

Public Input Presentation

Chelsea Regional Park Association Inc. (CHERPA)

5 November 2026

Cherpa.org

Regional Parks Location Spread

1 Te Ārai
2 Pākiri
3 Ātiu Creek
4 Tāwharanui
5 Scandrett
6 Te Rau Pūriri
7 Mahurangi
8 Te Muri
9 Wenderholm
10 Shakespear
11 Long Bay
12 Muriwai
16 Motukorea (BI)
19 Whakanewha
Platt Arboretum
Cold spots



13 Waitākere Ranges
14 Ambury
15 Mutukāroa (HH)
17 Botanic Gardens
18 Ō Manawatere
20 Duder
21 Waitawa
22 Tawhitokino
23 Orere Point
24 Tāpapakanga
25 Hūnua Ranges
26 Waharau
27 Whakatīwai
28 Āwhitu
29 Glenfern Sanctuary

Central 10km Radius Cold Spot



Three Parks as One Regional Park



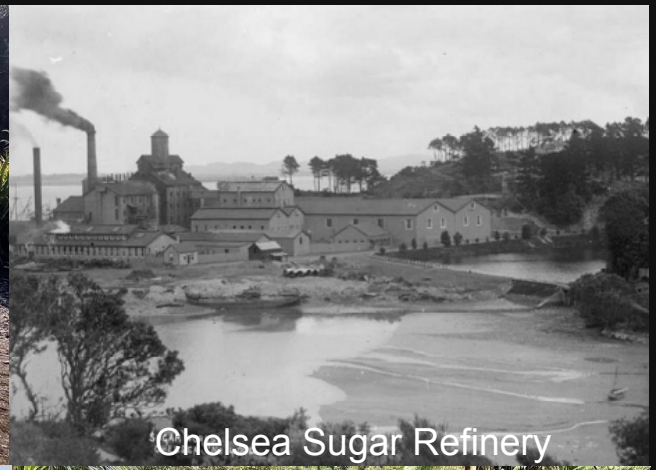
Three Parks as One Regional Park



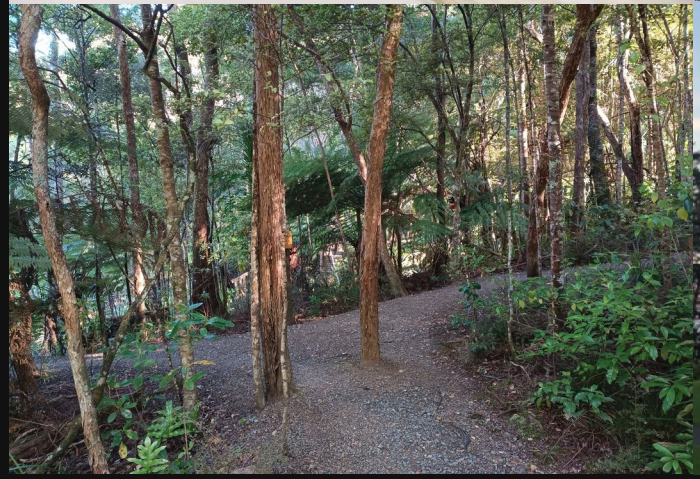
Te Mātārae ō Mana Pā



Kendall Bay/Rongohau



Chelsea Sugar Refinery



Bush Trail Chatswood Reserve

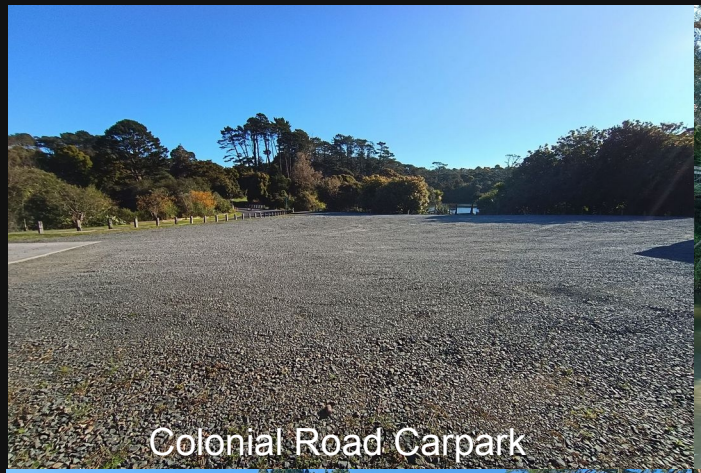


Ship’s Grab Sculpture

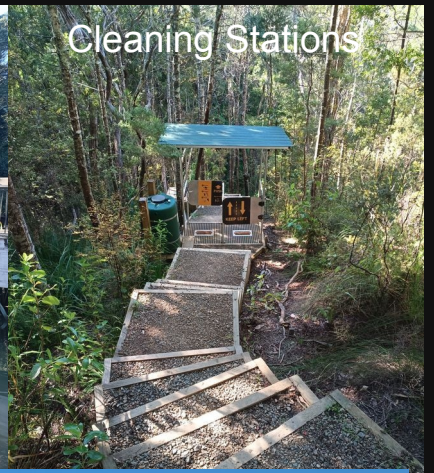


Duck Creek in Chatswood Reserve

No Material Investment Required


Colonial Road Carpark


Footbridge at Pond 2


Cleaning Stations


Chelsea Estate Heritage Park Toilets


Boardwalks/Bridges


Chelsea Sugar Playground

Park access & Public Transport



An Iconic Waterfront Park







A Legacy of Park Advocates



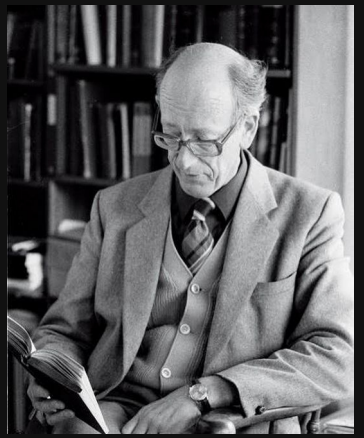
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William Jervois GCMG CB FRS

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Core Benefits

City/Regional Parks Benefits

- Addresses the Central 10km Radius and Waitematā Regional Park vacuum
- Nil Acquisiton cost and discretionary spend is materially cost neutral
- Prime harbour site with outstanding Heritage, Ecological, Educational & Recreational amenity
- Synergies from Chelsea Sugar attractions
