

12/MP/10

SIMPSON PARK DOMAIN RECREATION RESERVE - MOEREWA
(Active)

District Scheme Map (1979) Page 46

Valuation Assessment No. 42/246, 42/286

~~Council Approval~~ 22 April 1987

SIMSON PARK DOMAIN RECREATION RESERVE

RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN:

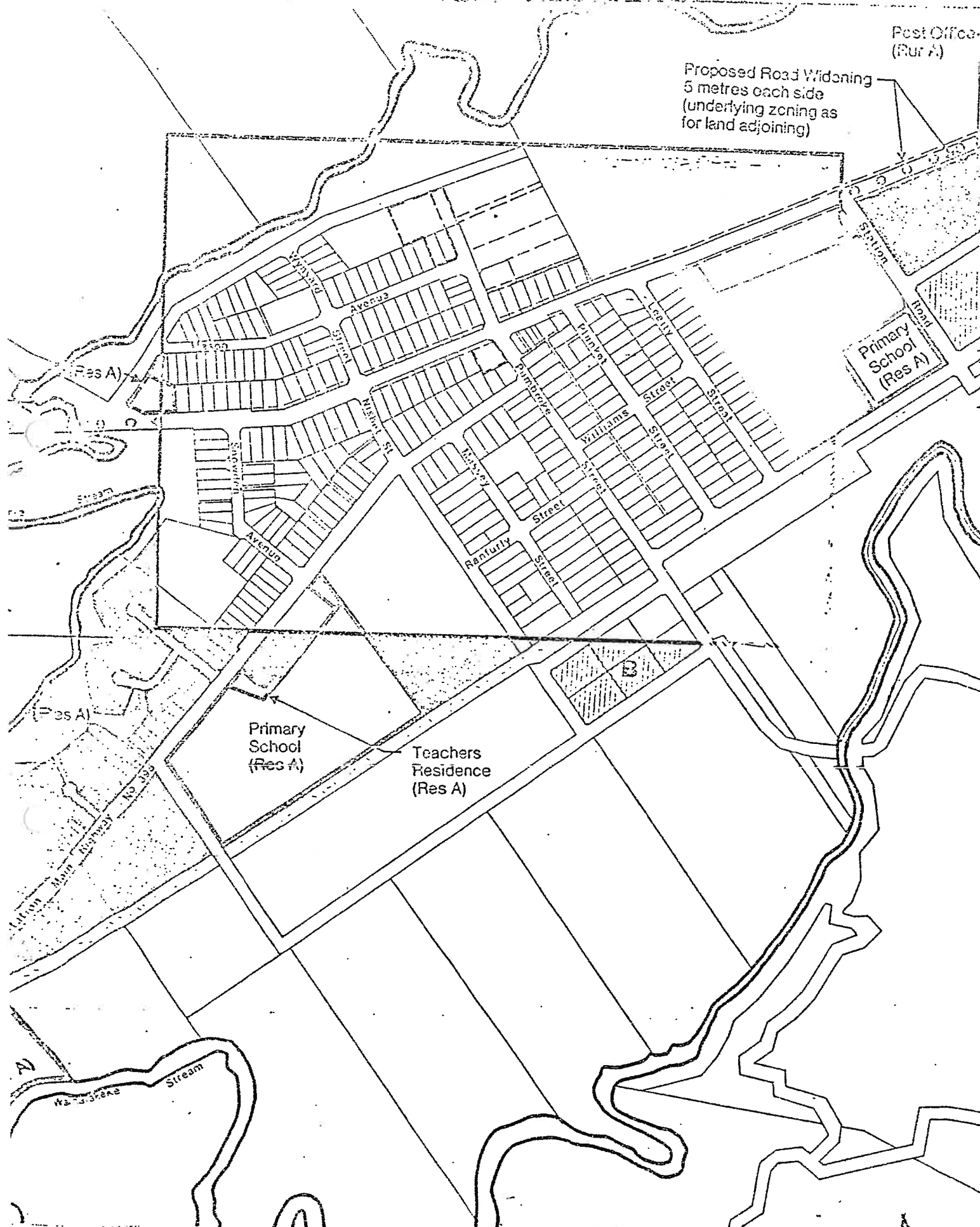
PREPARED BY:- THE BAY OF ISLANDS COUNTY COUNCIL, PURSUANT
TO THE RESERVES ACT, 1977.

