

Heritage Assessment

North Taranaki Visitor's Centre

Egmont National Park

26 September 2023



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Quality Information

Document: Heritage Assessment: North Taranaki Visitor's Centre

Date: August 2023

Prepared by: [REDACTED]

Prepared for: [REDACTED]

Revision History

| Revision | Date | Details | Authorised Name |
|-------------|------------|---|------------------|
| Draft | 10/08/2023 | Internal review. | McCurdy |
| Final Draft | 10/08/2023 | Issued to client. | McCurdy, Schmidt |
| Final | 15/08/2023 | Review recommendations implemented. | McCurdy |
| Final | 26/09/2023 | Addition of recommendations from Te Papa Atawhai. | McCurdy |
| | | | |

Front image: c.1910s photograph of the North Egmont Hostel (ATL: PA-Group-00719).

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Contents

1. Introduction 6

 1.1. Location and Proposed Works..... 6

 1.2. Methodology 6

 1.3. Limitations..... 6

2. Statutory Requirements 8

 2.1. Conservation Act 1987 8

 2.2. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014..... 9

 2.3. Resource Management Act 1991 10

3. Background 11

 3.1. Timeline..... 11

 3.2. The Camphouse..... 15

 3.3. Cottage 16

 3.4. Survey Plans and Aerial Photographs 18

4. Heritage Assessment 32

 4.1. Frank Messenger 32

 4.2. Bungalow Design 34

 4.3. North Egmont Hostel Design 35

 4.4. North Egmont Hostel Impact..... 38

 4.5. Heritage Values 44

5. Conclusions 46

6. Recommendations 47

7. References..... 49

Appendix 1: NZAA Site Record Forms..... 50

Appendix 2: Historical Reference Material..... 53

Appendix 3: Survey Plans 69

Appendix 4: Project Plans..... 123

Figures

| | |
|---|----|
| Figure 1: Location of proposed Visitor's Centre developments, including temporary Visitor's Centre locations. | 7 |
| Figure 2: Newspaper photographs of the first motor-bus service between New Plymouth and the North Egmont Chalet (<i>Auckland Weekly News</i> , 19 November 1914, p.48)..... | 12 |
| Figure 3: 1919 photograph showing the dirt road access to the North Egmont Hostel (<i>Auckland Weekly News</i> , 3 April 1919, p.37)..... | 13 |
| Figure 4: 1930 newspaper spread detailing the visit of the Governor-General to the Egmont Chalet (<i>Auckland Weekly News</i> , 25 June 1930, p.37) | 14 |
| Figure 5: Two images of the Camphouse, an 1892 drawing, top (Auckland Libraries: NZG-18920319-0281-03) and a c.1900 photograph, bottom (NatLib: Eph-B-POSTCARD-Vol-7-038-btm)..... | 15 |
| Figure 6: 1902 photograph of the cottage with the Camphouse in the background. Cottage is noted as "new" (Auckland Libraries AWNS-19020410-08-04)..... | 16 |
| Figure 7: 1909 photograph of the cottage near the Camphouse (Auckland Libraries: AWNS-19090923-07-02)..... | 17 |
| Figure 8: 1923 painting by Bernard Aris showing the cottage and the Camphouse (Puke Ariki: A70.069)..... | 17 |
| Figure 9: Plan summarising the information contained in the survey plans discussed below. Note that variable survey plan accuracy has been attempted to be accounted for in this plan. | 19 |
| Figure 10: Detail of 1904 roll plan showing the tourist track to the Mountain House (Camphouse – indicated in red) and the summit..... | 20 |
| Figure 11: Detail of 1900 roll plan noting the Camphouse as "Egmont House", indicated in red. | 21 |
| Figure 12: Detail of 1925 roll plan showing the tourist track to the Mountain House (Camphouse) and the summit. | 22 |
| Figure 13: Detail of 1934 roll plan showing the Old House (Camphouse), North Egmont Hostel, an P.O. | 23 |
| Figure 14: Detail of 1945 roll plan, showing the North Egmont House and associated buildings. Kokowai is indicated in red..... | 24 |
| Figure 15: Detail of 1879 roll plan, showing an existing track to Bells Falls..... | 25 |
| Figure 16: Detail of SO 4012 (1911) showing the clearing in which the Hostel would be built, with "New House" noted. | 26 |
| Figure 17:Detail of SO 6675 (1925) showing the new hostel, croquet lawn, Camphouse (Old House), cottage, and other buildings. | 27 |
| Figure 18: Detail of SO 8588 (1953), showing the "North Egmont Motor Hostel", Tennis Court, Car Park, Cabins, and other buildings. | 28 |
| Figure 19: Detail of SO 8977 (1959), detailing the North Egmont Hostel, cabins, and discussed tennis courts. | 29 |
| Figure 20: Detail of 1965 aerial photograph showing the NTVC complex. | 30 |
| Figure 21: Detail of 1982 aerial photograph showing the NTVC complex..... | 31 |
| Figure 22: Frank Messenger's introductory note. | 33 |
| Figure 23: c.1910s photograph of the North Egmont Hostel (ATL: PA-Group-00719). | 39 |
| Figure 24: c.1910s photograph of the North Egmont Hostel, showing the entirety of the front elevation (Hocken: E5577/20)..... | 40 |
| Figure 25: 1914 photograph of the main entrance to the North Egmont Hostel (Auckland Libraries: 499-ALB116F-01-03) | 41 |

Figure 26: c.1923 photograph of the North Egmont Hostel, showing a flagpole erected on the central gable front (Puke Ariki: WD.009803)..... 42

Figure 27: Undated photograph of the chalet, probably later in its life, showing changes to the area in front of the building (Hocken: E5582/1) 43

Figure 28: *Taranaki Daily News*, 29 September 1910, Page 7 53

Figure 29: *Taranaki Daily News*, Issue 6, 1 July 1911, Page 3..... 54

Figure 30: *Taranaki Herald*, 20 July 1911, Page 7..... 55

Figure 31: *Taranaki Herald*, 28 December 1914, Page 4 56

Figure 32: *Taranaki Daily News*, 21 November 1927, Page 6..... 57

Figure 33: *Taranaki Daily News*, 27 September 1928, Page 13 58

Figure 34: *Hawera Star* 2 April 1928, page 9..... 59

Figure 35: *Taranaki Daily News*, 27 September 1928, page 13 60

Figure 36: *Taranaki Daily News*, 7 May 1929, page 11..... 61

Figure 37: *Taranaki Daily News*, 11 October 1930, Page 6..... 62

Figure 38: *Taranaki Daily News*, 13 August 1932, Page 6..... 63

Figure 39: c.1920 brochure for the "North Egmont Mountain House" (Puke Ariki ARC2012-082).
 Brochure is continued on following four pages..... 64

1. Introduction

Geometria were engaged by Laura Buttimore Planning to undertake a heritage assessment of the North Egmont Chalet, as part of the redevelopment of the North Egmont Visitor's Centre. The existing visitors centre will be demolished and replaced with the new North Taranaki Visitors Centre, Te Papa-Kura-O-Taranaki, in a project being undertaken by Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai and Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa.