- Excellent bus and ferry access which links into CRL and Busway to Greater Auckland
- Well established support from volunteers
- Potential Revenue generation from Tourism
- Possible opportunity for Future Expansion

Three Parks as One Benefits

- Protection in perpetuity
- Amalgamation of the three parks under a gifted name
- Increased oversight benefits from having an on site Ranger
- Increased public awareness and use via Regional Parks brand
- Greater opportunities fror volunteer networking from being part of Regional Park family
- Improved partnering with Iwi and restoration of archaeological sites mana

Fast Facts

- The size of the proposed Regional Park would be 70.9 hectares, comprised of:-
    - Kauri Point Centennial Park [20.4 hectares]
    - Chelsea Estate Heritage Park [36.8 hectares]
    - Chatswood Reserve [13.7 hectares]
- The park size would be comparable to Ambury and Te Muri Regional Parks

- There will be 16 points of access to the park
- Numerous options to enter and exit the park without having to retrace steps
- 3 to 4 min walk from bus stops in Chatswood
- 8 to 9 min walk from bus stops to Rawene Rd, Huka Rd & Colonial Rd entrances
- A bus service meets a ferry service at Birkenhead Wharf
- 20 to 35 min walk from Birkenhead Wharf

- Colonial Rd gravel carpark is 1,565 sqm (up to 50 carparks possible)
- There are multiple street parking options and a large village carpark in Rawene Rd

Ecological Value - 57 Bird Species



The North-West Wildlink provides a wildlife corridor from the Waitākere Ranges to the Hauraki Gulf.



57 Species of birds observed on the Chelsea-Kauri Pt-Kendall Bay headland

Observed by Mel Galbraith (2005-2023)
*** = breeding populations**
Blue text = sightings verified by CHERPA committee or on iNaturialist since 2022 (updated by Pam Templeton, 2025.

