VICTORIA DOMAIN AND ASSOCIATED RESERVES

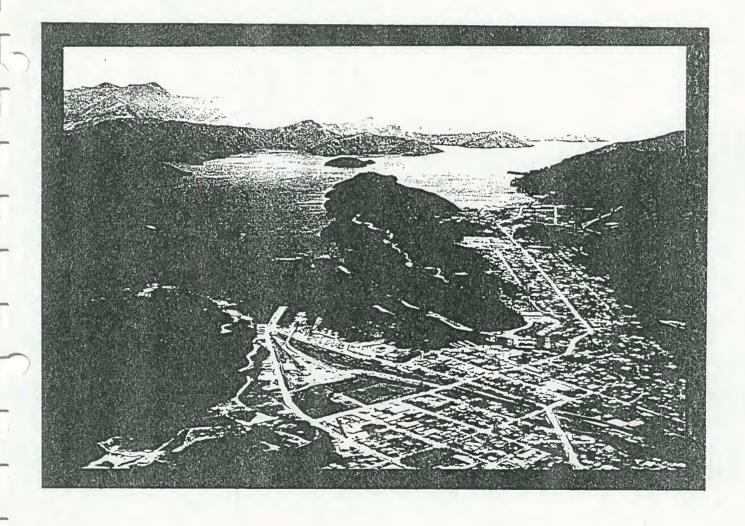
MANAGEMENT PLAN

September 1995

Community Services and Development Department Marlborough District Council

VICTORIA DOMAIN

PICTON

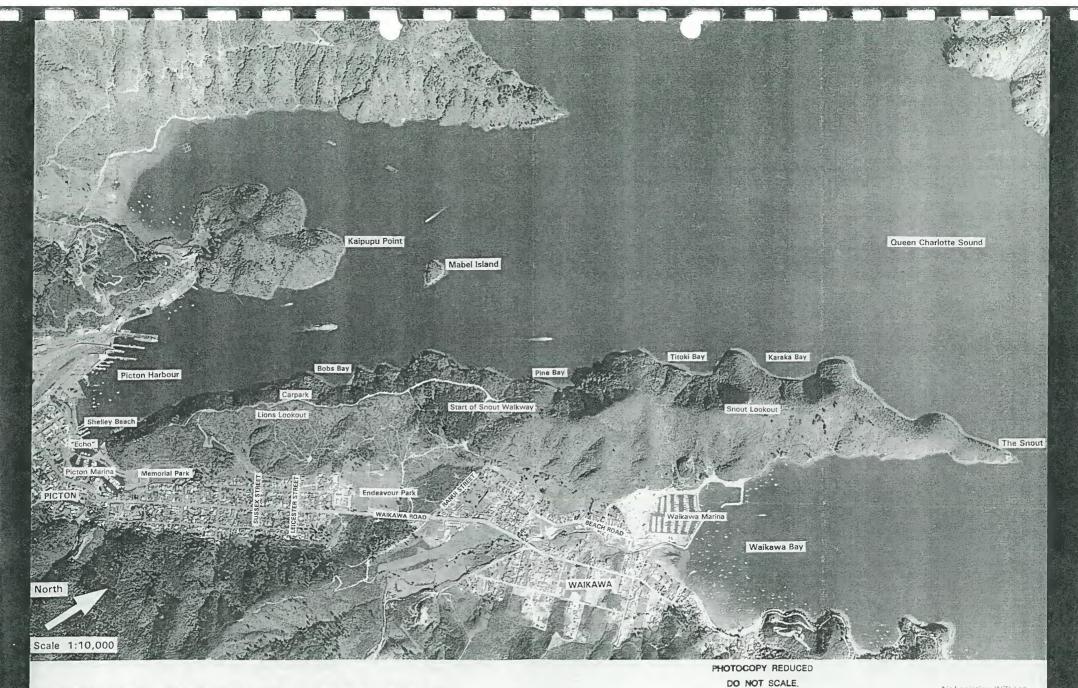


ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document has been prepared by Community Services & Development Staff of the Marlborough District Council in association with Landscape Architect Michelle Overend. The preparation of this management plan has taken place over the last year.

The Marlborough District Council would like to acknowledge the help and information provided by a number of organisations and individuals. In particular Community Services & Development Councillors, Queen Charlotte College, Picton Returned Services Association & Port Marlborough, the sporting codes, Rugby, Netball, Tennis and Soccer and all those who have written submissions. (Appendix 5)

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VICTORIA DOMAIN and Associated Recreation Areas

Air Logistics (NZ) Ltd Inc. Whites Aviation Ref. No. 239576 Date: 20 Dec. '93

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1.0 THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

In 1978 the Department of Lands and Survey prepared a Management Plan for Victoria Domain and Associated Recreation areas. This provided a comprehensive overview of the existing features and how they might be managed in future.

The Community Services and Development Department receive regular enquiries about the area and proposals for future development and enjoyment of the resource. In order to address such enquiries an overall planning approach needs to be taken. This draft document has been prepared to update the 1978 Management Plan in light of current issues and developments relating to the area.

A Management Plan for Victoria Domain is required under the Reserves Act 1977. This document needs to be reviewed and adapted to changing circumstances, hence the need for this document.

Public Consultation Process to date: In July 1994 the Marlborough District Council wrote to a number of possible interested parties seeking comment on a range of issues relating to Victoria Domain. These issues were also published in local newspapers as was a questionnaire about the Domain. Various interest groups were met to discuss their needs and concerns. As a result 65 submissions were received and a draft issues and options paper was prepared. This was opened for public submission between Dec 1994 and Feb 1995.

In February 1995 a public meeting was held to discuss the document. Some further discussions with interest groups have occurred and a further 19 submissions were received. Further consultation and discussions have taken place during March/April and May with sports groups, landowners and the Picton RSA. A redrafted Management Plan has been prepared for further public comment and another public meeting is planned during June 1995.

2.0 SIGNIFICANT CHANGES SINCE THE LAST MANAGEMENT PLAN WAS PREPARED 1978

2.1 NEW LOCAL AUTHORITY ADMINISTRATION

Marlborough District Council:

At the time of the last management plan (1978) the Victoria Domain and associated reserves were administered by the Picton Borough Council. Since 1989 the area has been administered by the Marlborough District Council. This is a much larger local authority with both district and regional responsibilities. The Victoria Domain and

In particular the walking tracks and view points on the Domain are well used and parking in associated areas such as Shelley beach is difficult at times. There have been a number of enquiries for commercial activities. Currently windsurfer hire occurs at Shelley Beach during the summer months and the idea of Bungy jumping has been proposed. It is therefore important to gauge the current and future recreational needs and opportunities of the area and to plan for suitable development of Victoria Domain in the future.

2.4 VEGETATION SUCCESSION

Over the last seventeen years there have been significant changes in the vegetative cover of the Domain. These are outlined more fully in section 3.4.14. Several former pine plantations have been felled and many former gorse and broom areas are now colonising with native tree and shrub species. This has led to a reduced fire risk since 1978, a trend which is likely to continue in the future.

2.5 BOBS BAY

Bobs Bay has recently been declared an archaeological site by the Historic Places Trust. This is the result of the recent discovery of a burial site.