Due to the previous presence of the significant 1912 North Egmont Chalet on the property, a heritage assessment was requested for the structure, in its demolished state. This report is both a heritage assessment and an archaeological assessment of effects for the project.

This report does not seek to specifically locate or identify wahi tapu or other places of cultural or spiritual significance to Māori. Such assessments may only be made by Tangata Whenua who may be approached independently of this report for advice.

1.1. Location and Proposed Works

The development of the North Taranaki Visitors Centre, Te Papa-Kura-O-Taranaki is located at the existing North Egmont Visitor's Centre, on Egmont Road, within the Egmont National Park. The following land parcels, which are on National Park and Public Conservation Land managed by Te Papa Atawhai respectively, may be impacted by the works (Figure 1):

- Part Egmont National Park SO Plan 10039
- Part Section 2 Block XIV Egmont SD

The proposed works include the demolition of the existing visitor's centre on the site and building a new centre on a similar footprint. A temporary visitors centre will be established at the upper carpark, for the approximately two years of construction. Detailed plans of works are included in Appendix 4: Project Plans.

1.2. Methodology

The research for this report consisted of a desktop study, which examined the following sources:

- NZAA ArchSite database.
- Modern aerial photography (c.2000 – 2020).
- 3D LIDAR DEM and DSM (2019).
- Historic aerial photography back to 1944.
- Historic survey plans from c.1840 to c.1940.
- Papers Past newspaper records.
- DigitalNZ.org historic imagery.
- New Plymouth District Plan.

1.3. Limitations

The Camphouse, NZAA site P20/132, is the nearest recorded archaeological site to the project. The project is specifically designed to not impact the Camphouse, and therefore the Camphouse is only discussed briefly in this assessment. A site visit was not undertaken for this assessment, as the author is very familiar with the location, and the Chalet is no longer visible on site. Plans for services for the project were not available, only the substantial Project Plans as seen in Appendix 4: Project Plans. However, this is not expected to affect the assessment recommendations.



Figure 1: Location of proposed Visitor's Centre developments, including temporary Visitor's Centre locations.

2. Statutory Requirements

There are two main pieces of legislation in New Zealand that control work affecting heritage sites. These are the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA) and the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

2.1. Conservation Act 1987

The Conservation Act 1987 established the Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai and directs the administration and management of all land and resources under the Department's control (other Acts also direct the administration and management of public conservation land). The functions of the Department as set out in section 6 of the Act are:

- (a) to manage for conservation purposes, all land, and all other natural and historic resources, for the time being held under this Act, and all other land and natural and historic resources whose owner agrees with the Minister that they should be managed by the Department:
- (ab) to preserve so far as is practicable all indigenous freshwater fisheries, and protect recreational freshwater fisheries and freshwater fish habitats:
- (b) to advocate the conservation of natural and historic resources generally:
- (c) to promote the benefits to present and future generations of—
 - (i) the conservation of natural and historic resources generally and the natural and historic resources of New Zealand in particular; and
 - (ii) the conservation of the natural and historic resources of New Zealand's sub-antarctic islands and, consistently with all relevant international agreements, of the Ross Dependency and Antarctica generally; and
 - (iii) international co-operation on matters relating to conservation:
- (d) to prepare, provide, disseminate, promote, and publicise educational and promotional material relating to conservation:
- (e) to the extent that the use of any natural or historic resource for recreation or tourism is not inconsistent with its conservation, to foster the use of natural and historic resources for recreation, and to allow their use for tourism:
- (f) to advise the Minister on matters relating to any of those functions or to conservation generally:
- (g) every other function conferred on it by any other enactment.

Note that "historic resource" in the Conservation Act means means a historic place within the meaning of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (see below); and includes any interest in a historic resource. While the HNZPTA includes a minimum age limit for historic heritage, this is not the case for historic heritage on Te Papa Atawhai managed land, for which there is no age limit.

Section 4 of the Conservation Act 1987 states "This Act shall so be interpreted and administered as to give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Conservation Boards are established under section 6L of the Conservation Act 1987. The functions and powers of the Conservation Boards are set out in sections 6M and 6N of the Act.

The Egmont National Park Management Plan guides the overall management of the park (Department of Conservation 2002), but this was only in effect from 2002 – 2012 and appears to be only the de facto Management Plan currently.

2.2. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Heritage New Zealand administers the HNZPTA. It contains a consent (authority) process for any work affecting archaeological sites, where an archaeological site is defined as:

- a) Any place in New Zealand, including any building or structure (or part of a building or structure), that -
- b) Was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 or is the site of the wreck of any vessel where the wreck occurred before 1900; and
- c) Provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand; and
- d) Includes a site for which a declaration is made under section 43(1)

Any person who intends carrying out work that may modify or destroy an archaeological site, must first obtain an authority from Heritage New Zealand. The process applies to sites on land of all tenure including public, private, and designated land. The HNZPTA contains penalties for unauthorised site damage or destruction.

The archaeological authority process applies to all archaeological sites, regardless of whether:

- a) The site is recorded in the NZ Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme or included in the Heritage New Zealand List,
- b) The site only becomes known about as a result of ground disturbance, and/ or
- c) The activity is permitted under a district or regional plan, or a resource or building consent has been granted.

Heritage New Zealand also maintains the New Zealand Heritage List/ Rarangi Korero of Historic Places, Historic Areas, Wahi Tupuna, Wahi Tapu and Wahi Tapu Areas. The List can include archaeological sites. Its purpose is to inform members of the public about such places.