Native:

1. black swan* *Cygnus atratus*
2. paradise shelduck *Tardorna variegata*
3. grey duck* *Anas superciliosa superciliosa*
4. New Zealand scaup *Aythya novaeseelandiae*
5. New Zealand dabchick *Podiceps rufopectus*
6. black shag *Phalocrocorax carbo*
7. pied shag* *Phalocrocorax varius*
8. little black shag *Phalocrocorax sulcirostris*
9. little shag* *Phalocrocorax melanoleucos brevirostris*
10. white-faced heron* *Ardea novaehollandiae novaehollandiae*
11. reef heron *Egretta sacra sacra*
12. royal spoonbill *Platalea regia*
13. Australasian harrier* *Circus approximans*
14. New Zealand falcon *Falco novaeseelandiae*
15. banded rail* *Rallus philippensis assimilis*
16. pukeko* *Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*
17. Australian coot* *Fulica atra australis*
18. South Island pied oystercatcher *Haemantopus ostralegus finschi*
19. variable oystercatcher *Haemantopus unicolor*
20. pied stilt *Himantopus himantopus*
21. spur-winged plover *Vanellus miles novaehollandiae*
22. black-backed gull* *Larus dominicanus dominicanus*
23. red-billed gull *Larus novaehollandiae scopulinus*
24. Caspian tern *Sterna caspia*
25. NZ pigeon* *Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae* NZ scaup *Aythya novaeseelandiae*
26. North Island kaka *Nestor meridionalis septentrionalis*
27. red-crowned parakeet *Cyanoramphus novaezelandiae novaezelandiae*
28. shining cuckoo* *Chrysococcyx lucidus lucidus*
29. long-tailed cuckoo *Eudynamys taitensis*
30. morepork* *Ninox novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae*
31. NZ kingfisher* *Todiramphus sanctus*
32. tui* *Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae novaeseelandiae* North Island fantail* *Rhipidura fuliginosa placabilis*
33. North Island tomtit *Petroica macrocephala toitoi*
34. North Island fernbird* *Bowdleria punctata vealeae*
35. grey warbler* *Gerygone igata*
36. silvereye* *Zosterops lateralis lateralis*
37. welcome swallow* *Hirundo tahitica*
38. Spotless crake *Zapornia tabuensis*

Introduced:

39. California quail* *Callipepla californica*
40. ring-necked pheasant* *Phasianus colchicus*
41. mallard* *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*
42. rock pigeon *Columba livia*
43. spotted dove* *Streptopelia chinensis tigrina*
44. sulphur-crested cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*
45. eastern rosella* *Platycercus eximius*
46. dunnock (hedge sparrow) *Prunella modularis*
47. blackbird* *Turdus merula*
48. song thrush* *Turdus philomelos*
49. yellow hammer* *Emberiza citrinella*
50. chaffinch* *Fringilla coelebs*
51. greenfinch* *Carduelis chloris*
52. goldfinch* *Carduelis carduelis*
53. house sparrow* *Passer domesticus*
54. starling* *Sturnus vulgaris*
55. common myna* *Acridotheres tristis*
56. Australian magpie* *Gymnorhina tibicen*
57. Royal Spoonbill *Platalea regia*

Nomenclature and order follows Gill et al. (2010), Checklist of the birds of New Zealand, Norfolk and MacQuarie Island, and the Ross Dependency, Antarctica. Te Papa Press, Wellington.

Biodiversity- Classified as"High Value"

3,500 CITIZEN SCIENCE OBSERVATIONS*

INCLUDING:

- 130+ NATIVE PLANT SPECIES
- RARE SKINKS & GECKOS
- 8 UNIQUE HABITAT TYPES (COASTAL, PODOCARP, EXOTIC, WETLAND, FRESHWATER LAKES...)
- SOILS OF THIS HEADLAND SUPPORTS MANY FERNS, LICHENS, MOSSES & INVERTEBRATES
- KOKOPU / NATIVE TROUT







