



Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance

Information Sheet 22

Assessing Impacts of Designations on Historic Heritage

Principles

Designations of land should not provide for any public work, project or other work that compromises the protection, condition, integrity, or public appreciation of historic heritage.

Requiring authorities should be encouraged to seek essential designations outside of, and sufficiently distant from, sensitive historic heritage areas.

Where land must be designated over, or near, historic heritage, particular attention should be paid to the extent of the area involved, the specific location, and the nature of activity involved, so that adverse impacts on historic heritage are minimised to the greatest practical extent. This will require a heritage impact assessment (and normally an archaeological assessment).

All pre-1900 archaeological sites remain protected in designated land and an authority from the NZHPT is required to destroy, damage or modify any archaeological site under the Historic Places Act 1993.

Checklist for assessing proposed designations

- Alternative locations for designations should be explored. Requiring authorities need to seek locations for essential designations outside of, and sufficiently distant from land associated with historic heritage sites or areas.
- Planning for designations must be informed by adequate research and assessment, including a heritage impact assessment and archaeological assessment.
- Where land must be designated over, or near, historic heritage, particular attention should be paid to the extent of area involved, the specific location, and the nature of activity involved, so that adverse impacts on historic heritage are minimised to the greatest practical extent.
- Outline plans should be prepared in relation to designations to provide for historic heritage values where appropriate. Outline plans should be informed by professional research and assessment and cover matters such as:

- Height, shape and bulk of the public work, project or work.
 - Location on site of the public work, project or work.
 - Likely finished contour of the site.
 - Vehicular access, circulation and provision for parking.
 - Landscaping proposed.
 - Any other initiatives (e.g. painting) to avoid, remedy or mitigate any adverse effects on historic heritage.
- Requiring authorities should be encouraged to surrender designations over and remove facilities from land no longer required for the public work, project or other work.

Source: NZHPT, *Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance Series*, Discussion Paper No.2, Assessment of Effects on the Historic Environment, 3 August 2007.

The NZHPT welcomes any feedback and comments on this information sheet.

Comments can be provided to information@historic.org.nz. (Attention: Sustainable Heritage Guidance)