN3730/K/15), 1979 (SN5479/L/22), 1995 (SN9401/C/4). None of the images show any significant changes within the proposed development area, except for the installation of a milking shed on Frontier Road prior to the 1957 photograph, until the

1995 photograph which shows that the earlier farm house and outbuildings had been replaced by the existing house and curtilage.

Site inspection

A pedestrian site inspection was carried out on 2 June 2020. No evidence for the presence of archaeology was noted.

Archaeological Values

No actual or potential archaeological values were identified.

References

Leahy, A.L., Walsh, W.D. 1980. *Lower Puniu River Survey, Te Awamutu*. Unpublished report to NZ Historic Places Trust.

Historic maps

SO 487,
SO156-1,
SO156-2,
SO960,
SO2401,
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Aerial photographs

SN1039/2621/17
SN1051/2687/35
SN1039/2622/17
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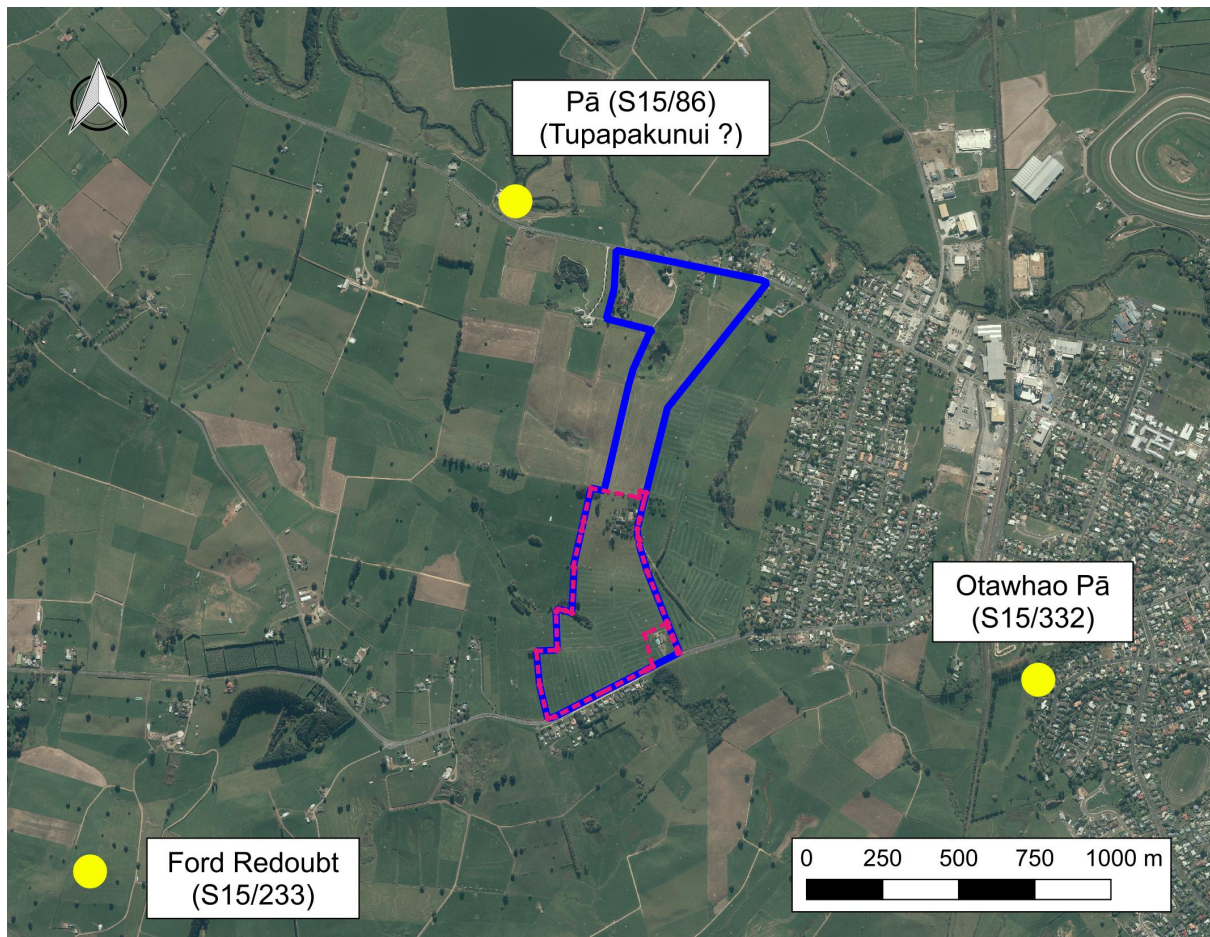


Figure 1: T2 growth cell outlined in blue with Frontier Road showing the closest recorded archaeological sites. The area bounded by a red dashed line was subject to a pedestrian survey.