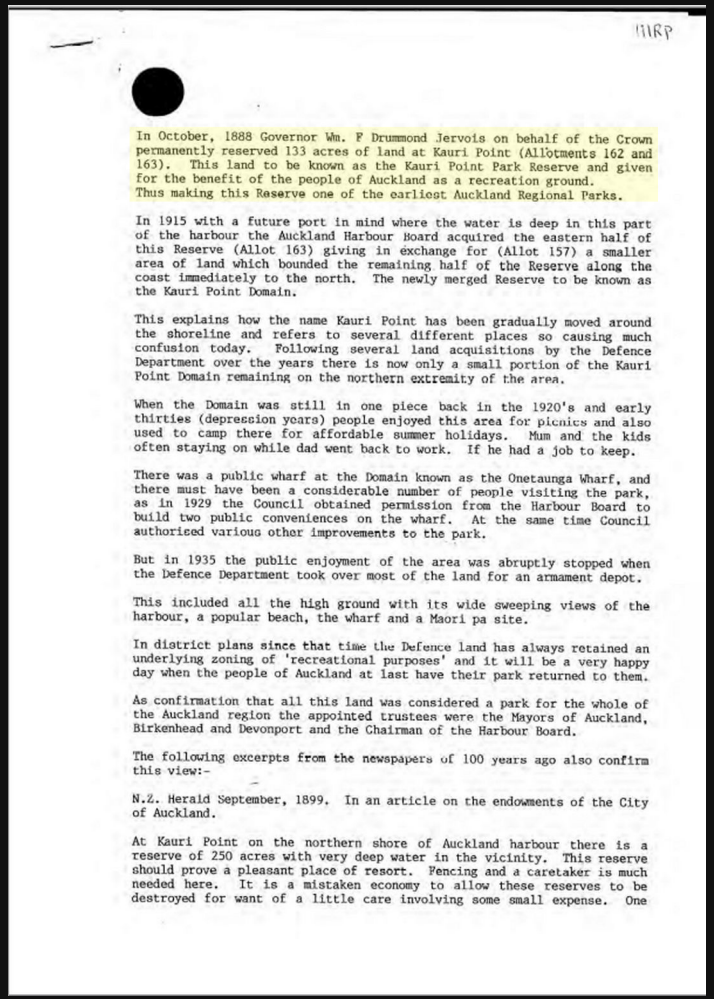




*Since 2022. Photos: CHERPA / Auckland Biodiversity

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Park Concept Endorsed Since 1888



In October, 1888 Governor Wm. F Drummond Jervois on behalf of the Crown permanently reserved 133 acres of land at Kauri Point (Allotments 162 and 163). This land to be known as the Kauri Point Park Reserve and given for the benefit of the people of Auckland as a recreation ground. Thus making this Reserve one of the earliest Auckland Regional Parks.

In 1915 with a future port in mind where the water is deep in this part of the harbour the Auckland Harbour Board acquired the eastern half of this Reserve (Allot 163) giving in exchange for (Allot 157) a smaller area of land which bounded the remaining half of the Reserve along the coast immediately to the north. The newly merged Reserve to be known as the Kauri Point Domain.

This explains how the name Kauri Point has been gradually moved around the shoreline and refers to several different places so causing much confusion today. Following several land acquisitions by the Defence Department over the years there is now only a small portion of the Kauri Point Domain remaining on the northern extremity of the area.

When the Domain was still in one piece back in the 1920's and early thirties (depression years) people enjoyed this area for picnics and also used to camp there for affordable summer holidays. Mum and the kids often staying on while dad went back to work. If he had a job to keep.

There was a public wharf at the Domain known as the Onetaunga Wharf, and there must have been a considerable number of people visiting the park, as in 1929 the Council obtained permission from the Harbour Board to build two public conveniences on the wharf. At the same time Council authorised various other improvements to the park.

But in 1935 the public enjoyment of the area was abruptly stopped when the Defence Department took over most of the land for an armament depot.

This included all the high ground with its wide sweeping views of the harbour, a popular beach, the wharf and a Maori pa site.

In district plans since that time the Defence land has always retained an underlying zoning of 'recreational purposes' and it will be a very happy day when the people of Auckland at last have their park returned to them.