3.0 SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS SUGGESTED IN THE LAST MANAGEMENT PLAN 1978

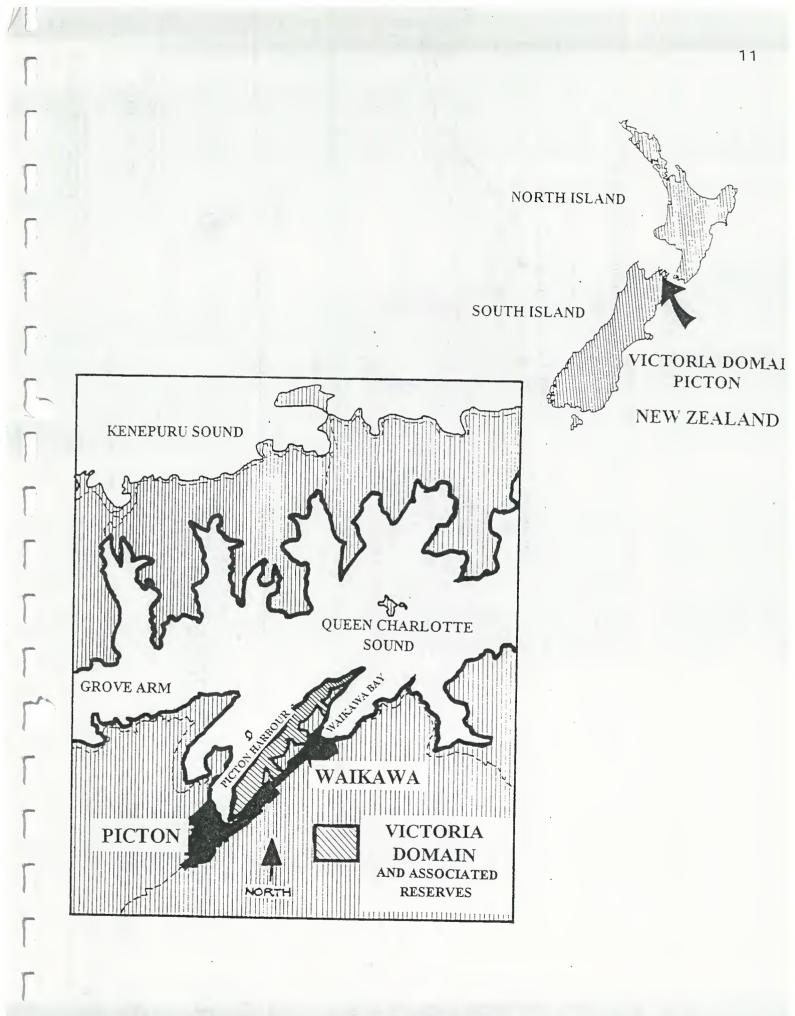
General management of Victoria Domain has followed a similar theme to that expressed in the 1978 Management Plan. Most slopes have been left to regenerate naturally and many former pine plantations have not been replanted. Areas of 'severe' fire risk were allowed to regenerate before further public access was developed. For example The Snout Walkway has recently been developed now that there has been the regeneration of a more fire resistant vegetative cover.

A programme of pine removal has been in place for many years to help minimise the spread into adjacent bush and scrub areas. Among other weed control programmes emphasis has been placed on **Clematis vitalba** (Old Man's Beard).

4.0 LOCATION AND ACCESS

Location

The study area covers approximately 202 hectares and consists of hill country, beaches and sports grounds. It is a valuable recreational asset. It lies adjacent to the township of Picton and extends some five kilometres along the eastern side of Picton Harbour



MAP 1 - LOCATION MAP

5.0 THE RESOURCE

5.1 LEGAL STATUS OF THE LAND

The study area consists of the following pieces of land:-

(See Map 3 p.15)

Victoria Domain

Victoria Domain is a recreation area of 174.2208 hectares, control of which is vested in the Marlborough District Council. The area is administered under the Reserves Act 1977.

The legal descriptions are:

- Pt Lot 1 D.P. 6639, 167.168 (and accretion of 250m²) Victoria Recreation Reserve. Recreation Reserve, Gaz. 1982, p.1027.
- Lot 5 D.P. 6170, 6.8114 Victoria Recreation Reserve. Recreation Reserve, Gaz. 1984, p. 5468.
- Lot 13 D.P. 6886, 0.2414 Recreation Reserve vested D.P. 6886.

Waikawa Recreation Reserve

This reserve covers 11.8977 hectares and is vested in the Marlborough District Council for recreation purposes. It is managed in conjunction with Victoria Domain and is administered under the Reserves Act 1977. The legal description is:

Lot 38 D.P. 2806, 11.8978 Recreation Reserve, Gaz. 1983, p. 864.

Public Utility Reserve

This reserve covers an area of 4.4761 ha and is vested in the Marlborough District Council as Local Purpose Reserve (Public Utility). It is managed in conjunction with Victoria Domain under the Reserves Act 1977. The legal description is:

Lot 17 D.P. 1086, 4.4761 Local Purpose Reserve (Public Utility), Gaz. 1983, p. 2175.

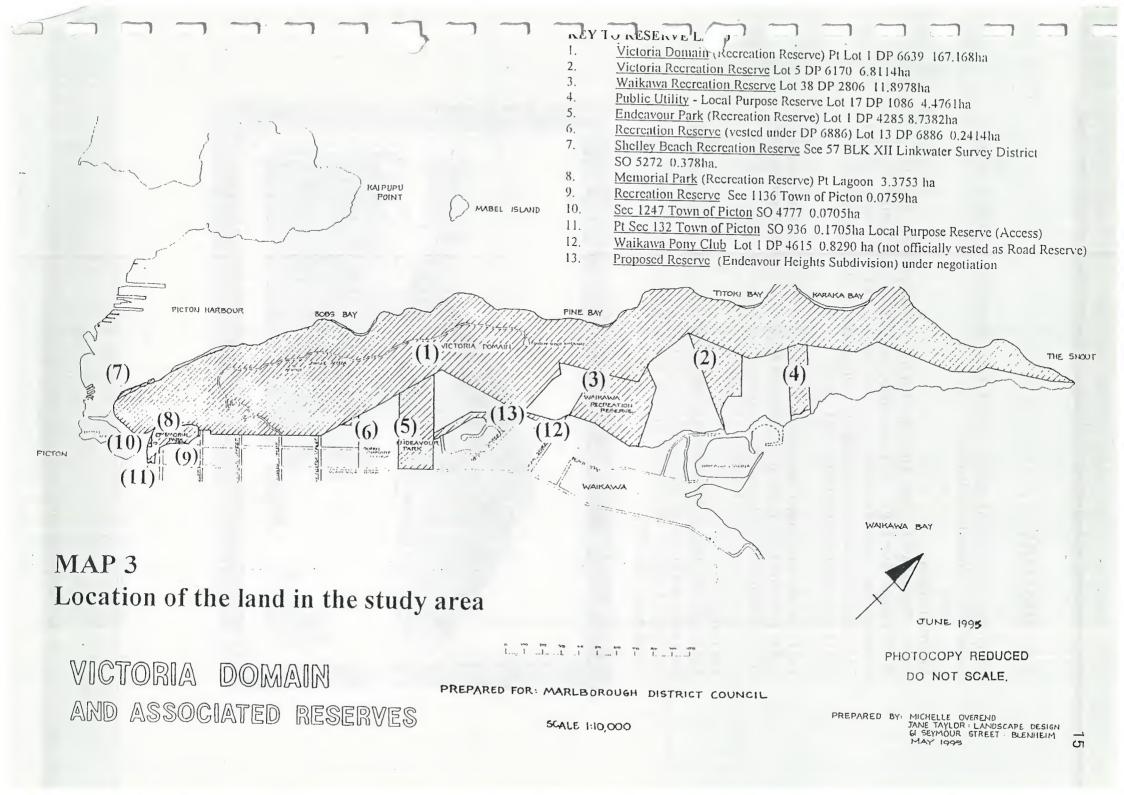
Endeavour Park

Endeavour Park is a recreation reserve of 8.7382 ha vested in the Marlborough District Council and administered under the Reserves Act 1977. Its legal description is:

Lot 1 D.P. 4285, 8.7382 Recreation Reserve, Gaz. 1979, p. 1974.

Shelley Beach

Reclamation of the sea bed adjacent to Victoria Domain and in the vicinity of Shelley Beach was carried out by the Marlborough Harbour Board. During the 1970's some



Bobs Bay

The Bay was evidentally named after 'Bob the Fisherman'.

Bobs Bay has always been a popular picnic area, especially for visitors during the summer months. Permission to use the area for a fish curing establishment in 1880 was revoked on the grounds of the bays popular use. Until 1955 access to the bay was via the beach at low tide. Although there had been earlier suggestions to cut a track, this did not take place until 1955, when the Rotary Club extended the existing Domain track to Bobs Bay. A burial site has recently been discovered in the Bay. The Historic Places Trust have therefore designated the area as an archaeological site.

Memorial Park

The area currently occupied by Memorial Park was once a tidal lagoon. Rowing regattas were a regular event on the lagoon with the Domain creating a natural grandstand. Reclamation of the area was considered for a number of years and plans were drawn in 1901. However, it was 1950 before the area was reclaimed and became "Victoria Domain War Memorial Park". An area of seven acres was reclaimed at a cost of £4,150. A total of £7,300 was raised by the RSA from the people of Picton, then a population on only 1,750. The Queen Carnival fundraiser lasted for three months. The winner was Miss Mary Gittings and runner up was Miss Ethel Duffet. The prize kindly donated by Mr Moss and Mr McClelland was a trip to Sydney. The final dance of the carnival was held in the Albert Hall and attracted 800 people.

In order to provide access to the park a section in Waikawa Road was transferred to Council in exchange for a Crown section in Waikawa. This is the area where the official Memorial Gates stand which have now become the entrance to Picton Marina.