2.3. Resource Management Act 1991

The RMA requires City, District and Regional Councils to manage the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way that provides for the wellbeing of today's communities while safeguarding the options of future generations. The protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development is identified as a matter of national importance (section 6f).

Historic heritage is defined as those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures, derived from archaeological, architectural, cultural, historic, scientific, or technological qualities.

Historic heritage includes:

- a) historic sites, structures, places, and areas
- b) archaeological sites;
- c) sites of significance to Māori, including wahi tapu;
- d) surroundings associated with the natural and physical resources (RMA section 2).

These categories are not mutually exclusive, and some archaeological sites may include above ground structures or may also be places that are of significance to Māori.

Where resource consent is required for any activity the assessment of effects is required to address cultural and historic heritage matters (RMA 4th Schedule and the district plan assessment criteria).

3. Background

The key built heritage that may be impacted by the proposed development is the North Egmont Chalet, a visitor accommodation constructed in 1912 and demolished in 1977. This building was variously referred to by the following names:

- North Egmont Chalet
- North Egmont Hostel / Hostelry or North Egmont Motor Hostel
- North Egmont House
- Mount Egmont Hostel / Hostelry
- North Egmont Mountain House (not to be confused with the Stratford Mountain House, or the Camphouse, which was also sometimes referred to as the Mountain House).

The most common name given in historical texts is some variation of Hostel, and Frank Messenger, the architect for the build, referred to it as a Hostel when he sought tenders for its construction, so that term will generally be used to refer to the North Egmont Chalet within this document.

3.1. Timeline

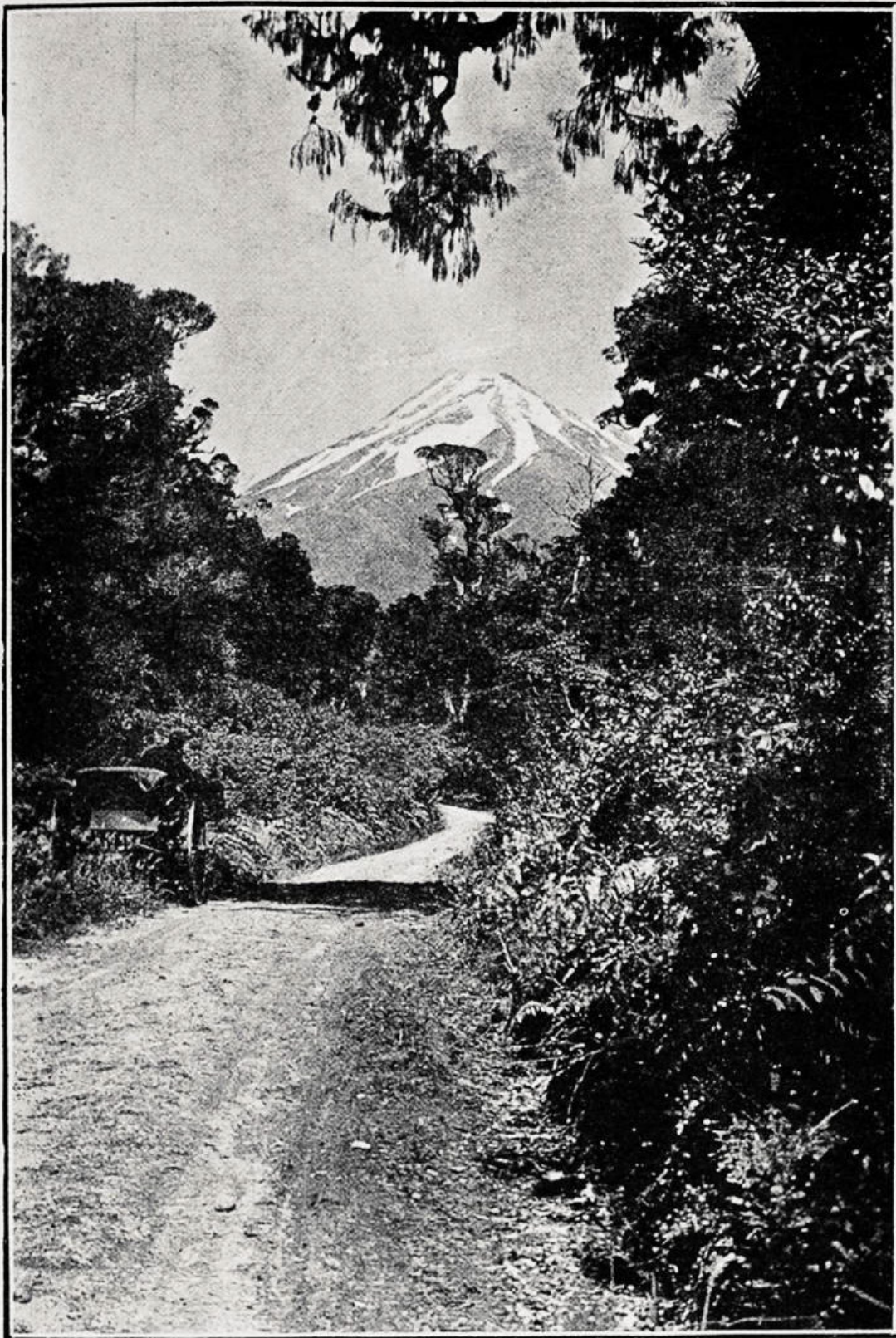
A brief timeline of events related to the North Egmont Hostel is included in Table 1. The bulk of the historical references are included in Appendix 2: Historical Reference Material.