As confirmation that all this land was considered a park for the whole of the Auckland region the appointed trustees were the Mayors of Auckland, Birkenhead and Devonport and the Chairman of the Harbour Board.

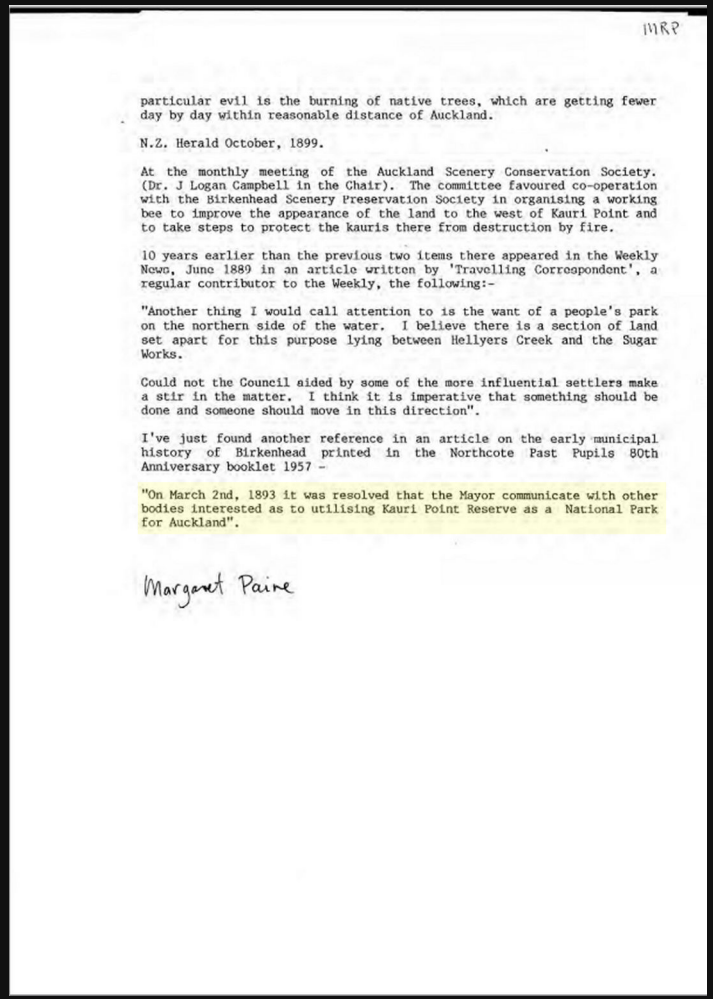
The following excerpts from the newspapers of 100 years ago also confirm this view:-

N.Z. Herald September, 1899. In an article on the endowments of the City of Auckland.

At Kauri Point on the northern shore of Auckland harbour there is a reserve of 250 acres with very deep water in the vicinity. This reserve should prove a pleasant place of resort. Fencing and a caretaker is much needed here. It is a mistaken economy to allow these reserves to be destroyed for want of a little care involving some small expense. One

"This land to be known as the Kauri Point Reserve and given for the benefit of the people of Auckland as a recreational ground"

"On March 2nd, 1893 it was resolved that the Mayor communicate with other bodies interested as to utilising Kauri Point Reserve as a National Park for Auckland"



particular evil is the burning of native trees, which are getting fewer day by day within reasonable distance of Auckland.

N.Z. Herald October, 1899.

At the monthly meeting of the Auckland Scenery Conservation Society. (Dr. J Logan Campbell in the Chair). The committee favoured co-operation with the Birkenhead Scenery Preservation Society in organising a working bee to improve the appearance of the land to the west of Kauri Point and to take steps to protect the kauris there from destruction by fire.

10 years earlier than the previous two items there appeared in the Weekly News, June 1889 in an article written by 'Travelling Correspondent', a regular contributor to the Weekly, the following:-

"Another thing I would call attention to is the want of a people's park on the northern side of the water. I believe there is a section of land set apart for this purpose lying between Hellyers Creek and the Sugar Works.