The Snout

There are several Maori names for the Snout, as follows: (Information kindly supplied by Mike Taylor of the Picton Museum)

-. Te Ihu Moeone

The English name "Snout" has probably arisen from the Maori name "Ihu" meaning nose. This refers to the nose of the sandworm, this was a large pink worm up to a foot long which was relished as a food. "Te Ihu Moeone" is a descriptive name, it describes this area of land as a Taniwha that was called upon to separate the land by forcing itself through towards the Sounds, hence forming the Waitohi Valley. The Taniwha became trapped in the mud of the lagoon, hence the Victoria Domain.

(Pers. Comm. Mr F. Skipper and Mr B. Keenan.)

Te Pahoahoa

This is another name for the area which some say means "to know the place like the back of your head" or "headache" or "the back of the headland." It can also be spelt Te Pohoahoa or Te Pa hoa hoa and was evidently used as a lookout point by early tribes of the Sounds. towards the south west 125 links by the said Belt again towards the south east partly 350 links by the said Belt and partly by High Water mark Picton Harbour and towards the north west by High Water mark Picton Harbour."

The situation remained until the passing of the Picton Recreation Reserve Act 1896 which vested in the Mayor, Councillors and Burgesses of the Borough of Picton for the purposes of a Recreation Reserve:

"All that piece or parcel of land, containing 470 acres or thereabouts, being Section No. 117, Linkwater Survey District, in the Land District of Marlborough. Bounded towards the east by the Waikawa native Reserve, by Section No. 8 on the plan of the District of Picton suburban, by part of the town of Picton, and by the Lagoon; towards the south by the said Lagoon; `and towards the west by Picton Harbour and Queen Charlotte Sound."

The area of 470 acres (190.2 hectares) was gazetted from Magnetic Plan 317, but later, in 1906, a survey was carried out and an area of 414 acres (167.5398 hectares) was measured and defined on Survey Office Plan 770.

(In 1973 the reservation over 1795m² of the southern extent of Section 117 was revoked and freeholded to the Marlborough Harbour Board in 1974. (This is now owned by Port Marlborough).

Today, Part Section 117, locally known as Victoria Domain and covering 167.168 hectares, is vested in the Marlborough District Council for recreation purposes.

Waikawa Recreation Reserve

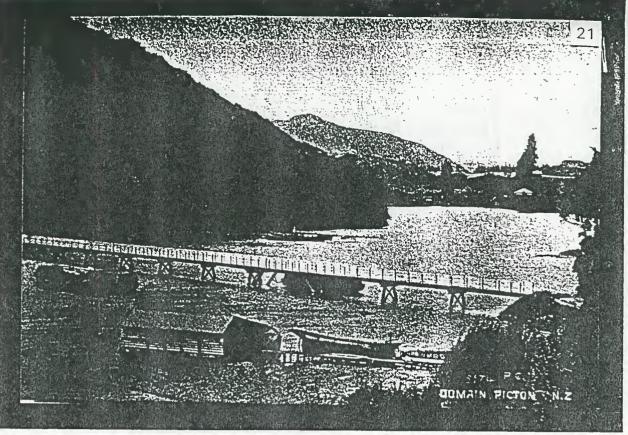
In 1961, the Marlborough Automobile Association carried out a residential subdivision over land at Waikawa. The Minister of Lands approved the subdivision under the provisions of the Land Subdivision in Counties Act 1946, a condition of approval being that an area of 11.8977 hectares be set aside as reserve contribution. This land was subsequently vested in The Crown as scenic reserve.

In 1962, further consideration was given to the management of this reserve and because of the lack of legal access, its proximity to Victoria Domain and its vegetative cover, it was resolved that the land would be best managed in conjunction with Victoria Domain as a recreation reserve.

After representations to the Picton Borough Council, the Minister of Lands approved a change in status (New Zealand Gazette 1962, page 1729) to recreation reserve and vested control in the Council.

Memorial Park

Memorial Park was established as a war memorial and as a cultural and sports area. Its establishment came about primarily as a result of reclamation undertaken in 1950 over 2.3737 hectares of the Picton Lagoon. Recreation reserve status was first established over this lagoon and control vested in the Picton Borough Council in 1896 and this was recorded in the New Zealand Statutes 1896, page 248.



Photograph 2

Former tidal lagoon which is now part of Picton Marina and Memorial Park.

5.3.2 Climate

Victoria Domain and its associated recreation areas are subject to weather conditions typical of the Sounds.

Wind

Cook Strait provides a natural channel for air flowing between the high mountain ranges of the North and South Islands. It has the effect of increasing both the strength and frequency of winds from north-westerly and southerly quarters over the adjacent Sounds area. The rough terrain of the Sounds themselves cause large local variations in wind. The turbulent flow results in strong gusts and squalls accompanied by sudden changes in both speed and direction are relatively frequent. Victoria Domain and Picton are no exceptions; wind variations resulting from rough terrain are typical of the locality and the area is particularly susceptible to southerly winds.

Temperature

The New Zealand Meteorological Service has indicated that the Sounds area has slightly warmer temperatures than Wellington and the mean daily maximum and mean daily minimum at Picton (in °C) have been estimated as: (Information from 1978 Management Plan)

	January	April	July	October
Mean daily max. and min.				
temperatures in °C				
Maximum	21	18	12	16
Minimum	13	11	7	9

blocks 0.1 to 1 metre across. The siltstone and mudstone beds are severely crushed and are commonly puggy.

On the gentler slopes, particularly in the east of the domain and on the top of the ridge, the basement rocks are commonly deep weathered, to a depth of up to 3 metres, and although soft and brown in colour the original sedimentary features can still be seen. Locally these weathered rocks are a reddish colour indicative of prolonged weathering under warmer climatic conditions than the present. These warmer conditions probably occurred during the Pleistocene Period when the climate fluctuated from very cold (glacials) to warm (interglacials).

The scree and slope wash deposits, forming a layer that rests sharply on the basement rocks, consist of partly weathered, poorly sorted, angular rock debris, from a few millimetres to rarely over a metre across, in a brown to light grey-brown, silty clay matrix. The deposits are thickest (up to 2 metres) in gullies and at the toe of slopes; elsewhere they are about 0.1 metre thick. They are overlain by a thin stony topsoil up to 200 millimetres thick. Although these deposits, particularly those in now buried gullies, accumulated during or immediately following the cold climatic periods (glacials) during the Pleistocene.

At the heads of small bays there are small areas of alluvium consisting of rounded sandstone pebbles and cobbles, shell debris, and scattered angular blocks of rock. The pebbles and cobbles have been rounded by wave action whereas the angular rocks have been freshly added to the beaches by rockfalls off the adjacent cliffs. At the mouths of small valleys in the east there area patches of poorly sorted gravel consisting of angular to sub-rounded pieces of rock in a silty clay matrix. The age of the alluvium is Late Pleistocene to Recent.

5.4 VEGETATION

5.4.1 Vegetation History

The original pattern of vegetation prior to clearing for pasture was probably as follows:

Most slopes: Hard beech forest

Crests of steeper ridges: Hard beech-Black beech forest

Coastal spurs and headlands: Black beech forest

Gullies: Pukatea/tawa forest, tawa forest

Coastal cliffs: Akiraho-akeake shrubland

History of Change

The area seems to have been largely forested at one time. Following the original clearing of the peninsula, fires were a common occurrence and the

(i) <u>Succession before arrival of gorse in area</u>

<u>Crests of steeper ridges</u>: manuka \rightarrow fivefinger \rightarrow kamahi \rightarrow (hard beech, black beech)*

<u>Most slopes</u>: kanuka-manuka \rightarrow fivefinger \rightarrow akeake \rightarrow mahoe \rightarrow hinau \rightarrow kamahi-tawa \rightarrow (hard beech)

<u>Coastal spurs and headlands</u>: manuka/flax \rightarrow manuka-akeake-akiraho scrub \rightarrow akeake-akiraho \rightarrow (black beech)

<u>Gullies</u>: kanuka-mahoe-fivefinger \rightarrow putaputaweta-mahoe-tawa \rightarrow tawa \rightarrow (pukatea/tawa)

*Vegetation in brackets refers to the original vegetation.

(ii) <u>Succession following arrival of gorse in area</u>

On all slopes, the initial stages are gorse-broom scrub. There are many situations in the current vegetation where a low forest of mahoe-fivefinger is replacing gorse in gullies. There has been little replacement elsewhere although the successional trends will probably resemble those of the indigenous vegetation, but at a faster rate, with gorse and broom replacing manuka and kanuka in all cases.

5.4.2 Planting

When the Domain was taken over by Council in 1897 most of the hillside was in pasture. The photograph of the Domain with the ships leaving for the Boer War in the late 1890's shows this well. (see photograph 3 p.24). As soon as it was acquired, plans were made for planting the area. Much of this planting was pine. Drastic erosion became a problem on cleared areas. From the 1940's over a period of 6-7 years further plantings of pine and wattle were made. Many areas were left to revert to secondary growth.

