

Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua Accidental Discovery Protocol

- Prior to works commencing, site workers must be briefed on the possibility of encountering archaeological evidence and the steps to be taken in the event of an accidental discovery.**
- If any kōiwi (human remains) are encountered, all work within 5 metres of the discovery must cease. Heritage New Zealand, New Zealand Police and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua must be advised immediately. The area must be secured and no further work may take place in the area until future actions have been agreed by all these parties.**
- If any other artefact or material likely to have significance to Māori is found or uncovered, the following must be complied with:**
 - Cease work immediately, secure the area, and do not touch any uncovered material.
 - Provide advices of the discover to:

Pou Taiao | Environmental Manager
Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua
Email: taiao@ngatirarua.iwi.nz
Phone: 03 533 1198, and

Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
Phone: 04 472 4341
- In the event of an accidental discovery, no work shall recommence until both:**
 - Agreement has been reached with Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Rārua; and
 - (If required) an Authority has been issued by Heritage New Zealand
- For all discoveries, access to the site for Ngāti Rārua must be enabled in order to undertake tikanga Māori protocols, consistent with any requirements of site safety.**

Note:

- All archaeological sites are protected under the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014. It is an offence under this Act to modify, damage or destroy any archaeological site, irrespective of whether:
 - The site is recorded or not;
 - The works are a permitted activity under the relevant district/regional plan; or
 - Resource consent has been issued under the Resource Management Act.

An archaeological site is defined as any place, building or structure that was associated with pre-1900 human activity, where there is evidence relating to the history of New Zealand that can be investigated using archaeological methods.

Evidence of archaeological sites can include:

- shell midden^[1]
- oven stones
- charcoal
- modified soils
- bone
- ditches and banks
- pits
- Māori tools or artefacts
- kōiwi/human remains

^[1] Middens are places where food remains, such as shellfish and animal bones, ash and charcoal from fires, and broken or worn-out tools where thrown away, dumped or buried. They are one of the most common type of archaeological site found in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Shell middens can be found almost anywhere in coastal New Zealand and particular care needs to be taken near beach locations.