Table 1: Brief history of the North Egmont Chalet and Hostel

| | |
|------|--|
| 1910 | Lease granted by the National Park Board for the hostel (Appendix 2: Figure 28). |
| 1911 | Frank Messenger's plan for the hostel was adopted (Appendix 2: Figure 29). |
| 1911 | Tenders for a builder were advertised by Messenger (Appendix 2: Figure 30). |
| 1912 | Chalet officially opened by the Governor, Lord Islington. Cost of building was approximately £2,500. |
| 1914 | Regular motor bus service to the chalet is established (Figure 2). |
| 1927 | The National Park Board deviated the road to the hostel and levelled the space in front of the hostel building (Appendix 2: Figure 32). |
| 1928 | A new dining room, lounge and portico was opened by the Minister of the Tourist Department, Hon. W. Nosworthy, commemorating Mr Newton King (Appendix 2: Figure 34). |
| 1928 | An extension and heating upgrade was completed (Appendix 2: Figure 35). |
| 1929 | The Prime Minister visits the hostel (Appendix 2: Figure 36). |
| 1929 | The Park Board completes tar sealing of the road through the reserve. Prior to this the access was a dirt road (Figure 3). |
| 1930 | The Governor-General and his wife visit the Chalet (Figure 4). |
| 1930 | The hostel pleads for public support, touting benefits of creating interest in mountaineering and the associated health benefits (Appendix 2: Figure 37). |
| 1932 | Ownership of the North Egmont Hostel Ltd transfers to the Park Board. Was run at a loss, as the improved road meant that people tended to visit for day trips only, rather than staying at the hostel, during the economic depression (Appendix 2: Figure 38). |
| 1977 | Hostel is demolished. |



Figure 2: Newspaper photographs of the first motor-bus service between New Plymouth and the North Egmont Chalet (*Auckland Weekly News*, 19 November 1914, p.48)



ACCESSIBILITY OF TARANAKI'S SENTINEL: THE ROAD TO MOUNT
EGMONT HOUSE FROM THE NEW PLYMOUTH SIDE.

W. D. Johns, Photo.

Figure 3: 1919 photograph showing the dirt road access to the North Egmont Hostel (*Auckland Weekly News*, 3 April 1919, p.37)



GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND LADY BLEDISLOE IN TARANAKI: FIRST VISIT OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES TO NEW PLYMOUTH, THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL.

1. His Excellency takes a synopsis of a prize bull at the Taranaki Winter Show.
2. A massed release from the school children of Pukekura Park.
3. Lady Bledisloe holding Mr. W. Carrivall's first prize Jersey heifer at the Winter Show.
4. Their Excellencies at North Kaimori hotel, where they spent a pleasant week-end. Mount Kaimori is in the background.
5. Lord Bledisloe, accompanied by Mr. W. H. Moore, headmaster, inspecting the boys of the New Plymouth High School.
6. Lady Bledisloe at the New Plymouth Hospital. With Mrs. Eschenzy in the foreground, Miss Campbell, and the superintendent, Dr. Rich.
7. His Excellency addressing the exhibitors at the official opening of the new Savings Bank in New Plymouth.

8. The Governor-General holding the champion impaired Jersey bull "Sphinx's Volunteer," exhibited at the Winter Show by the owner, Mr. J. S. Jones (right).

—J. A. Austin

Figure 4: 1930 newspaper spread detailing the visit of the Governor-General to the Egmont Chalet (*Auckland Weekly News*, 25 June 1930, p.37)

3.2. The Camphouse

The Camphouse (NZAA site P20/132, Figure 5) is a significant historical site located in the wider North Egmont Visitors' Centre complex. The Camphouse was originally part of the barracks at Marsland Hill Barracks, and in 1891 was sledged up to the current location, where it served as accommodation for visitors. It was known as Tahurangi House until 1913, then the Old House until 1977, and following the demolition of the hostel it was renamed the Camphouse. This is a regionally significant building, managed by Department of Conservation under a Conservation Plan. The proposed works have been designed to not impact the Camphouse, which is well removed from all works.



Figure 5: Two images of the Camphouse, an 1892 drawing, top (Auckland Libraries: NZG-18920319-0281-03) and a c.1900 photograph, bottom (NatLib: Eph-B-POSTCARD-Vol-7-038-btm).

3.3. Cottage

Additional accommodation was available at the North Egmont complex prior to the establishment of the hostel, in addition to the Camphouse. At least one cottage was present, approximately 80m from the Camphouse. The exact location is unclear, but photographs and paintings (Figures 6 - 8) show it relatively close to the Camphouse, suggesting it was one of the two to three buildings shown in various survey plans approximately 80m east of the Camphouse. See Figure 9 and the discussion of survey plan evidence in Section 3.3, below.

The Camphouse and Cottage should be considered the precursors to the later hostel. They allowed for visitors to experience the new national park, in the age when the access road was so undeveloped that an overnight stay was required. Neither the Camphouse nor the Cottage will be impacted by the proposed works, but they are an important part of the greater North Egmont visitor complex and are critical to understanding the heritage value of both the individual parts of the experience, and the overall complex.



Figure 6: 1902 photograph of the cottage with the Camphouse in the background. Cottage is noted as “new” (Auckland Libraries AWNS-19020410-08-04).



Figure 7: 1909 photograph of the cottage near the Camphouse (Auckland Libraries: AWNS-19090923-07-02).



Figure 8: 1923 painting by Bernard Aris showing the cottage and the Camphouse (Puke Ariki: A70.069).

3.4. Survey Plans and Aerial Photographs

A range of historical survey plans are available covering the visitors centre site, both prior to and subsequent to visitors' centre developments. A summary of the information discussed below is included in Figure 9, organised by survey plan year.

The very earliest survey plans of the Egmont National Park date detail the tourist track to the summit, as well as the Mountain House, known today as the Camphouse, such as in the 1904 roll plan (Figure 10). Earlier, in 1900 (Figure 11), the Camphouse is referred to as "Egmont House", a name that would later be applied to the Hostel. In the 1925 roll plan (Figure 12) the Hostel had not yet been added, despite having been open for 13 years at that time. By 1934 (Figure 13) both the Camphouse (referred to as the "Old House") and the North Egmont Hostel are detailed. The notation "P.O" on this plan probably denotes the Point of Origin of the survey, but could refer to Post Office, as this was approximately the location of a telephone hut.

The 1945 roll plan (Figure 14) details the Hostel as "North Egmont House", and includes the locations of the Camphouse, cottages, and other buildings. By this point the Hostel had taken the name "Egmont House", rather than the Camphouse which held it previously.

Note that very early survey plans of the maunga detail some Māori activity, particularly known access tracks to the mountain, and the locations of kokowai deposits (Figure 14). In the 1879 roll plan (Figure 15) only one track is detailed up the maunga, leading from the end of Mangorei Road, up to Bells Falls in the Pouakai Ranges. Historical survey plans do not indicate significant Māori use of this specific area; however, this is not in itself evidence of a lack of Māori presence at the site. Tangata whenua may hold further information about their use of the maunga.