Preamble

The T2 growth cell is located to the west of Te Awamutu and stretches between Frontier Road in the south and the Mangapiko Road in the north. Sanderson Group propose to

developed a residential retirement village on Lots 1 and 2 DP 487281 located with T2 fronting onto Frontier Road. The landform is comprised of a rolling hill-scape with clay loams.

An archival search of the NZ Archaeological Association site recording scheme via its on-line portal (Archsite) was carried out and historic maps and aerial photography was also reviewed.

Archsite

No archaeological sites have been recorded on or adjacent to the proposed development area. However, it should be noted that the area and its surrounds has not been subject to systematic archaeological survey and all of the archaeological sites recorded locally have been recorded on an ad hoc basis. The only systematic archaeological survey locally was carried out by Leahy and Walsh in 1980 and this was focused on the Puniu River.

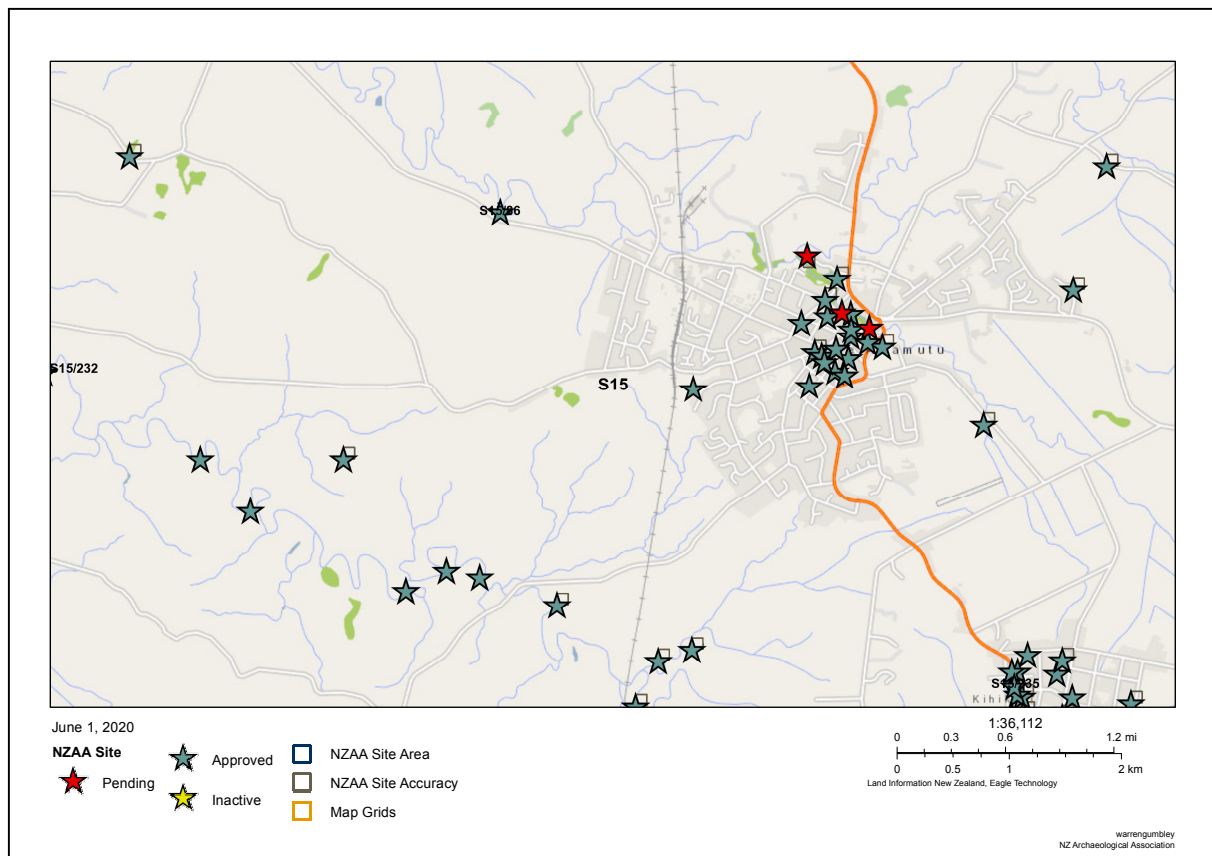


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Site inspection

A pedestrian site inspection of Lots 1 and 2 DP 487281 located at the southern end of the T2 cell was carried out on 2 June 2020. No evidence for the presence of archaeology was noted.

Access to the northern half of T2 Growth Cell was not available and no pedestrian survey was carried out there.

Archaeological Values

No actual or potential archaeological values were identified. In general the potential for archaeological sites within this area is considered low there is a slightly increased potential for archaeological remains with proximity to the Mangapiko Stream and the pa recorded as S15/86. This may take the form of the remains of activities peripheral to the pā (e.g. agriculture) or the remains of early colonial settlement following the invasion of 1863-1864.

References

Leahy, A.L., Walsh, W.D. 1980. *Lower Puniu River Survey, Te Awamutu*. Unpublished report to NZ Historic Places Trust.

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