

29 March 2021

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Official Information Act request to the Department of Conservation, received on 8 March 2021 in which you asked for:

'... information and documents on the gazetted property 272 – 280 The Esplanade Kaikoura and in particular the lease, land requirements and items related to the Ngai Tahu settlement, being released. We would like any official information you have on the property since it was first gazetted to the University of Canterbury in the 1950's.'

On 26 February 2021 you clarified your request to LINZ (who originally held this request) to say that the other item you are very interested in *'is the gazette notifications for issuing of reserve land'*.

For better context, the information attached has gone back further than the 1950's to help you understand the background to the land.

Your questions and our responses are listed below:

1. Information and documents, particularly NZ Gazette notices, for the land.

The NZ Gazette notices, current titles and relevant survey plans for 272 - 280 The Esplanade, Kaikoura, as listed in 'Table 1 – Schedule of Documents', are attached.

The land was originally reserved as a limestone quarry in 1914. In 1960 and 1963 the 2 parts of the current site were reserved off from the limestone quarry for the purpose of a site for a marine laboratory. These sites were vested in the University of Canterbury at that time, which meant the University of Canterbury were responsible for the management of the reserve as a marine laboratory. The reserve has remained under the management of the University of Canterbury since then. In 1982 the balance of the limestone quarry had its classification changed to being for scenic reserve purposes.



2. Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 in relation to the land.

The memorial recorded on the title stating that this land is subject to Part 9 of the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998 means that if, in the future, the Crown intends to dispose of the land, Ngai Tahu will be offered the first right of refusal to buy the land before it is offered to anyone else. While the land remains vested in the University of Canterbury the Crown is not in a position to consider disposing of the land.

For additional context, the University of Canterbury built the buildings on the reserve to enable the management of the reserve as a site for a marine laboratory. The University of Canterbury own these buildings. I understand the buildings have earthquake damage and asbestos issues and are currently vacant.

The Department has not been involved in the management of either the reserve or buildings. If you require further information on the management of the reserve or the buildings, you will need to contact the University of Canterbury.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and enclosed documents may be published on the Department's website.

If you wish to discuss this with the Department, please contact the Department's Statutory Land Management Team by email at slm@doc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jack Swad".

Natasha Hayward
Director Planning, Permissions & Land
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Table 1 - Schedule of documents

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	January 1914	Survey Plan SO 1135 from 1914	Released in full.
2	22 July 1914	NZ Gazette 1914, page 2956 – Temporarily reserved as limestone quarry.	Released in full.
3	4 September 1914	NZ Gazette 1914, page 3506 – Permanently reserved as limestone quarry.	Released in full.
4	February 1960	Survey Plan SO 4489 from 1960	Released in full.
5	5 April 1960	NZ Gazette 1960, page 468 – Reserved for a site for a marine field station and vesting the reserve in the University of Canterbury.	Released in full.
6	April 1963	Survey Plan SO 4617 from 1963	Released in full.
7	4 July 1963	NZ Gazette 1963, page 948 – Change of purpose of part of reserve from a reserve for limestone quarry to a reserve for a site for a marine field station and vesting the reserve in the University of Canterbury.	Released in full.
8	8 March 1982	NZ Gazette 1982, page 1177 – Classification, Local Purpose Reserve (site of a marine laboratory)	Released in full.
9	4 October 1982	NZ Gazette 1982, page 3482 – Classification, Scenic Reserve.	Released in full.
10	15 June 2015	Record of Title 701136	Released in full.
11	15 June 2015	Record of Title 701135	Released in full.