

Before Kaipara District Council

In the Matter of the Resource Management Act 1991 (**RMA**)

And

In the Matter of an application for Private Plan Change 82 (**PC82**) by **MOONLIGHT HEIGHTS LIMITED** to rezone 39.2 ha of land at Awakino Road, Dargaville from Rural Zone to Residential Zone

Evidence of Jonathan Paul-David Carpenter on behalf of Moonlight Heights Limited

Archaeology and Historic Heritage

Dated 20 July 2023

Jeremy Brabant
Barrister
Foundry Chambers
Level 4, Vulcan Buildings
PO Box 1502, Shortland St
Auckland City
021 494 506
Email: jeremy@brabant.co.nz

Introduction

1. My full name is Jonathan Paul-David Carpenter. I am an archaeologist. I hold a Master of Arts (Honours) in Anthropology (Archaeology specialisation) from the University of Auckland.
2. I have 25 years' experience as an archaeologist/historic heritage manager. in New Zealand, the South Pacific and the USA. From 2008 I have worked as an archaeologist and heritage management consultant for Geometria Ltd and in that time have prepared approximately 350 archaeological and historic heritage assessments and associated reports for subdivisions and other development in Northland and have undertaken numerous archaeological excavations in the region.
3. I have held Section 17 Archaeologist status under the former Historic Places Act 1993, and Section 45 Archaeologist status under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 to undertake archaeological investigations and am qualified to comment on archaeological and historic heritage matters.
4. Although this is not a hearing before the Environment Court, I record that I have read and agree to and abide by the Environment Court's Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses as specified in the Environment Court's Practice Note 2023. This evidence is within my area of expertise, except where I state that I rely upon the evidence of other expert witnesses as presented to this hearing. I have not omitted to consider any material facts known to me that might alter or detract from the opinions expressed.

Scope of Evidence

5. My evidence will focus on archaeology and historic and historic heritage. My evidence should be read in conjunction with the archaeological assessment of effects for the proposal dated 30 June 2023 ("AAE").
6. My evidence will address the following:

- a. Involvement with the Proposal;
- b. Overview of the Proposal;
- c. Archaeology and historic heritage at the Site (and vicinity);
- d. History of the Site (and vicinity);
- e. Council s42A Report.; and
- f. Matters raised by submitters.

Involvement with the Proposal

- 7. I was commissioned to prepare the AEE in May 2023, undertook background research over several weeks in June and undertook a site visit on 28 June 2023.
- 8. I have read the original Kaipara District Council application and additional information, including AEE, technical reports, s 92 and s 42A reports.

Overview of the Proposal

- 9. The Proposal envisages a loop road through the centre of the Plan Change area with a 'green street' providing a link between the long axes of the loop road. Residential land use will encompass the level ground and slopes, avoiding the existing wetlands, seeps and ponds.
- 10. Medium density development is envisaged within the residential zone, with subdivision allowing minimum net lot size of 450m² and average lot size of 600m² where lots are serviced, or minimum net size of 2500m² and average size of 3000m² where lots are un-serviced.
- 11. The proposal will necessarily involve earthworks at a scale commensurate with developing internal roads, services, and residential lots/houses over an area of generally level to gently sloping topography and which may affect

surface and subsurface archaeological and heritage features if they are present.

Archaeology and Historic Heritage at the Site (and Vicinity)

12. There were no previously recorded archaeological sites, historic heritage sites or sites of significance to Maori in the relevant databases, Lists and Plan schedules.
13. The nearest recorded archaeological sites are four kilometres away.
14. One new potential archaeological site on the Site was identified during the field assessment, comprising a single possible storage pit and a single possible terrace of Maori origin, near the southern boundary.

History of the Site (and Vicinity)

15. The Site and Vicinity were part of the Kaihu No.2 Block, granted to rangatira Parore Te Āwha in 1877. Awakino Road (the old Dargaville-Tangiteroria Road) was surveyed and developed through the area in 1889-1898.
16. The Site and vicinity east of the road were sold to Europeans in 1894 as the Pt Kaihu 2B Block, by Parore's grandson and successor Pouaka Te Āwha, and Pouritanga Te Āwha. The land was purchased by William Archibald Spiers, a notable Dargaville settler who built many of the first buildings in the town in the late 19th century.
17. In the early 20th century, surrounding Maori land was also sold off, and the Spiers family broke in Pt Kaihu 2B for farming and also subdivided it into smaller blocks broadly running west-east. The Site and Vicinity took its current form when the Awakino Road frontage was subdivided into smaller residential lots and developed in the decade after World War II.
18. A review of historic survey plans, other maps and aerial imagery suggest the Site was in manuka/kanuka forest at the time it was alienated in 1894 and was not cleared or broken in for farming until after this time.

19. The Site and Vicinity appears to be away from the more highly valued wedge of land for Maori occupation and horticulture, and later European settlement, around the Kaihū River outfall to the Wairoa, and stretching from Mangawhare to Tunatahi and up to Parore.

Response to s 42A Report

20. I concur with the s 42A Report finding that the presence of the one potential site does not preclude the Proposal, and that an appropriate setback should be placed around the site with modification within being controlled by consenting, and accidental discovery protocols as a condition of earthworks consenting elsewhere on the Site.

21. A minimum 20m setback around the site, measured from the outside edge of the individual features is appropriate, as recommended in the AAE

Response to Submitters

22. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNPT) submitted (Submission #18) that the application did not adequately assess archaeological and historic heritage as the original application did not contain a specific archaeological assessment.

23. I consider that my AAE has determined the effects on historic and archaeological heritage and addresses the concerns of HNZPT.

24. No other archaeological or historic heritage related matters were raised by Submitters.

Conclusion

25. There is one potential archaeological site within the Site, and effects on this site may be controlled with appropriate setbacks and consent conditions.

26. Potential archaeological effects elsewhere on the Site will be adequately managed by accidental discovery protocols.

27. There are unlikely to be effects on archaeological or historic heritage of high significance.

28. Overall effects on archaeological and historic heritage are likely to be less than minor to nil.

Jonathan Paul-David Carpenter

Dated 20 July 2023