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WATSON PARK DOMAIN
RECREATION RESERVE

Location
Map One



Proposed Road Widening
5 metres each side
(underlying zoning as
for land adjoining)

Post Office
(Rur A)

Primary
School
(Res A)

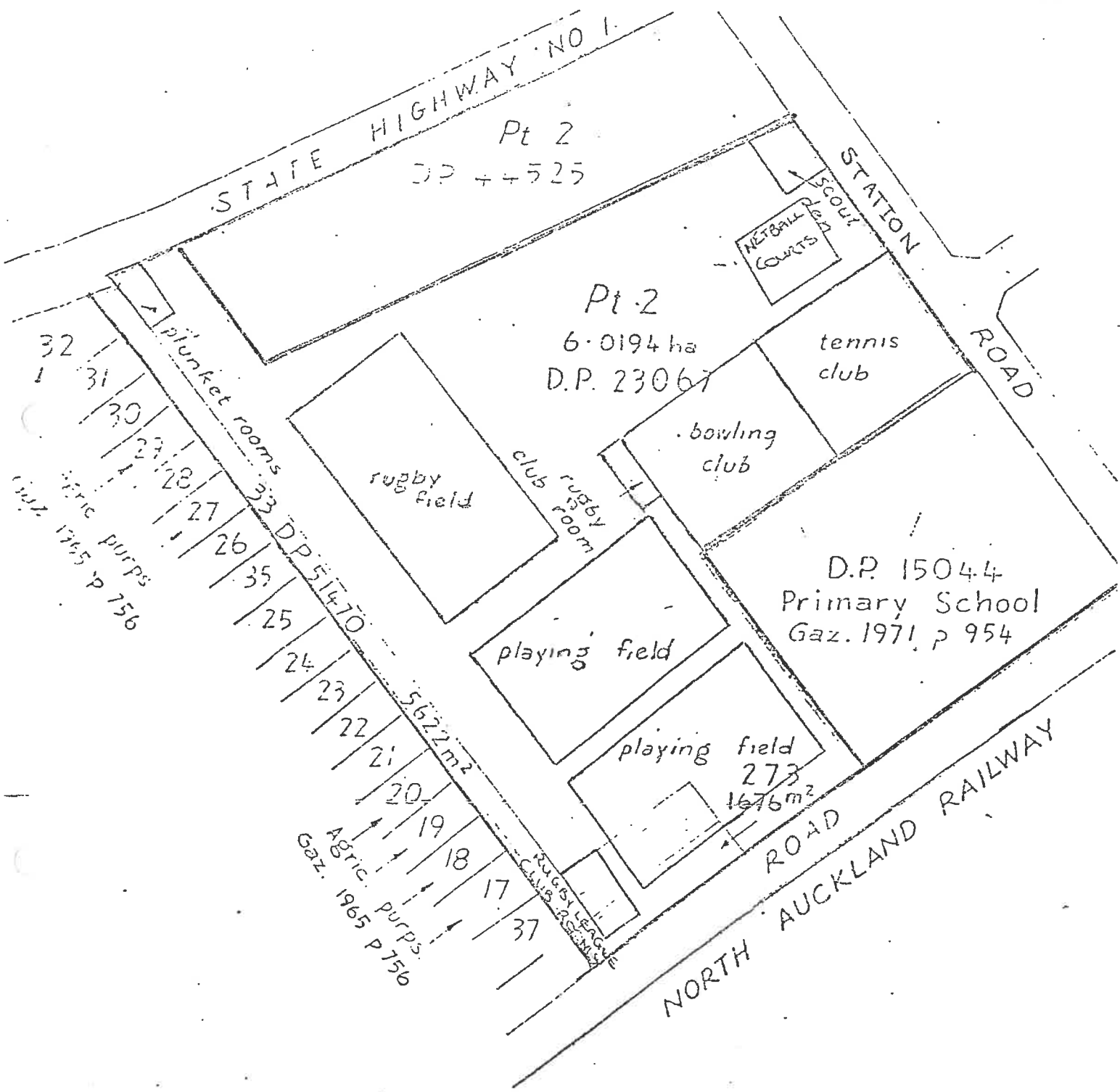
Primary
School
(Res A)

Teachers
Residence
(Res A)

RECREATION RESERVE



RECREATION RESERVE



SITE PLAN - SPORTING FACILITIES (Not to Scale)

SIMSON PARK DOMAIN RECREATION RESERVE:

INTRODUCTION:

This Management Plan is concerned with the setting of objectives and policies for the long-term management of the Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve, based on an analysis of background information and data and in accordance with the Reserves Act, 1977.