Beyond the general roll plans covering the park, specific survey plans detail the development of the area that would eventually become the hostel. The 1911 plan SO 4012 (Figure 16) details the immediate area of the future Hostel, at the time that Frank Messenger was preparing for it to be built. Within a large clearing the location of the future hostel is noted as "New House". The first plan to detail the new hostel is in 1925 (Figure 17), when the original hostel footprint is detailed, as well as numerous other buildings in the area, including the Camphouse, cottages, and toilet blocks. This is the only plan to specifically detail a croquet lawn at the front of the hostel, an interesting feature that was no longer noted in 1953 (Figure 18), when a new tennis court is noted to the east of the croquet lawn. At this point the hostel is referred to as the "North Egmont Motor Hostel". Multiple carparks had been established at this time. The tennis courts were noted as disused just six years later in 1959 (Figure 19).

Early aerial photographs of the National Park area are limited, with the only relevant sets being from 1965 (Figure 20) prior to the demolition of the hostel, and 1982 (Figure 21) after the demolition. Due to the difficulties of flying aerial photograph across a steep landscape like Mt Taranaki, these flights are of low resolution and not helpful for showing any features not otherwise detailed in early survey plans.

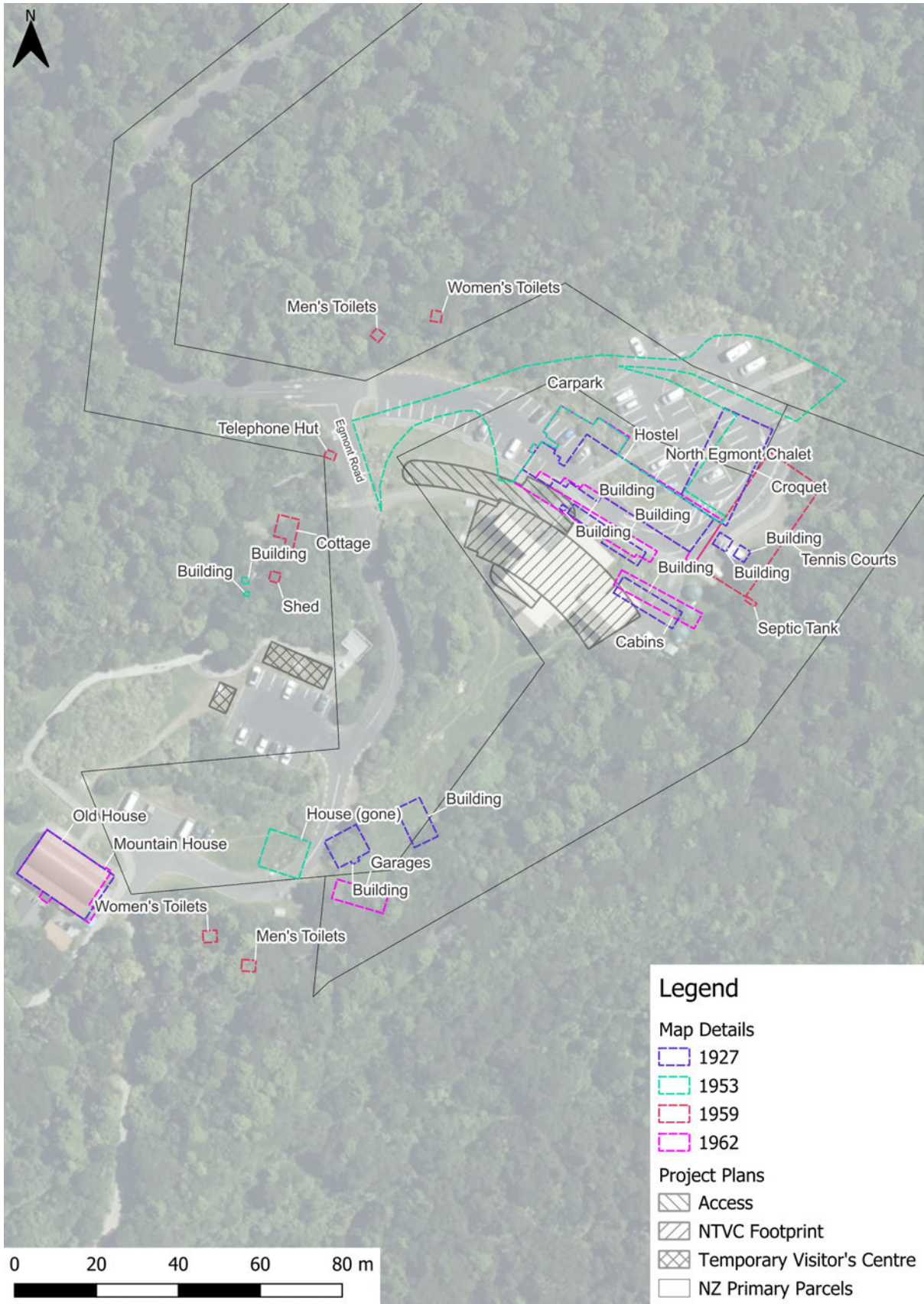


Figure 9: Plan summarising the information contained in the survey plans discussed below. Note that variable survey plan accuracy has been attempted to be accounted for in this plan.