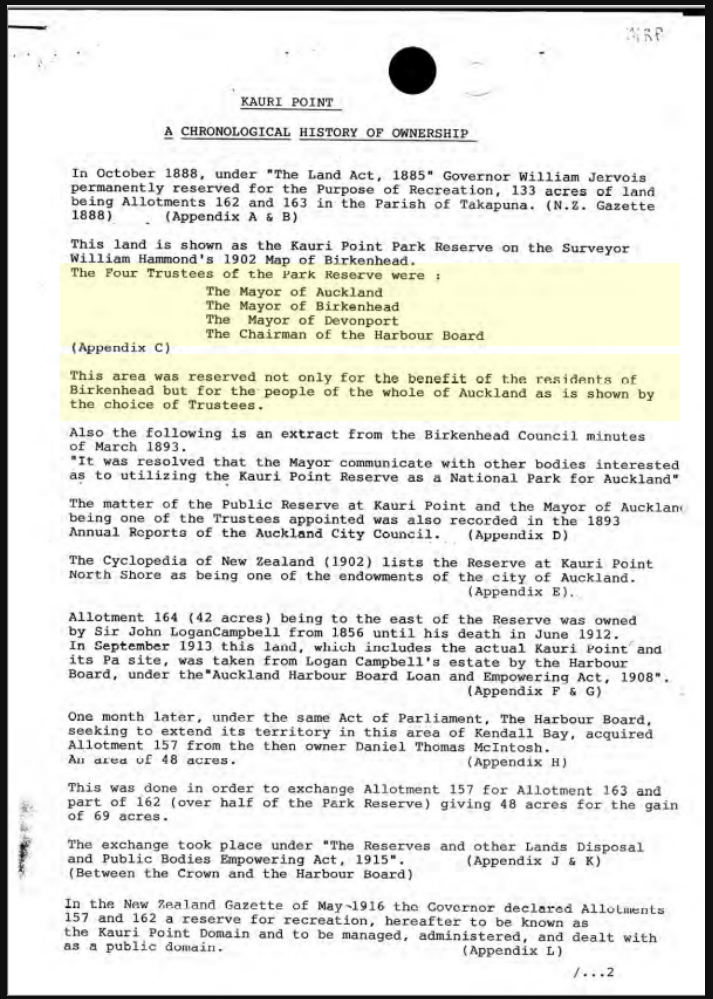
Could not the Council aided by some of the more influential settlers make a stir in the matter. I think it is imperative that something should be done and someone should move in this direction".

I've just found another reference in an article on the early municipal history of Birkenhead printed in the Northcote Past Pupils 80th Anniversary booklet 1957 -

"On March 2nd, 1893 it was resolved that the Mayor communicate with other bodies interested as to utilising Kauri Point Reserve as a National Park for Auckland".

Margaret Paine

Chronological History of Ownership



KAURI POINT

A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY OF OWNERSHIP

In October 1888, under "The Land Act, 1885" Governor William Jervois permanently reserved for the Purpose of Recreation, 133 acres of land being Allotments 162 and 163 in the Parish of Takapuna. (N.Z. Gazette 1888) (Appendix A & B)

This land is shown as the Kauri Point Park Reserve on the Surveyor William Hammond's 1902 Map of Birkenhead.
The Four Trustees of the Park Reserve were :

The Mayor of Auckland
The Mayor of Birkenhead
The Mayor of Devonport
The Chairman of the Harbour Board

(Appendix C)

This area was reserved not only for the benefit of the residents of Birkenhead but for the people of the whole of Auckland as is shown by the choice of Trustees.

Also the following is an extract from the Birkenhead Council minutes of March 1893.
"It was resolved that the Mayor communicate with other bodies interested as to utilizing the Kauri Point Reserve as a National Park for Auckland"

The matter of the Public Reserve at Kauri Point and the Mayor of Auckland being one of the Trustees appointed was also recorded in the 1893 Annual Reports of the Auckland City Council. (Appendix D)

The Cyclopedia of New Zealand (1902) lists the Reserve at Kauri Point North Shore as being one of the endowments of the city of Auckland. (Appendix E).