This Reserve Management Plan:-

- (a) Describes the main features of the Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve.
- (b) Outlines Council's policies for the future management of the above Reserve.

The Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve consists of two rating assessment areas 420/246; and 420/286. In line with present government Policy, the Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve has now been vested in the Bay of Islands County Council, although daily administration matters are still handled by the Simson Park Domain Board.

The Reserve provides sporting and recreational facilities for the Moerewa Community, with past and continuing efforts by the Simson Park Domain Board, and the local community contributing greatly to the provision of a valuable community asset.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION AND PLANNING STATUS:

This area being:-

- (a) Lot 33; D.P. 51470, Allotment 273, with an area of .7300 hectares.
- (b) Part Lot 2, D.P. 23067, Block XV, Kawakawa Survey District, with an area of 6.0194 hectares.

Total area of the Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve, is 6.7494 hectares.

1. This indicates the purpose for which the land may be used if the present designation is removed.

2. Residential "A" Zoning, Ordinance 2, Clause 3:-

1. (a) Zone Statement:

"This Zone caters primarily for single unit dwelling houses on small sites, and covers the conventional housing areas in the District."

(Bay of Islands County Council District Planning Scheme, Operative 1979).

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Legal Description and Planning Status - Continued:

Under the current Bay of Islands County District Planning Scheme, the Reserve is designated as Public Reserve and Open Spaces. It has an underlying zoning (1) of Residential "A" (2).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The main area of Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve, (Part Lot 2, D.P. 23067) was gifted to the Crown by the Auckland Farmers Freezing Company Limited, on 20th August, 1930. It was subsequently gazetted as Simson Park Domain in the New Zealand Gazette 1930, Page 3682. On the subdivision of residential sections fronting onto Leaity Street, and adjacent to Simson Park, Lot 33, D.P. 51470 was vested in the Bay of Islands County Council, subject to the Reserves and Domains Act, 1953, and pursuant to Section 35 (4) of the Counties Amendment Act. A year later, this area was transferred to the Crown to be included in the Simson Park Domain. On 2nd August, 1979, the Simson Park Domain was gazetted as a Recreation Reserve; Gazette Number 70, Page 2290.

A change in Government Policy in 1981, encouraged transfer of Reserves under the control of Reserve Boards to control by local and regional authorities, once the existing terms of the Reserves Board expired.

The Department of Lands and Survey approached the Bay of Islands County Council to accept future control of the Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve, by way of free vesting when the Simson Park Domain Boards term of office expired on 31st August, 1984. Pursuant to the Reserves Act, 1977, the Simson Park Domain was vested in the Bay of Islands County Council as a Recreation Reserve on 18th April, 1985; Gazette Notice Number 69, Page 1660.

Although now vested in the Bay of Islands County Council, the daily administration of the Reserve is still carried out by the domain Board, thereby continuing close community association with the reserve area set aside for the use and enjoyment of the people of Moerewa.

SURROUNDING USES:

The Reserve is bordered on two sides by residential areas zoned Residential "A". Its northern boundary adjoins the main state highway and rural grazing land, while to the south it adjoins the railway line and scrubland. The Moerewa Primary School and playing fields are sited adjacent to the south-east corner of the Reserve.

LOCATION AND ACCESS:

(Refer Location Map One).

The Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve is located on the eastern boundary of the Moerewa Township. It is readily accessible from the main State Highway which runs past its entranceway.