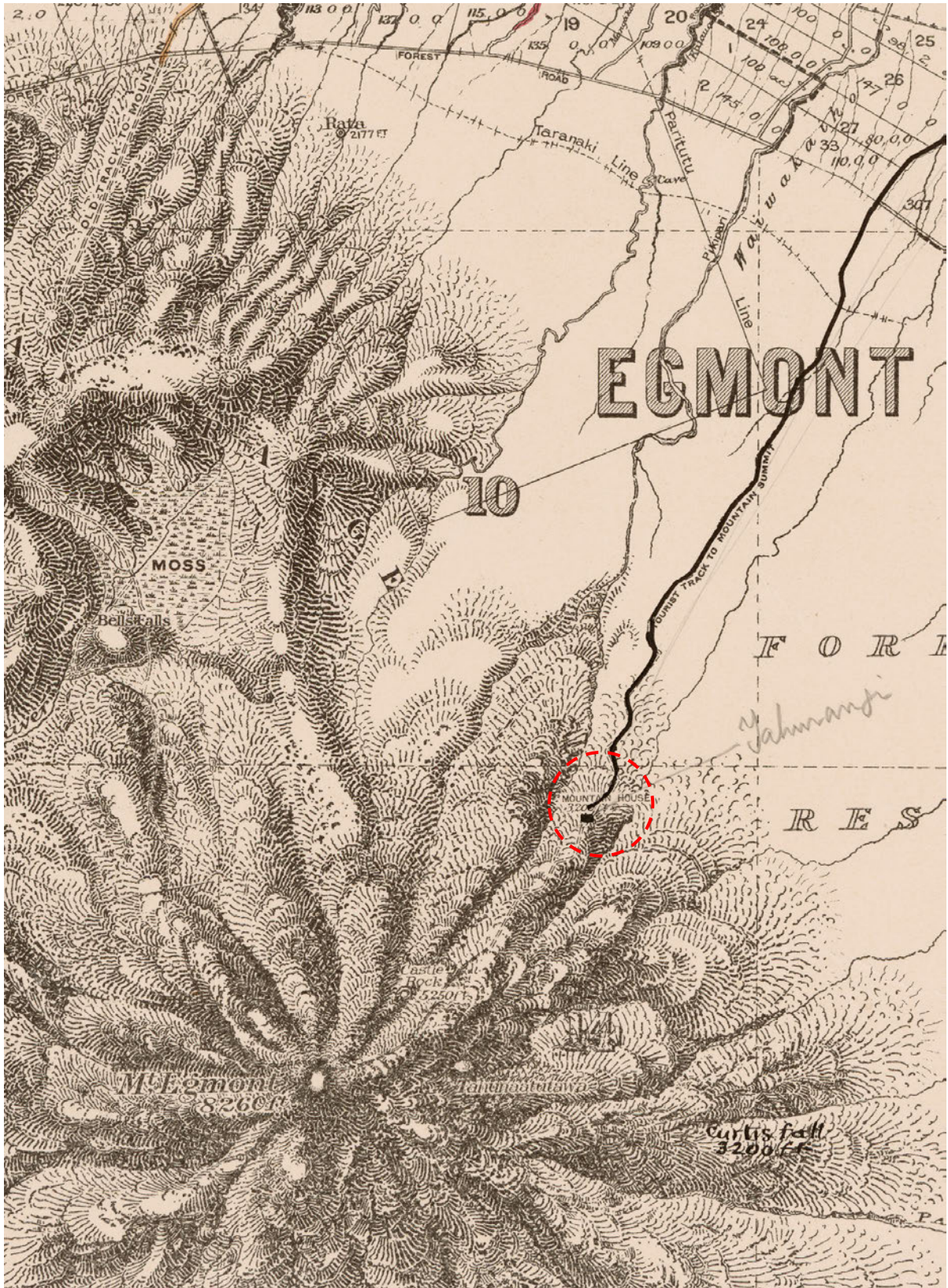


Figure 10: Detail of 1904 roll plan showing the tourist track to the Mountain House (Camphouse – indicated in red) and the summit.



Figure 11: Detail of 1900 roll plan noting the Camphouse as “Egmont House”, indicated in red.

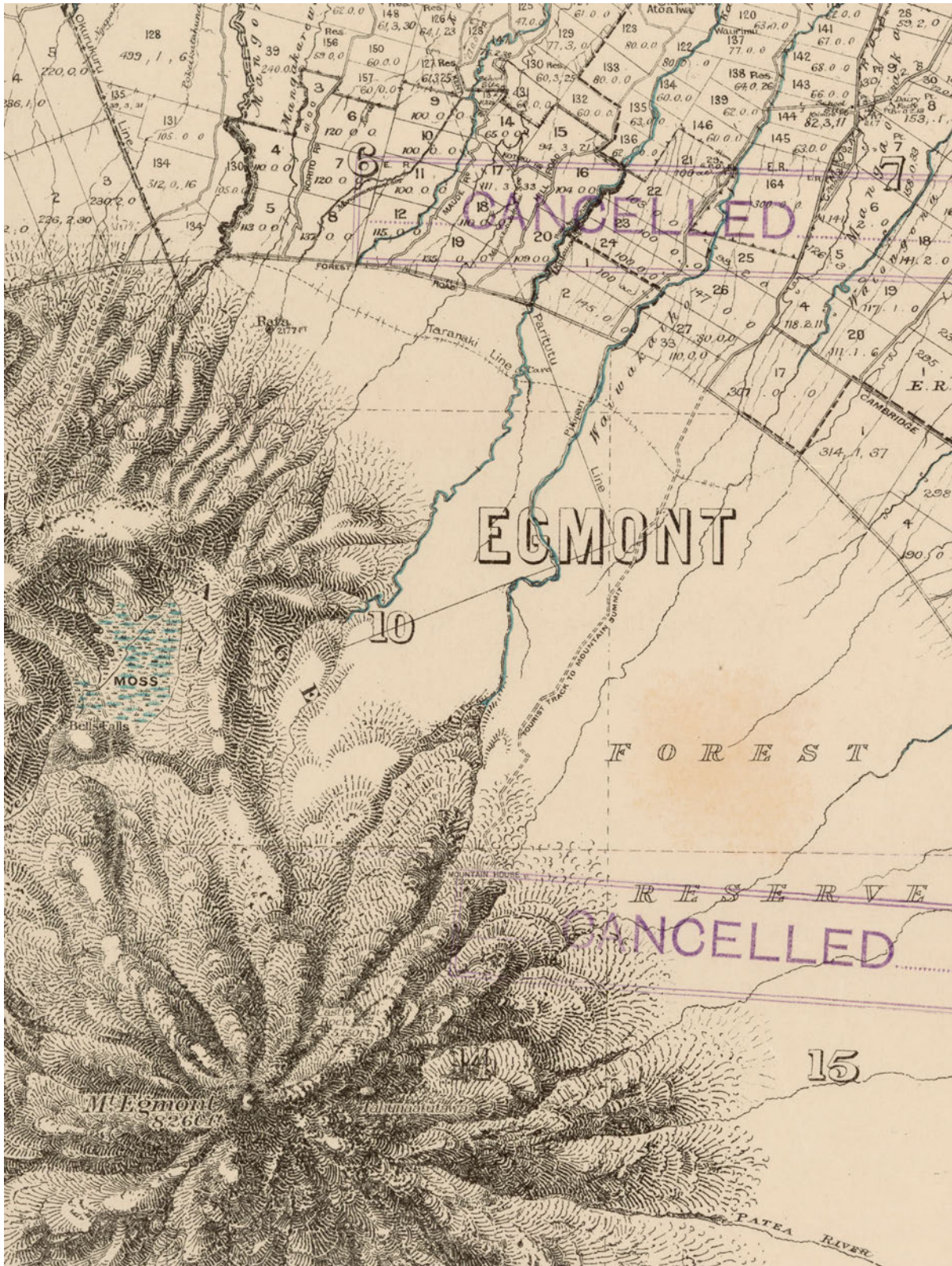


Figure 12: Detail of 1925 roll plan showing the tourist track to the Mountain House (Camphouse) and the summit.