Some of the pine trees we see on the Domain today were planted, many areas of former plantation show varying degrees of regeneration. Some are the result of wilding seeds

5.4.3 Current Status

Virtually all the native vegetation in the Victoria Domain is young and the product of secondary succession following widespread fires. There are only a few remnant stands of beech and a very discontinuous fringe of akiraho scrub that are representative of original vegetation.

The older secondary vegetation is represented by scrub and low forest dominated variously by Kanuka, Manuka, Mahoe, Fivefinger, Kamahi and forest of introduced species near the "Echo" (Shelley Beach).

The dominant species of all the younger communities are introduced species such as gorse, broom and pine. On wetter sites (south east facing slopes and gullies) Mahoe and Fivefinger have replaced gorse.

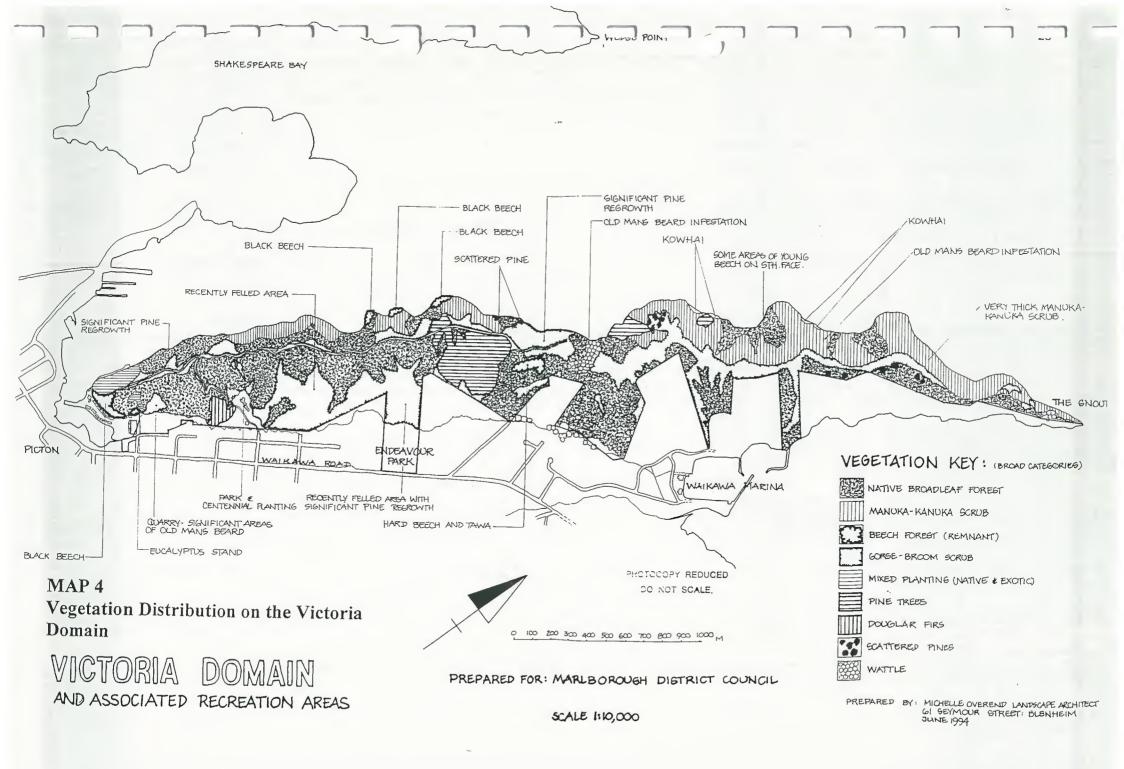
Over much of the Domain vigorous succession of native broadleaved species is occurring. In the absence of fires native broadleaved forest and scrub will colonise the Domain.

They include:

Acacia dealbata (Wattle) Acer pseudoplatanus (Sycamore) Astelia spp. (Astelia) Berberis spp. (Barberry) Brachyglottis repanda (Rangiora) Clematis vitalba (Old Mans Beard) Cordyline spp. (Cabbage Trees) Corynocarpus laevigatus (Karaka) Cotoneaster spp. (Cotoneaster) Cytisus scoparius (Broom) Dodonaea viscosa (Ake Ake) Eucalyptus spp. (Eucalypt) Hebe spp. (Hebes) Hedera canariensis (Ivy) Laurus nobilis (Bay) Macropiper excelsum (Kawa Kawa) Melicytus ramiflorus (Mahoe/Whiteywood) Phormium spp. (Flax) Pinus spp. (Pine) Pittosporum spp. (Pittosporum) Pseudopanax arboreus (Fivefinger) Pseudotsuga menziesii (Douglas Fir) Quercus spp. (Oak) Rhododendron spp. (Rhododendron) Robinia pseudoacia (Robinia) and a number of fern spp.

There are large groups of Wattle on the steep face above Shelley Beach between the Echo and the Queen Charlotte Yacht Club. They are growing on very steep terrain, there appears to be no understorey growth other than very limited broom. Native regeneration does not appear to be occurring.

- <u>Quarry</u>: Part of the face of the domain on the western side of Memorial Park was formerly used to quarry rotten rock. Much of the reclamation material for Memorial Park came from this quarry. It was then used until the late 1980's for road material. It is now severely infested with a number of weed species, particularly Clematis vitalba on the lower slopes. As yet there is no sign of native regeneration. Although plans were drawn to topsoil and plant the area it would appear this did not occur. With the removal of the original topsoil the area will now rely on seed from the surrounding area to regenerate.



DISTRICT PLAN REQUIREMENTS 6.0

6.1 EXISTING

The land contained within the study area lies within of the Marlborough District and is subject to the Picton Section of the Transitional Marlborough District Plan.

The various zones and related planning designations of the study area are listed below and can be identified on Map 5 (p.32)

Reser	ve	Name	&	Legal
		escrit		

Current Designation and Underlying Zone (U/Z)

Victoria Domain Pt. Lot 1 D.P. 6639, 167.168 ha Lot 5 D.P. 6170, 6.8114 ha Lot 13 D.P. 6886, 0.2414 ha

Waikawa Recreation Reserve Lot 38 D.P. 2806, 11.8978 ha

Public Utility Reserve Lot 17 D.P. 1086, 4.4761 ha

Endeavour Park Lot 1 D.P. 4285, 8.7382 ha Recreation Reserve -U/Z Rural Recreation Reserve - U/Z Residential S Recreation Reserve - U/Z Residential A

Recreation Reserve - U/Z Rural

Recreation Reserve - U/Z Residential S

Recreation Reserve - U/Z Rural

Shelley Beach Sec. 57 SO5272, 0.3780 ha

Memorial Park Sec. 1136, 0.0759 Sec 1247 SO 4777, 0.0705 ha Pt. Lagoon 2.3753 ha

Pt. Sec.132 SO 936, 0.1705 ha

Waikawa Pony Club Land Lot 1 DP 4615 0.8290 ha

Endeavour Heights Subdivision Proposed reserve under negotiation Currently Residential A (not yet subdivided)

Rural Zone - Foreshore Amenity Area

Recreation Reserve - U/Z Residential B Recreation Reserve - U/Z Residential B Partly designated as Recreation Reserve U/Z Residential B Not designated as Reserve U/Z Residential B

Residential A (not officially vested as road reserve)

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Discretionary Activities

All discretionary activities are subject to a Resource Consent Application.

Non-complying Activities

These are all activities other than permitted, discretionary or prohibited activities.

Prohibited Activities

Any activity prohibited in this zone.

Further details of these activities will be included in Appendix 6 once the plan has been notified in July 1995. This will be amended as necessary once the plan has been finalised and adopted.

Marlborough Regional Policy Statement

This statement is intended to provide a community based vision and direction for the management of the natural and physical resources of Marlborough. It has been prepared by the District Council under the Resource Management Act 1991. The purpose of this statement is set out in Section 59 of the RMA 1991 to achieve the purpose of the Act by providing an overview of the resource management issues of the region and policies and methods to achieve integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the whole region.

Parts of this document are particularly relevant to the Management of Victoria Domain, especially Part 7 which refers to community well-being. The objective of this part of the document is:

"The quality of life enjoyed by people within Marlborough will be enhanced by the use, development and protection of resources".

The general policies outlined for the development of Commercial and Tourism activities, amenity values and water transport are relevant to the domain.

