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Archaeological Resource Management

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Kathryn Hooper
Landpro Ltd
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New Plymouth

Re: 2 Johnson St Waitara - Proposed Subdivision.

The following letter outlines the results of a preliminary archaeological assessment of the proposed subdivision at 2 Johnson St Waitara (Lot 3 DP 446773). This assessment was undertaken in order to advise of any likelihood that this subdivision will affect archaeological sites and to propose mitigation if archaeological sites were to be affected.

The assessment was conducted specifically to locate and record archaeological evidence. Waahi tapu and sites of cultural significance to Maori are outside the scope of this assessment and the appropriate representatives from the relevant Iwi and hapu should be approached independently about any concerns they may have.

My assessment entailed a review of the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) record (Archsite 2018); a review of 19th Century land plans and campaign maps; historic literature and archaeological publications relating to the Waitara District; and a pedestrian survey of the project area. The assessment is based on background research and non invasive field survey. No subsurface archaeological excavations have been undertaken on the area of the proposed subdivision.

I can confirm that the NZAA site recording scheme lists no archaeological sites on the property and I am not aware of any archival records that would otherwise suggest potential for unrecorded sites to be affected by this development. The closest Waahi taonga site listed on the New Plymouth District plan lists is Waahi taonga site ID 473, this site corresponds to NZAA site Q19/138, Parangarahu Pa. I can confirm that this site is located on a neighbouring property to the west, Lot 3 DP 9551.

I completed a pedestrian survey of the property on the 30th of July 2018. At that time the property was either under grass or had been recently ploughed following cropping and presented good conditions for the identification of surface archaeological features. None were noted. It was apparent that surface re contouring has occurred in areas where small tributary creeks and wetlands have been drained. The main stream running through the

property has been channelled and dammed in places and appears to be significantly modified from its original state.

As no archaeological site will be affected by this project and I am not aware of archival material that would lead me to expect that unrecorded sites could potentially be affected, I consider that there is no requirement at this time for any further mitigation with regards to archaeological sites. In particular there is no requirement that earthworks for subdivision are undertaken under authority from Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT).

In the event that archaeological material is recovered then all work in the vicinity of the find must cease and the HNZPT archaeologist for the Central Region should be contacted immediately.

Kind Regards,
Ivan Bruce
Consultant Archaeologist.