

The Cultural Heritage Inventory

an information base for cultural heritage management

What is the Cultural Heritage Inventory (CHI)?

The CHI is a computer database that can store and retrieve information on cultural heritage in the Auckland region. It has been developed by the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) and is being maintained and supported by heritage agencies including:

- Territorial authorities (city and district councils).
- New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT).
- Department of Conservation (DOC).
- Ministry for the Environment (MfE).
- New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA).
- Department of Anthropology University of Auckland.
- Historical Societies.
- Iwi authorities.

The CHI provides easy access to cultural heritage information. It is being used to promote the sustainable management of cultural heritage resources in the region. A coordinated and integrated approach to heritage planning has promoted more efficient and effective resource management.



Photo: Alastair Jamieson.

Ōtuataua Stonefields Historic Reserve, Mangere.

How is the information stored?

The CHI information is stored within three key databases:

1. Heritage agencies – current addresses and telephone numbers of museums, heritage agencies, specialists and consultants.
2. Heritage bibliography – published and unpublished records, reports, manuscripts, tapes and a number of historic maps.
3. Historic places - including:
 - Archaeological sites – descriptions and location information.
 - Historic buildings, places, objects and structures – descriptions and location information.
 - Maritime places and areas – coastal environment descriptions and

location information.

- Reported historic places and areas – historic places, often where historic events occurred, that are referred to in books or marked on maps.
- Historic trees and other botanical sites – trees and other plants with historical or cultural associations.

The CHI includes places that are formally recognised by the NZHPT in their Register; it also contains places scheduled for protection on District Plans, and archaeological sites recorded in the NZAA Site Record File. Many other historic places from various sources have been added to the database for their heritage values. It is important to note that the CHI does not afford formal protection. Protection is provided through the Resource Management Act 1991, the Historic Places Act 1993 and the Conservation Act 1987.



Bach (1922), Rangitoto Island.



S.S. Rarawa (1903), Rangitoto Island.

Photo: Alastair Jamieson

How is the CHI being maintained and developed?

The CHI is constantly being developed. Continued base recording and data entry is required, and greater cooperative work between agencies is needed to build a more integrated and comprehensive inventory.

With the support of heritage agencies and consultants, work is now focused on:

- Incorporation of data into a Geographic Information System (GIS) to illustrate locations and boundary areas of historic places and heritage survey coverage throughout the region.
- Assessing the state and condition of historic places recorded in the database and researching heritage significance.
- Monitoring historic places and areas scheduled in the Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal (2004).
- Collating current contact names and addresses for heritage agencies, specialists and consultants.
- Developing a more comprehensive list of published and unpublished cultural heritage reports.

In the future, parts of the CHI may become available through internet access.

Getting information from the CHI

CHI information can be requested by contacting staff within the ARC Heritage Department. You will need to supply a map clearly showing the area of interest, or have an accurate street address or legal description. Commercial and urgent searches from the database incur a charge to cover actual and reasonable administration costs. Please enquire about search fees when making your request. The seven city and district Councils within the Auckland region also have copies of the CHI. The following local authorities hold published inventory reports and these are available in local libraries:

- Franklin District (1993).
- North Shore City (1994).
- Manukau City (1995).
- Waitakere City (1996).
- An Inventory for the Coastal Environment (1994).

Copies of these publications can also be viewed at the ARC Information Centre or purchased from the Customer Service Centre - Ph: 09 366 2000 or email: info@arc.govt.nz

We need your help to improve the quality of the CHI. To forward new information, or to find out further information, contact the Auckland Regional Council, 21 Pitt St, Private Bag 92 012, Newton, Auckland, Ph: 09 366 2000, Fax: 09 366 2155.



More information:

Visit the Auckland Regional Council website to find out about cultural heritage places you can visit and other brochures in this series
- www.arc.govt.nz

Other agencies with cultural heritage responsibilities:
New Zealand Historic Places Trust
- www.historic.org.nz
Department of Conservation
- www.doc.govt.nz
Ministry for Culture and Heritage
- www.mch.govt.nz
ICOMOS - International Council on Monuments and Sites
- www.icomos.org.nz
New Zealand Archaeological Association
- www.nzarcheology.org