7.0 MANAGEMENT

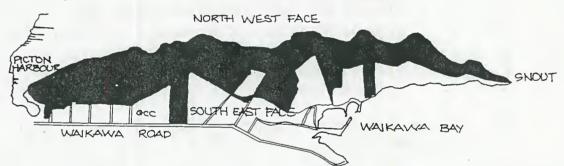
7.1 LANDSCAPE VALUES

Visual Character:

The Victoria Domain is a particularly important landscape feature for Picton. The prominent hillscape forms a backdrop to the town from a number of directions. The steep bush clad faces are a pleasant sombre contrast to the flatter areas of the town. The south-eastern flank adjacent to Waikawa Bay is a particularly prominent back drop to the Bay while the northwest flank in conjunction with Kaipupu Point, frame the Picton harbour entrance. Future management of the Domain should ensure these qualities are not compromised.

Once colonised by native species the Domain has a fairly uniform texture. This is occasionally disrupted by scattered pine trees which in places interrupt the skyline. These are unnatural features in this landscape. The dominant plantation of Douglas Fir at the Sussex Street entrance to the Domain and the Pines on the skyline near Ranui Street are not in keeping with the surrounding landscape. Their stature and dark colour are particularly out of character.

Visibility:



Map to show S.E. and N.W. faces of the Victoria Domain.

Viewed from the town the southern end of the north west face is particularly prominent on the skyline. The same area viewed from the lookout on Queen Charlotte Drive and Shakespeare Bay is set against the back drop of the McCormick range. From this direction the sparse nature of the vegetation below the Bobs Bay track is apparent.

The south eastern face when viewed both from Picton and Waikawa forms a prominent ridge against the skyline, and a dominant backdrop to the town and Waikawa Bay. The majority of the land viewed from Waikawa Bay is held in private ownership. Where possible it is desireable for Council to consider further land purchase in this area.

OBJECTIVE - That the bush clad slopes of the Domain be preserved and allowed to regenerate to maintain and enhance the native forest backdrop of this visually significant promontory.

of beech seed through areas of older secondary succession may be worth attempting.

OBJECTIVE:	That a predominant cover of native vegetation be
	encouraged throughout the Domain.

POLICIES:

- (i) That appropriate native species be planted in amenity areas and along roadside margins, picnic areas and parks to create a "well kept" appearance and encourage native bird life. That some native beech be planted along the roadside/ridge to help aid their seed dispersal by wind through other bush areas on the Domain.
- (ii) That careful consideration be given to the management of the former quarry adjacent to Memorial Park. If native regeneration is still not occurring in 5-10 years the possibility of seed dispersal and possibly additional topsoil for the area be considered.
- (iii) That beech seed dispersal be aided where appropriate.

7.2.2 Weed Control and Eradication

A variety of weed species are currently found on the Domain in varying degrees of infestation. Those that require significant control/eradication measures are Clematis vitalba (Old Mans Beard) and unwanted pine regeneration and spread. Other species of concern in specific areas are Sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus), Robinia pseudoacacia and to a certain extent honeysuckle (lonicera japonica). Recent removal of large areas of Sycamore and Robinia will probably need to be repeated to limit regrowth.

Gorse (Ulex europeus) and Broom (Cytisus scoparius) represent the largest source of infestation. They are, however, actively assisting native regeneration throughout large areas of the domain. This is a typical occurrence in the Marlborough Sounds. Native seedlings generally require a shady and sheltered environment which is provided by mature gorse and broom cover.

Other weed species present on the Domain include:

Allium triquetrum (Three-cornered garlic) Berberis darwinii (Barberry) Cassinia leptophylla (Tauhinu) Crataegus monogyna (Hawthorn) Erica lusitanica (Spanish Heath) Passiflora mollissima (Banana Passionfruit) Rubus fruticosus (Blackberry) Tradescantia fluminensis (Wandering Jew)

7.2.3 Application of Agrichemicals

Given the wide range and extent of weed species present on the Victoria Domain the application of some agrichemicals is necessary in control and eradication programmes. This is a permitted activity in the District Recreation Zone. The application of such chemicals for all management purposes on the Victoria Domain should be in accordance with the following policies:

OBJECTIVE:	That application of agrichemicals be carried out as
	necessary in a professional manner by a Council
	approved Contractor/Staff member.

POLICIES:

- (i) That the Marlborough District Council issue two public notices a year outlining their intention to spray as necessary for maintenance and weed control purposes.
- (ii) That where the application of agrichemicals is necessary on land immediately adjacent to private property that the person responsible for the activity ensure that adequate notification is given to the landowners/occupants concerned.
- (iii) That any area to be sprayed be appropriately labelled for the duration that is appropriate with respect to the effects of the chemical used.
- (iv) That the person carrying out the activity give due regard to:
 - (a) Wind speed and direction in the method of application of spray.
 - (b) The selection of nozzle size and pressure of spray units to prevent or minimise the potential for spray drift, and
 - (c) The dilution of spray solutions to the proper concentration for application.
 - (d) Adopt the best practicable option to minimise the actual or potential effects of spray drift beyond the area of application.
 - (e) Keep specific records of the type of each spray applied, the volume of spray used, the date, and the locality.
 - (f) Apply sprays strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - (g) Notify the Marlborough District Council as soon as practicable (within six hours) in the case of accidental discharge into a waterbody.
 - (h) Apply sprays in a manner which does not cause or is not likely to cause significant deposition into surface water.

reused and maintained for recreational activities in the area. This area has the potential to produce an annual return of \$30,000 once established and mature (Macrocarpa and Blackwood 30-40 years). While a long term development, this income could eventually aid future management of the reserve.

OBJECTIVE:	That the designated area above Endeavour Park and environs be discreetly planted in mixed forestry to provide a forestry arboretum and an income for future development. This is compatible with proposed future
	recreational use of the area.

POLICIES:

- (i) That a discreet mix of both exotic and native species be planted.
- (ii) That existing fingers of regenerating bush be retained amongst forestry species.
- (iii) That discreet areas be selectively logged and planted to minimise the visual impact of any forestry operation.
- (iv) That forestry practices enable free use of the area for recreation.
- (v) That the Douglas fir near Sussex Street be selectively logged over time allowing for native regeneration to occur.
- (vi) That the possibility of logging the mature pines in Pine Bay be investigated bearing in mind the unsightly result of felling.

7.2.5 Parks and Gardens

The only "park like" area on the Domain are the in entrance at Sussex Street and the Memorial Gates at the Picton Marina entrance. The Domain entrance planting was carried out in the mid 1980's to mark the centennial of the Picton Borough Council. Further native planting has since been carried out on the bank below the Douglas firs and in the gully at the back of the park. The clay nature of the soil and the topography have led to significant drainage problems, surface run off flows through the planted area. Any future planting should be able to withstand frost, limited topsoil and poor drainage in order to survive.

The walls and Memorial Gates at the Picton Marina entrance were built in the 1950's in conjunction with the reclamation of Memorial Park.

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- (ii) That where it is necessary, fill of a suitable composition be used and adequately compacted and drained. Where it is placed on a sloping surface the fill should have sufficient toe area to support the material above, particularly if it is intended to place a building on it.
- (iii) That where possible, steep batter slopes should be discouraged. If they cannot be avoided then they should be cut back to a gentle and more stable slope. All slopes should be planted and/or natural vegetation allowed to regenerate to prevent superficial slipping and creep of the scree and slope wash deposits.
- (iv) That adequate cut-off drains be installed to prevent the concentration of stormwater leading to accelerated erosion of topsoil and the scree deposits on all roads, tracks and firebreaks.

7.4 ROADING, SCENIC DRIVES & CARPARKING

The internal road from Sussex St climbs approximately 90m to the prominent ridgeline where the Lions Lookout and carpark are located. The road although sealed, is narrow, winding and steep. Consequently large coaches and buses are unable to visit the lookouts on the ridgeline. There has been a significant increase in the number of small tour buses using the area in recent years. Beyond the carpark, the road extends a further kilometre to the start of the Snout Walkway. This section is unsealed. Access for larger vehicles, turning and carparking space are considerations for future management. The creation of a one way road system would remove the need for a turning area which is not easily catered for on the ridge. As far as possible a one way road should still utilise only one access point. This aids management for the area and allows for more comprehensive visitor information at the main entrance.

Vehicular Access

The current vehicle access to the Victoria Domain is via Sussex Street. This is a small residential street with difficult access to Waikawa Road due to the incline of the ground.

It is proposed to develop Endeavour Park as the entrance to Victoria Domain. This would enable ease of access from Waikawa Road and increase the awareness of the Victoria Domain. It would also enable the development of a pleasant scenic drive along both sides of the Domain. This one way access road would enable views over Picton and Waikawa and utilise existing viewpoints well. It would also service the proposed commercial development. The possibility of a road down off the ridge and back into Endeavour Park requires further investigation. This would enable Endeavour Park to remain the only point of access to the Scenic Drive. The Commercial site could then retain a separate access from Glentui Drive without the road being linked to the rest of the Domain.