Allotment 164 (42 acres) being to the east of the Reserve was owned by Sir John LoganCampbell from 1856 until his death in June 1912. In September 1913 this land, which includes the actual Kauri Point and its Pa site, was taken from Logan Campbell's estate by the Harbour Board, under the"Auckland Harbour Board Loan and Empowering Act, 1908". (Appendix F & G)

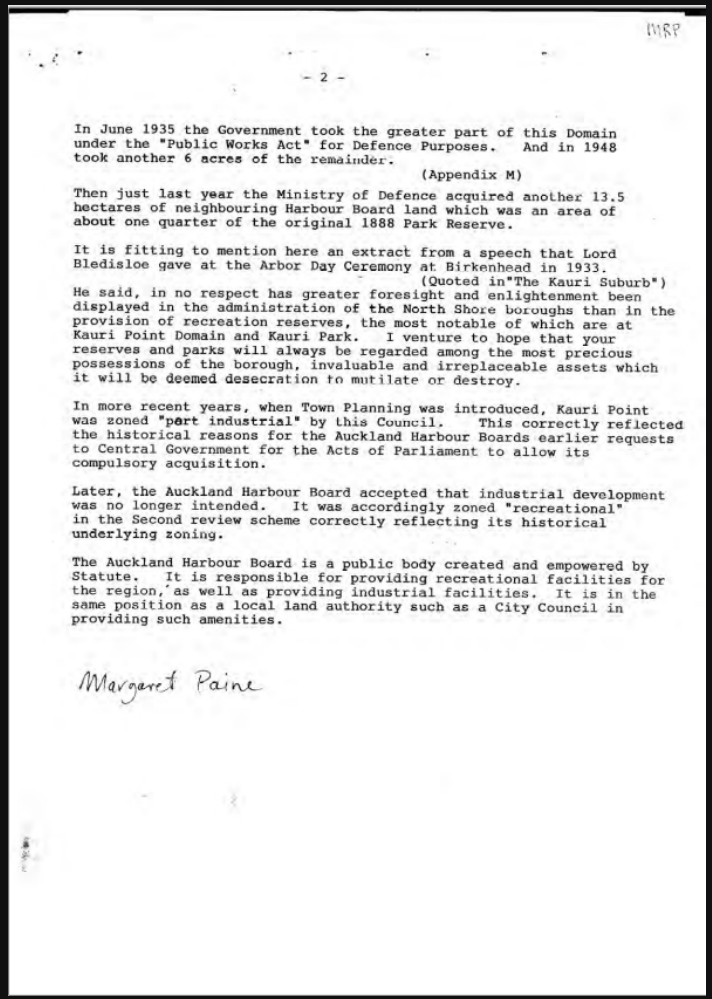
One month later, under the same Act of Parliament, The Harbour Board, seeking to extend its territory in this area of Kendall Bay, acquired Allotment 157 from the then owner Daniel Thomas McIntosh. An area of 48 acres. (Appendix H)

This was done in order to exchange Allotment 157 for Allotment 163 and part of 162 (over half of the Park Reserve) giving 48 acres for the gain of 69 acres.

The exchange took place under "The Reserves and other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act, 1915". (Appendix J & K)
(Between the Crown and the Harbour Board)

In the New Zealand Gazette of May 1916 the Governor declared Allotments 157 and 162 a reserve for recreation, hereafter to be known as the Kauri Point Domain and to be managed, administered, and dealt with as a public domain. (Appendix L)

/...2



- 2 -

In June 1935 the Government took the greater part of this Domain under the "Public Works Act" for Defence Purposes. And in 1948 took another 6 acres of the remainder. (Appendix M)

Then just last year the Ministry of Defence acquired another 13.5 hectares of neighbouring Harbour Board land which was an area of about one quarter of the original 1888 Park Reserve.

It is fitting to mention here an extract from a speech that Lord Bledisloe gave at the Arbor Day Ceremony at Birkenhead in 1933. (Quoted in"The Kauri Suburb")
He said, in no respect has greater foresight and enlightenment been displayed in the administration of the North Shore boroughs than in the provision of recreation reserves, the most notable of which are at Kauri Point Domain and Kauri Park. I venture to hope that your reserves and parks will always be regarded among the most precious possessions of the borough, invaluable and irreplaceable assets which it will be deemed desecration to mutilate or destroy.