Location and Access - Continued:

Access onto the reserve is gained via a metalled internal roadway that links up with the various buildings that have been erected on the Reserve.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND EXISTING FACILITIES:

The Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve consists of two distinct areas:-

Lot 33, D.P. 51470, Allotment 273, is a strip of tall redwood trees that runs along the western boundary of the Reserve. A natural pathway has been worn between the rows of trees, leading to the buildings sited on this area of the Reserve. A hall site, that faces towards Leaity Street encroaches onto the Reserve land. A stone wall has been erected along the edge of Lot 33, that adjoins the remainder of the Simson Park Domain, so dividing the wooded area from the existing playing fields.

Part Lot 2, D.P. 23067 constitutes the main bulk of the Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve. At the main entrance to the Domain, adjacent to the main State Highway North, a stone memorial archway has been erected by Auckland Farmers Freezing Company Limited. The archway was erected as a mark of respect to Thomas Simson Esquire, after whom the Domain was named. A plaque on the archway reads "in appreciation of valuable services rendered by Thomas Simson Esquire in the development of the meat freezing industry in North Auckland, and the part he played in the subsequent establishment of Opuia as a port for overseas steamers", October, 1934.

A matching stone fence flanks the archway. This area is fronted by a small garden area and grass verge.

Immediately behind the main entrance, situated in the north-west corner of the Reserve, is a building currently being used as a Plunket Clinic and Op. Shop. From the front entrance the internal metalled roadway leads to the bulk of the Reserve. The roadway near the front entrance is lined with large palm trees. To the rear of these runs a line of tall redwood trees that links up with the stand of redwoods running along Lot 33 to the east, and continues along the northern boundary of the Reserve as far as Station Road. The internal roadway divides the trees from the playing fields that are situated in the interior of the Reserve. A stonewall has been partly constructed along the northern edge of the rugby fields.

The Simson Park Domain Recreation Reserve is used as a sporting facility for Moerewa Sports Clubs, who have established individual facilities for the use of their Members.

The Moerewa Scout Den is sited on the Reserve in the north-eastern corner, adjoining Station Road. It is surrounded by an open grassed area.

The Moerewa Tennis Club has its clubhouse and tennis courts also on the Station Road boundary of the Reserve. Adjacent to these are netball courts belonging to the Moerewa-Kawakawa Netball Club.

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Physical Description Etc. - Continued:

The Moerewa Bowling Club has constructed Clubrooms and bowling greens immediately to the west of the tennis courts.

The bulk of the Reserve is used by the Moerewa Rugby Club and Moerewa Rugby League Club, who have several playing fields sited in the centre of the Reserve. The Rugby Club has its own Clubrooms adjacent to these. The Rugby League Club have erected Clubrooms in the south-west corner of the Reserve, and these are accessible from Reed Street, that runs parallel to the adjacent railway line. Two other concrete block buildings are sited on the Reserve.

The individual facilities are linked by the internal metal roadway. A mown grass strip along the Station road boundary, is bordered by several large trees and raised gardens have been built from large stones.

The only undeveloped area of the Reserve lies between the rugby fields and the Station Road boundary in the north-east corner of the Reserve. This at present is an open, roughly grassed area that has been fenced off with pipe railings.

LEASING ARRANGEMENTS:

(Refer Map Two for physical siting of individual facilities).

Leasing arrangements have been established between the Simson Park Domain Board and the various groups occupying the Domain.

1. The Moerewa Tennis Club holds a lease over 3,000 m² of the Domain, to maintain tennis courts and a pavillion for the purpose of furthering the sport of tennis. The lease is for a term of twenty-one (21) years from 20th March, 1980, with renewal possible for a similar term on expiry of the present leasing agreement.

Annual rental is currently set at \$15-00 per annum.

2. The Moerewa Rugby Football Club is currently leasing an area of the Domain for rugby football activities, and to provide clubroom facilities. The lease is for a term of twenty-one (21) years, from 1st November, 1974, with the right of renewal for a similar term. Annual rental is \$10-00 and is reviewable every seven (7) years.
3. The Moerewa Plunket Society, officially known as the Royal New Zealand Society for the Health of Women and Children, (Bay of Islands Branch), secured a lease to erect Plunket Rooms, for use for plunket activities. The twenty-one (21) year lease commenced on the 1st November, 1974, and provision has been made for renewal for a similar term once current leasing arrangements expire. Annual rental has been set at \$10-00 and is reviewable at seven (7) yearly intervals.