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	- That access from Waikawa onto the Domain, be improved, in particular to the Snout walkway via the reserve area above the Waikawa marina.
	 That a loop walk to the Snout be provided by incorporating a lower track on the north west side of the Domain (where possible).
	 That a loop track between Picton & Waikawa via Victoria Domain be provided. This would run along the Northwest face and ridge on existing tracks and return via a proposed track along the base of the south east face (See Development Plan - Appendix 1)
OBJECTIVI	E 2: Track Development: That all tracks be developed to minimise conflicts between users and ensure a broad range of enjoyment opportunities.
(ii)	That conflict with other recreational users be avoided, walking tracks should be limited to pedestrian access only unless a very wide track is provided.

- (iii) That the vegetation be carefully managed along walkways to maintain selected views and ensure slash, resulting from track maintenance or weed control are kept tidy.
- (iv) That resting seats in appropriate locations, be provided, particularly on the Snout walkway, which many walkers find an energetic experience.

7.5.2 Driving and Picnicking

Many people enjoy a quiet drive to one or several of the scenic viewpoints on the Victoria Domain. Picnicking is also a popular activity during the summer although facilities for this activity are very limited. Road access to these viewpoints allows for enjoyment by a wide section of the public. Vegetation management needs addressing at some viewpoints to ensure views are maintained rather than obscured.

OBJECTIVE:	That a one way scenic drive loop road be developed via
	the main viewpoints.

POLICIES:

(i) <u>Lookouts/Viewpoints</u>

That the required vegetation management is carried out at the lookout above Memorial Park and the Lions lookout (and at the Waikawa side of the Snout lookout at a later date). steep and badly rutted, they also become slippery after rain. Horses are not permitted on walking tracks, as there are obvious conflicts of use with pedestrians, unless tracks are of adequate width. The current surface of the unsealed portion of the ridge road is not suitable for unshod horses which comprise the majority that use the area. A verge adjacent to the ridge road could successfully accommodate walking horses and provide an important link between tracks.

OBJECTIVE:	That horseriding continue to be permitted on the
	Domain and be managed in an appropriate manner.

POLICIES:

- (i) That horseriding, walking and trailbiking tracks shall not be combined on the Domain.
- (ii) That a route from Ranui Street to the Ridge Road via the forestry track to the south east of the existing pine plantation be upgraded.
- (iii) That there be further investigation of the feasibility of further horse tracks, in particular the cross country exercise area outlined on the Development plan.
- (iv) That ease of horse access adjacent to the main vehicular route along the ridge of the Domain be provided.
- (iv) That the practicality of permitting mountainbikes on horse tracks be investigated.

7.5.5 Waterbased Activities

The beaches around the Domain provide for a number of water based activities. These are concentrated at Shelley Beach.

Shelley Beach extends from the "Echo" to the beach north of the Queen Charlotte Yacht Club. The grassed areas at the southern end and the Yacht Club area are particularly well used in the summer for swimming, picnicking and a number of water based activities such as kayaking, windsurfing and small dingy sailing. The Marlborough District Council have a policy of no vehicles or trailers on the grassed area or the beach in front as these conflict with other beach users. There are toilet facilities, picnic tables and open fire barbecue areas available to the public. There is only limited shade available. Although camping and dogs are prohibited both still occur to some extent, the latter being particularly incompatible with the popular use of the beach.

Due to the popular use of this area car parking is a problem during peak times and when events are held on the beach.

(viii) That no more than one commercial water based activity be permitted at any one time.

7.5.6 Trailbiking

Some areas of the Domain are currently used by trailbike riders. The area between Queen Charlotte College and Ranui Street as well as the Ridge Road are the most commonly used areas. Some pedestrian users are concerned about such activities on the Domain.

The Queen Charlotte College Motorcycle Club are one of the users of these areas. The Club was established with the support of the Board of Trustees. The Club provides an opportunity for the children to ride motorcycles under supervision and discourages unregistered machines from being ridden on the road. They would therefore like to see an area of the Domain designated for this activity and controlled with safety in mind (i.e. clear circulation and no joint use with horses or pedestrians etc.). They would suggest that a route up one firebreak along a ridge and down again, or a circular track into which they can build obstacles would be most appropriate.

Such an area would need to be contained to some extent to ensure unsupervised riders do not damage other areas. Factors such as noise, fire risk and legal consequences need to be considered.

This activity is not generally compatible with other users of the Domain. There is, however, a legitimate demand for a designated area for this activity which could be safely established, particularly for supervised riding by college students.

OBJECTIVE:	That further investigation of an appropriate area for
	trailbiking on the Domain be undertaken as necessary in
	conjunction with Queen Charlotte College and their
	motorcycle club.

POLICIES:

- (i) That the northern end of Endeavour Park be investigated as a possible location for trail bike activities. (That Mr J. Welch from the QCC Motorcycle Club be invited to aid this investigation.) Although the Endeavour Park area is close to the college it is further from residential development and less likely to be required for other uses.
- (ii) That noise control issues, access and suitable methods to contain this activity be discussed further in light of the new residential community.

Street as free range areas. This does not include the park at the Sussex Street entrance.

Owing to the large open nature of the Domain and the number of walking tracks the area is well suited to dog exercising.

OBJECTIVE: That a policy of open access to tracks and roads for the purposes of dog exercising (on a leash) be established.

POLICY:

(i) That dogs be prohibited on any grassed picnic and lookout areas, these include:

Shelley Beach Bobs Bay Endeavour Park Playground at the Domain park at the end of Sussex Street. All lookouts and view points

- (ii) That the validity of a voluntary warden system to police Shelley Beach be evaluated.
- (iii) That the area designated in the bylaws remain as free range areas for dog exercising.

7.5.10 Bobs Bay

This pleasant small bay within easy walking distance from Picton is a well used picnic area. This should not be compromised.

OBJECTIVE:	That Bobs Bay be managed as a picnic area.
POLICIES:	
(i)	That existing toilet facilities be upgraded as necessary to cater for increasing visitor numbers.

- (ii) That open grass areas adjacent to the beach be maintained.
- (iii) That a policy of no dogs in the bay be introduced.

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7.6.2 Endeavour Park

The playing fields at Endeavour Park are used for rugby, league and hockey. There are no toilet or changing facilities on the site . The southern field in particular is very poorly drained and relatively uneven, a significant issue to consider with regard to future development of this area. The Northwestern end of the park, which was formerly planted in pines, was felled during the early 1990's. This area has now colonised with gorse, broom, some ake ake, fivefinger, Manuka and tree ferns. Significant seedling pine regrowth is occurring and the myriad of forestry tracks are being colonised by gorse and blackberry. This former forestry area holds potential for a number of recreational pursuits including mountain biking, trailbiking or horseriding. There are several damp southeast facing gullies which channel run-off into the area, hence there are several wet hollows. In the north of the park a mixed forestry arboretum is an option to be considered in this area of the park (see Sec. 7.2.4 p.38)

The southern part of this park is currently used as sportsfields. The northern "hill country" area is managed as part of the Victoria Domain.

OBJECTIVE 1:	That Endeavour Park be managed as the 'Gateway' to
	Victoria Domain. (See Appendix 3)

POLICIES:

- (i) That road access and appropriate signage be provided directly from Waikawa Road.
- (ii) That appropriate interpretative information relating to the recreational opportunities of the Victoria Domain be provided.
- (iii) That a small carpark in the trees in the northern area of the park be provided in close proximity to walking track connections.

OBJECTIVE 2:	That the southern part of Endeavour Park be upgraded
	and developed as a central sporting facility for Picton.
	(See Appendix 3)

POLICIES:

- (i) That the southern sports field be closed and four sealed tennis courts be developed on the western end.
- (ii) That northern field be upgraded and extended to provide two full size rugby fields.
- (iii) That the existing Waitohi Rugby club rooms be relocated from Waitohi Domain.

POLICIES:

- That "Nature" walks be developed in association with local schools with appropriate labels and vegetation succession information on a "demand basis".
- (ii) That schools be encouraged to utilise the recreation facilities available on the Domain (i.e., as part of physical education).
- (iii) That schools be invited to participate in tree planting programmes to enhance the area.

7.8 WAIKAWA WATER SUPPLY

There will be a need for greater water storage in the Waikawa area in the future. It is proposed that a storage tank be placed on approximately the mid point of the Domain as and when the need arises. This could possibly be incorporated with the proposed commercial site on the ridge above the Endeavour Heights subdivision on Ranui Street. Such a facility should make provision for filling monsoon buckets in the event of a fire in the area.