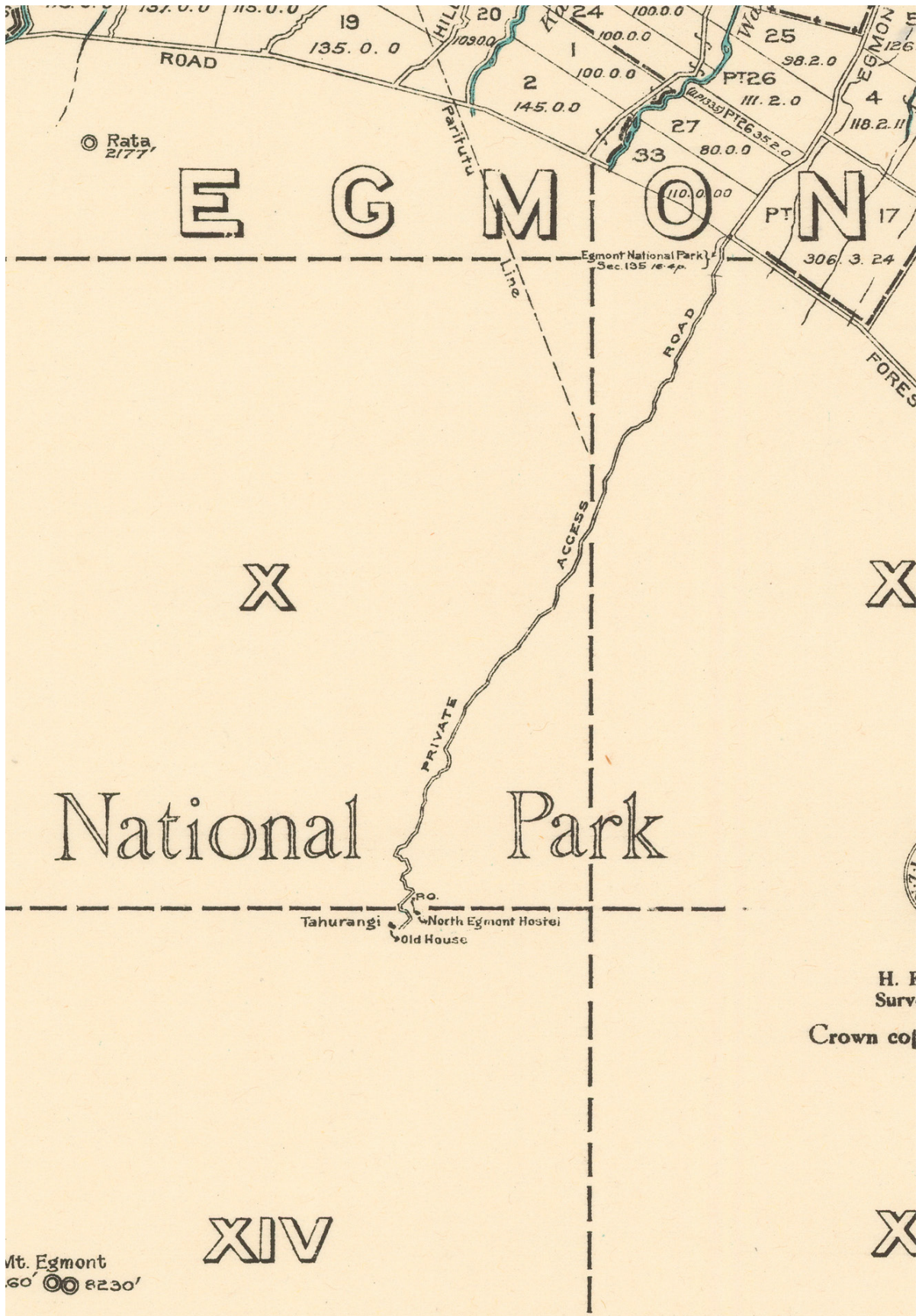


Figure 13: Detail of 1934 roll plan showing the Old House (Camphouse), North Egmont Hostel, an P.O.