In more recent years, when Town Planning was introduced, Kauri Point was zoned "part industrial" by this Council. This correctly reflected the historical reasons for the Auckland Harbour Boards earlier requests to Central Government for the Acts of Parliament to allow its compulsory acquisition.

Later, the Auckland Harbour Board accepted that industrial development was no longer intended. It was accordingly zoned "recreational" in the Second review scheme correctly reflecting its historical underlying zoning.

The Auckland Harbour Board is a public body created and empowered by Statute. It is responsible for providing recreational facilities for the region, as well as providing industrial facilities. It is in the same position as a local land authority such as a City Council in providing such amenities.

Margaret Paine

2008 Proposal incl NZDF & Kauri Point Domain

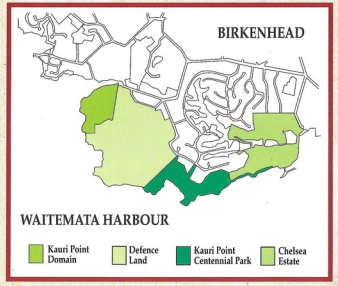
Why Aucklanders need a central Regional Park

The population of Auckland is likely to double in 50 years and the city is devouring green belts. As traffic, crowds and noise increase, the need for public open space will be even greater.

The Chelsea Regional Park would occupy the last piece of continuous unspoilt coastline on Auckland's inner harbour.

The Park will provide a place of tranquillity, an urban lung and an environmental sanctuary.

At the turn of the century, Sir John Logan Campbell's vision created Auckland's Cornwall Park. We greet the new millennium with a similar vision to ensure access for our children to a large area of open space in the centre of the metropolitan area.



Where is the proposed Chelsea Regional Park?

The Park would occupy 200 hectares on the Uruamo headland on the North Shore side of the inner Waitemata Harbour in Auckland, consisting of:

- *N.Z. Sugar Company Chelsea Estate (53.5ha)*
- *Kauri Point Centennial Park (22ha)*
- *Kauri Point Domain (31ha)*
- *Defence Department land (85.5ha)*

Chelsea estate is privately owned and would have to be acquired. Defence land is held by the crown.

Why this piece of land?

The Chelsea Estate already has a unique botanic garden with lakes, a wonderful collection of historic buildings, some of which are registered by the NZ Historic Places Trust.

The Uruamo headland is a wilderness area which supports a rich diversity of fauna and flora including important plant colonies and endangered bird species.

It includes beautiful secluded beaches and a sheltered cove with a network of paths for hikers, orienteers and picnickers already in place. It is a superb maritime site with many possibilities for boating and fishing activities, as well as a number of sea access points to the area – and all of this right in the centre of metropolitan Auckland.

Nothing in this pamphlet implies the support or otherwise of the NZ Sugar Co. Ltd.

Auckland's Park for the Future

Chelsea Regional Park Endorsers

The following people have officially endorsed this project :

Dame Catherine Tizard
Formerly Mayor of Auckland City and Governor-General of New Zealand

Sir Paul Reeves
Formerly Anglican Archbishop of New Zealand and Governor-General of New Zealand

Dr John Craig
Professor of Environmental Management, University of Auckland

Mrs Muriel Fisher QSM
Associate of Honour of the Royal Institute of Horticulture

Mr E A J Holdaway CNZM, OBE, DFC & Bar, JP
Chair of the Tree Council, Former Chair of the Auckland Conservation Board and Aotearoa/NZ Environmental Trust

Mr Richard Hubbard
Managing Director, Hubbard Foods Ltd.

Professor John Morton QSO, FRSNZ
Emeritus Professor, University of Auckland

Mr Stanley Palmer
Artist

Mr Stephen Tindall ONZM
Managing Director, The Warehouse Group Ltd.

Mr Gary Whetton
Former All Black Captain



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CHELSEA
regional park



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Appendix 15 & 16; Margaret Paine