OBJECTIVE:	That a site on the Domain be utilised as a location for future
	water storage for the Waikawa area.

POLICIES:

- (i) That any future water storage facility be appropriately located so as not to cause an unacceptable visual distraction, preferably below the ridgeline so that the form is set against a bush background.
- (ii) That appropriate "fire fighting" facilities be incorporated into any future water storage facility.

7.9 FIRE

In the past the fire risk potential has been extremely high on the Domain. This was due to a combination of the large areas of gorse and pine and use of the area for recreation. Fire breaks ran along the top of much of the Domain. Although there is still a significant risk present the recolonisation of former gorse clad areas by native bush is slowly reducing this risk to some extent. The open barbecue areas at Shelley Beach and Bobs Bay are cause for concern. Any further development of the area which increases access or access to water supply is helpful to the Picton Volunteer Fire Service. The possibility of extending fire hydrants to the end of streets that bound the Domain will be investigated by the Works and Services Department of the Council. **POLICY:**

(i) That illegal dumping and firewood collection be prosecuted where necessary.

7.12 LEASING

There is provision under Sec. 53 of the Reserves Act 1977 to lease Recreation Reserve land. This has the ability to "earn revenue" for the future development of the rest of the reserve.

OBJECTIVE:	That there be provision to lease reserve land where necessary to
	enhance the recreational opportunities of the Domain.

POLICIES:

- (i) That the provisions of Sec. 53 of the Reserves Act 1977 to determine the circumstances under which a lease may be granted be used.
- (ii) That in general the granting of a lease should not detrimentally affect public use and recreation of the Domain. Leases should enable the development of recreation facilities in keeping with the nature of the Domain which are of benefit to the general public.

7.13 COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Victoria Domain is essentially a bush clad promontory with beautiful views within close proximity to town. A commercial tourist venture could take advantage of these qualities and the recreational opportunity provided by the Domain. The New Zealand Tourism Board identified the Victoria Domain as one of several sites in Marlborough with potential for tourism.

Current Activity

The only current commercial activity on the Domain is the windsurfer hire operation on Shelley Beach. Council policy permits only one water based commercial activity to operate on Shelley Beach at any point in time.

Future Activities

Any future activity will be subject to the provisions of the District Recreation Zone of the Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan. (See Appendix 6 - July 1995)

Future commercial proposals will need to demonstrate an ability to enhance recreational opportunities in the area and create revenue for future funding of the reserve. Currently there is a request for a bungy jumping operation and a suggestion to develop a restaurant or cafè as detailed below:- (ii) That the current suggestions for bungy jumping and a restaurant/cafè be considered with regard to public opinion and the above considerations. Any commercial development will still be subject to the leasing requirements of the Reserves Act 1977.

7.14 INTERPRETATION OF THE AREA

Currently there is very little interpretation of what the Domain has to offer to visitors. Signage is inconsistent and at times misleading; some sort of interpretation information at the main points of entry is required. A Comprehensive interpretation Strategy outlining the natural and cultural history of the area could be incorporated into a cafe development or alternative location following adoption of this management plan.

OBJECTIVE:	That a high standard of interpretive information be provided on
	the natural and cultural history and recreational opportunities of
	the Domain.

POLICIES:

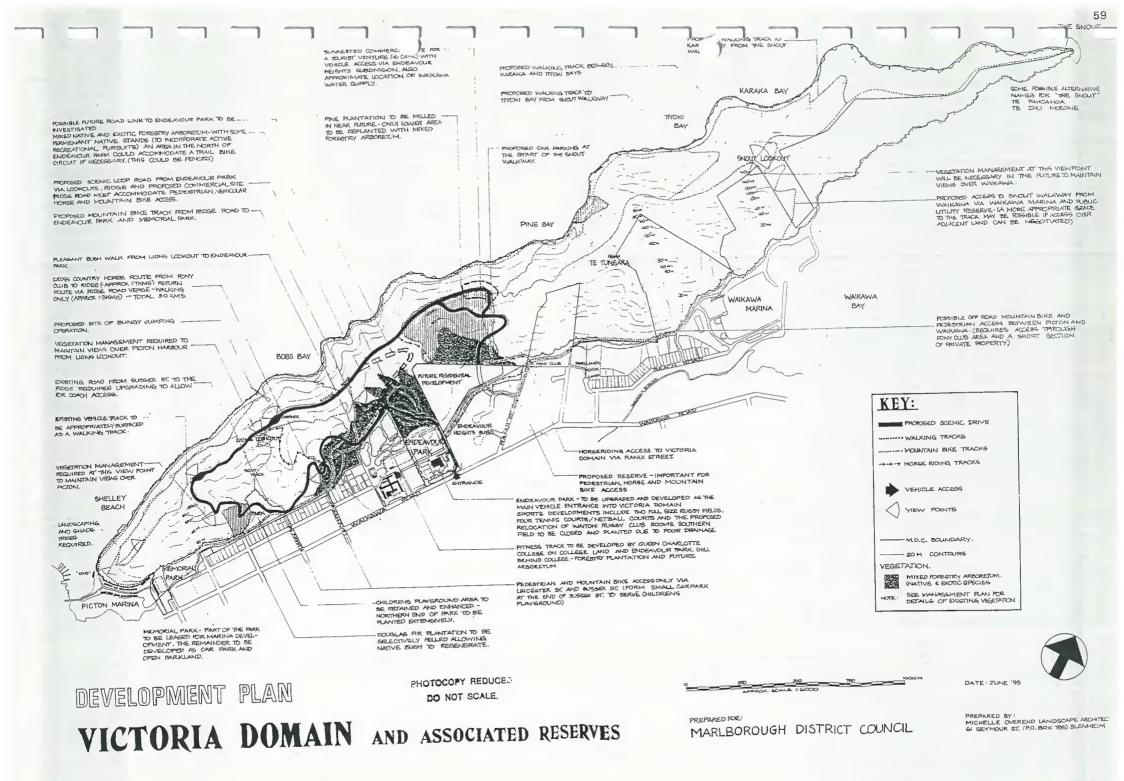
- (i) That appropriate interpretive information be available at all entry points to the Domain (pedestrian & vehicular).
- (ii) That appropriate signage be installed throughout the Domain to indicate the various points of interest and tracks available.
- (iii) That there be a central information focus which identifies key areas of interest.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