Leasing Arrangements - Continued:

- 4. The Moerewa Rugby League Club holds a lease that allows for the provision of clubrooms and playing fields for rugby league purposes.

The present lease commenced from 1979, for a period of twenty-one (21) years, with a twenty-one (21) year extension possible on expiry of the current arrangements. A rental of \$30-00 is payable annually. Although not included in the formal lease, the Club has agreed to pay \$100-00 annually towards the maintenance of the grounds.

- 5. The Moerewa Bowling Club commenced leasing arrangements with the Simson Park Domain Board, on 21st October, 1953. The land leased was set aside for the provision of Clubrooms and bowling greens, and was for a term of twenty-one (21) years. The lease has since been renewed for a further twenty-one (21) year period, as from July, 1977. Annual rental is now set at \$30-00, and is reviewable every seven (7) years.

- 6. The Moerewa-Kawakawa Netball Club lease an area of 1,200 m² of the Domain, to maintain netball courts for the purpose of furthering the sport of netball. The twenty-one (21) year lease commenced on 1st April, 1980, with right of renewal on expiry of this term, for a similar term. Annual rental has been set at \$30-00.

- 7. The Moerewa Scout Group have established a scout den on the Domain, in accordance with leasing arrangements made with the Domain Board. The twenty-one (21) year lease commenced on 1st January, 1966, with renewal possible for a similar term. The rental has been set at \$2-00 per annum.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE:

To provide and maintain an open space recreation area with related and allied facilities for recreation and sporting activities for the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public.

Policy One:

To maintain the current lease arrangements with the lessees in terms of Section 54, of the Reserves Act, 1977, and to ensure that the terms of the lease are adhered to.

Implementation:

Those Clubs already occupying the Reserve are providing facilities to meet the recreational and sporting needs of the local community. Such facilities should continue to be an integral part of the Domain as long as leasing arrangements are upheld.

Policy Two:

To confine any future development of the Domain to that which will allow for extended community use of the Domain, while retaining those facilities presently provided.

Implementation:

Present leasing arrangements, held by local clubs, now dictate the present use of the Domain. Future sporting and recreational activities that are deemed to be in the best interests of the public should not be excluded from the Domain as long as they are compatible with the present usage. Present lessees should not regard the use of the Domain area as their sole right, and should be encouraged to allow extended public use of facilities within the Domain area.

Policy Three:

To enhance the natural character of the Reserve by maintaining present garden and landscaped areas, and by ensuring that grassed areas are regularly maintained and mown.

Implementation:

P.E.P. Workers are presently maintaining those areas of the Domain that are not included within current leasing arrangements. Current occupiers of the Reserve should be encouraged to maintain the Domain as a whole, should the need arise.

Policy Four:

To identify the Simson Park Domain as a Reserve, by placing of a suitable signboard in the vicinity of the front entrance.

Implementation:

The status of the Domain, as a Reserve should be made known to the public, as well as details of management policies.

A brief resume of the Domain's history, with emphasis on how the Reserve was acquired by the Domain Board for the use and benefit of the local residents, should be included with the management data on a suitably designed signpost.

REPORT TO : Works and Plant Committee
FROM : County Treasurer
SUBJECT : REFUSE COLLECTION CHARGES - SIMPSON PARK DOMAIN

The Local Government Act provides that a uniform annual charge may be levied on every property in respect of which a refuse rate would be payable and that "any such annual charge may be a uniform annual charge for each separately occupied portion of any building".

In respect of Simpson Park Domain, there are five separate bodies occupying distinct areas of the domain. During the preparation for the rates strike this year, the rates lists were reviewed in order to standardise charges throughout the County, but not all inconsistencies were found. Simpson Park Domain was one case where in previous years, of the five occupiers only one was charged for refuse and the amendment this year was to bring the charges in line with the Local Government Act.

There are a number of other cases where policies or definitions have not been applied consistently in prior years and I am in the process of preparing a more detailed report of these matters for Council's consideration in order to permit the confirmation of Council's policies.

RECOMMENDATION :

THAT no remission of refuse charges be granted at this stage and that further consideration be given after consideration of policy if the charges are not in accordance with that policy.

A B Cox

A B Cox
COUNTY TREASURER.

01 September 1988