FOR

VICTORIA DOMAIN

AND ASSOCIATED RESERVES



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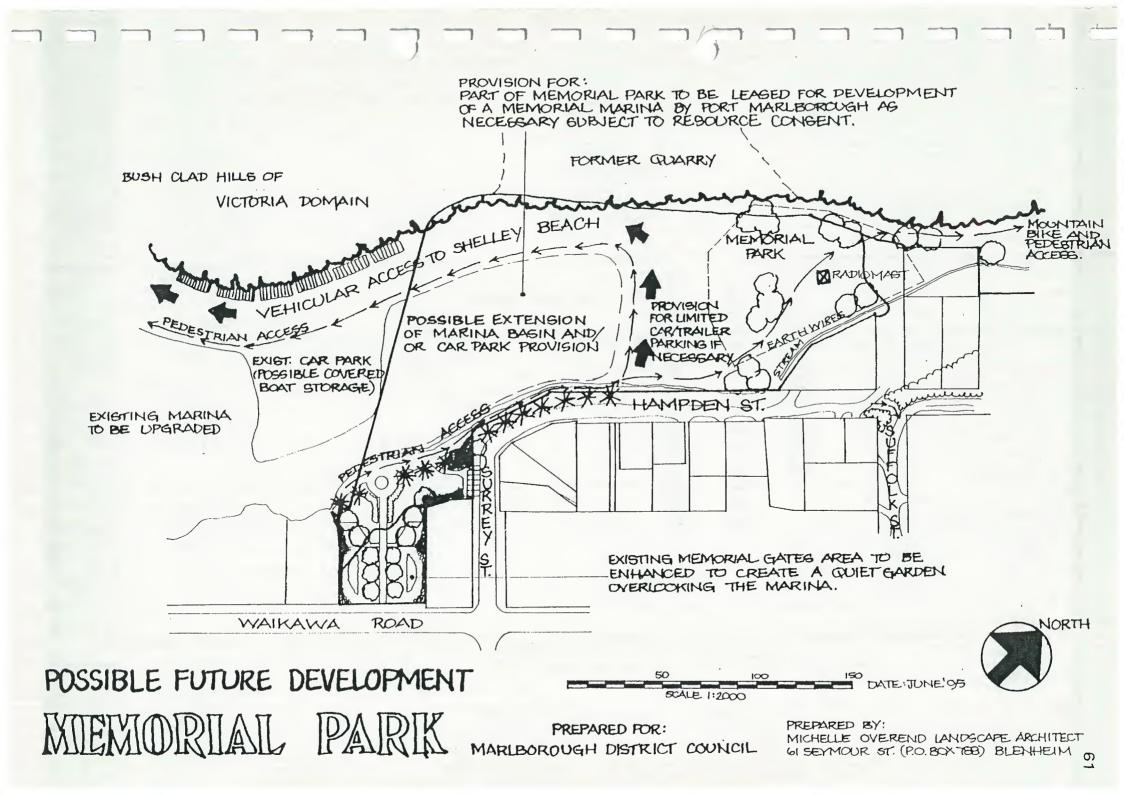
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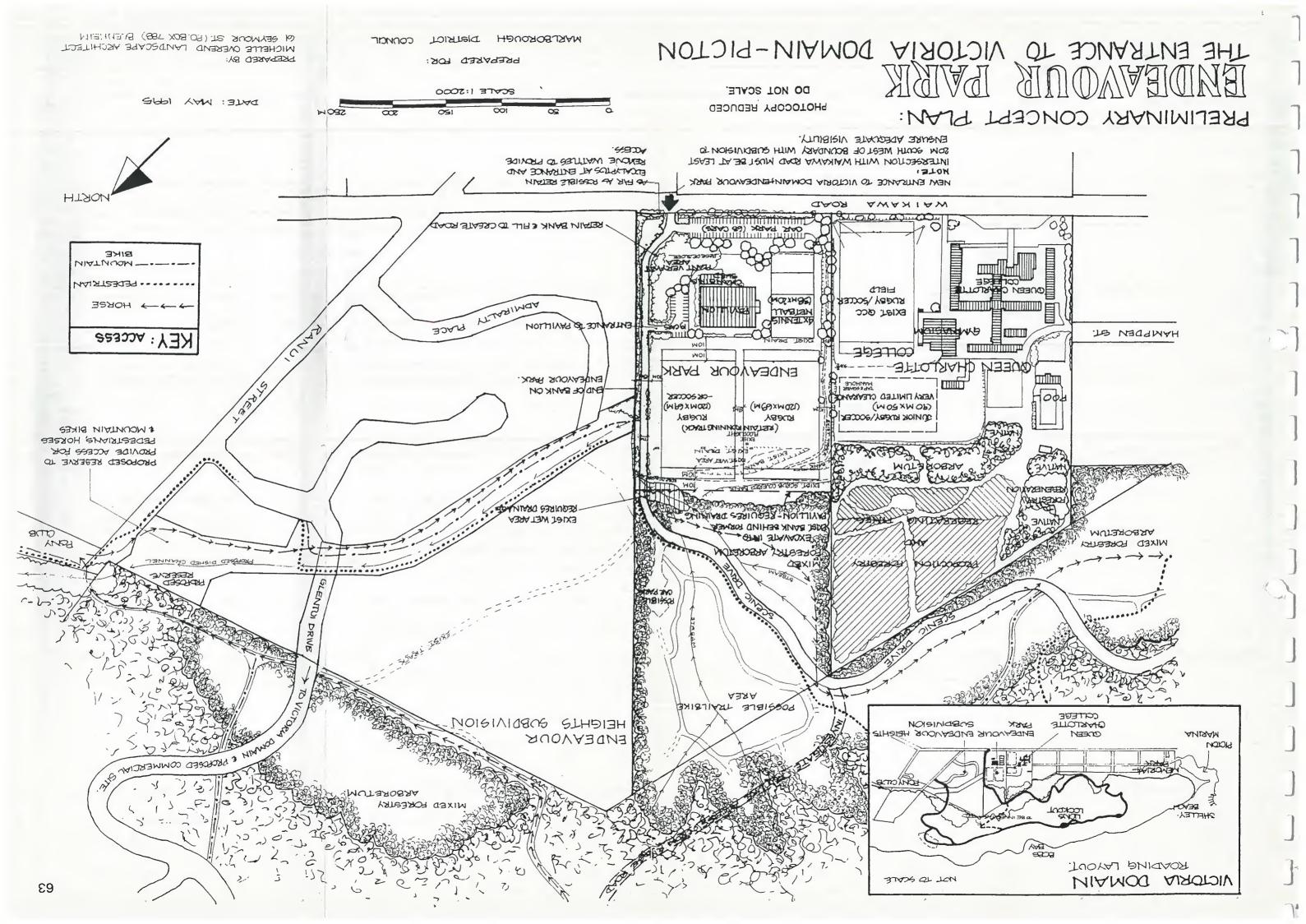
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SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED ON DRAFT ISSUES AND OPTIONS PAPER January/February 1995

VICTORIA DOMAIN ISSUES AND OPTIONS PAPER

BRIEF COMMENT ON PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1995

SUBMISSIONS

A total of 19 submissions were received. Generally speaking the majority of these both supported and commended the Council for their work to date. There were however a few exceptions, the most notable being that of the Picton Returned Services Association.

The comments received covered a wide number of issues addressed in the document. Other than the Marina development no one issue attracted any significant number of comments.

PUBLIC MEETING

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The general feeling of the public meeting was an acceptance of the proposals in the document. The main area of concern is the future of Memorial Park. The proposed Marina development had been adamantly opposed by the Picton RSA. The Picton Tennis Club are also particularly reluctant to relocate from their central location to Waitohi Domain.

PROPOSED MARINA DEVELOPMENT

Of the submissions received five expressed support for the Marina development and three expressed concerns or opposed the proposal. Positive comments related to the number of benefits the Marina could provide and the fact that Memorial Park is poorly utilised. On the other hand concerns raised included the effect of increased traffic and noise levels and whether a Marina is required or acceptable.

OTHER ISSUES

Two submissions expressed support for a bungy jumping proposal, and one expressed concern. Other issues which received more than one comment are the need for dog control on grassed areas and the need for buses to be able to adequately access the view points on the Domain. Relating more particularly to the detail of the Marina proposal, there were a number of concerns relating to the removal of the existing boatsheds.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Other general comments referred to roading, weed eradication, horses, water based activities, forestry, fire hydrants and the need to acknowledge changes which have occurred since the last plan. One particularly unusual suggestion was the creation of a hangliding/paragliding take off and landing area on the ridge. The practicality of such activities is being investigated by Raymond Kopua.

LIST OF

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

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PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED NOVEMBER 1994 & FEBRUARY 1995

Graeme Jane Department of Conservation Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society Ian Shapcott (Marlborough District Council) Queen Charlotte College D. & L. Steele - Corgi Company G. Smith - Deluxe Travel Line M. Baxter - Queen Charlotte Sounds Connection Nicholas Martin D.H. Whyte Rebecca Lee T.G. & J.E. Perry Miss & Mrs Pegram R.W. Marriot Mrs B. Searle Victor Keenan Bruce Maunsell Roy Kett - Blue Anchor Holiday Park Mr & Mrs Rosenfeld - Bayview Backpackers Bernard McFarland Jim Chapple 50 Plus Walking Group Queen Charlotte Lions Club Te Atiawa Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust Mrs Christine Evans Martin Scott - Picton Taxis Alby Elwood Smith Wedgewood House Jim Thomson - Construction Village Marlb. Branch - Ornithological Society of N.Z. D. & N.J. Kilduff Station - Visitor Information Centre Picton Lodge **CWI** Picton Chris Heywood Allan Hawke Thomas Buchanan Picton Pakeke Lions Keith Henson Picton RSA Margery Brouard P. Lawless Sue Howie - Picton Tennis Club Betty Lowe Peter Lowe Marlborough District Council - Council Meeting

Port Marlborough P.B. Wye G. Lloyd Waikawa Pony Club - Rata Steele Marlborough Car Club - Jeff Pascoe QCC Motorcycle Club Marineland Motels Ross Hedge Junior Soccer Club R.G. & C.E Weetman M.G. McCulloch Douglas Brown Mrs E. Brown Jaye Asher-Perano C. Ford Picton Girl Guide Association Rawhiti Hockey Greg McDonald Elizabeth Brown H. & R. Giddy - Bay Vista Motel Peter & Toni Smith Lindsay & Sarah Wright Mrs P. Jack David & Vera Burton Richard Gilbert - Waikawa Boating Club - Powerboat Section Roy Grose Bridget Ormon - Marlborough Chamber of Commerce P.L. Flint - Marlborough Handgliding & Paragliding Club Mr & Mrs Cook G.S. Bayliss Sally Wright Foster Rudd Helen Jones

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PROPOSED

MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS RESOURCE

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Section District Recreation Zone

(To be included during July 1995)