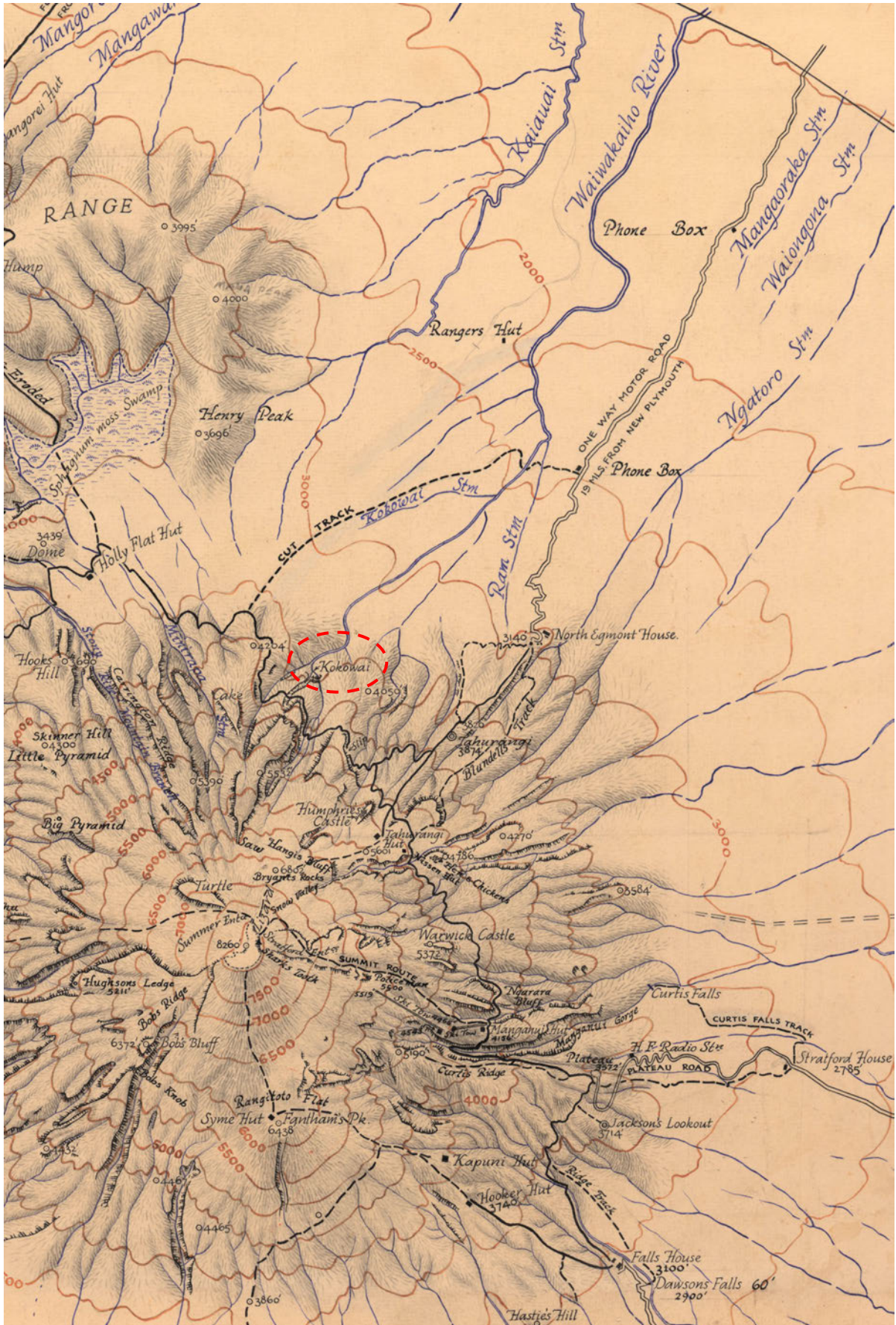


Figure 14: Detail of 1945 roll plan, showing the North Egmont House and associated buildings. Kokowai is indicated in red.

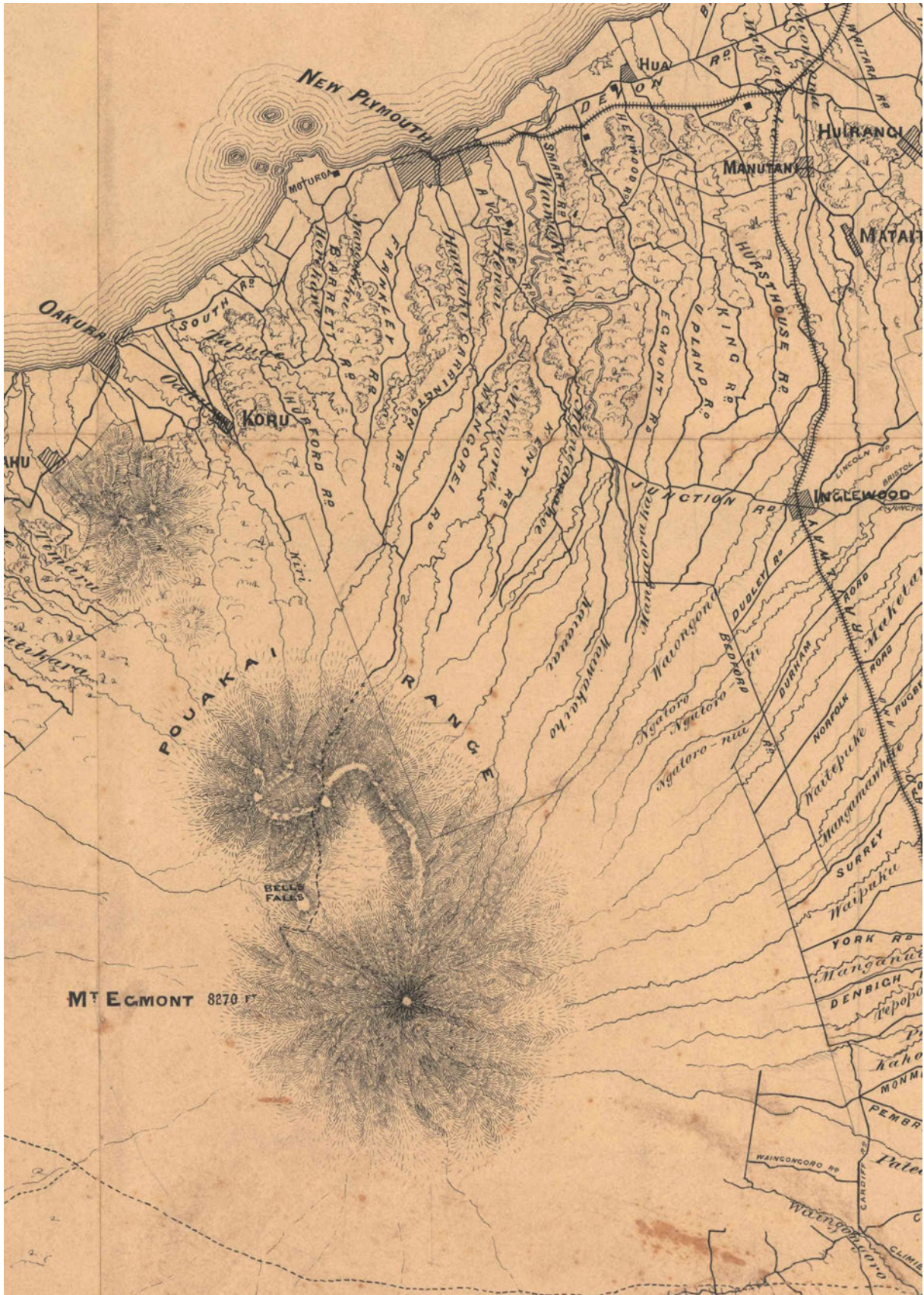


Figure 15: Detail of 1879 roll plan, showing an existing track to Bells Falls.

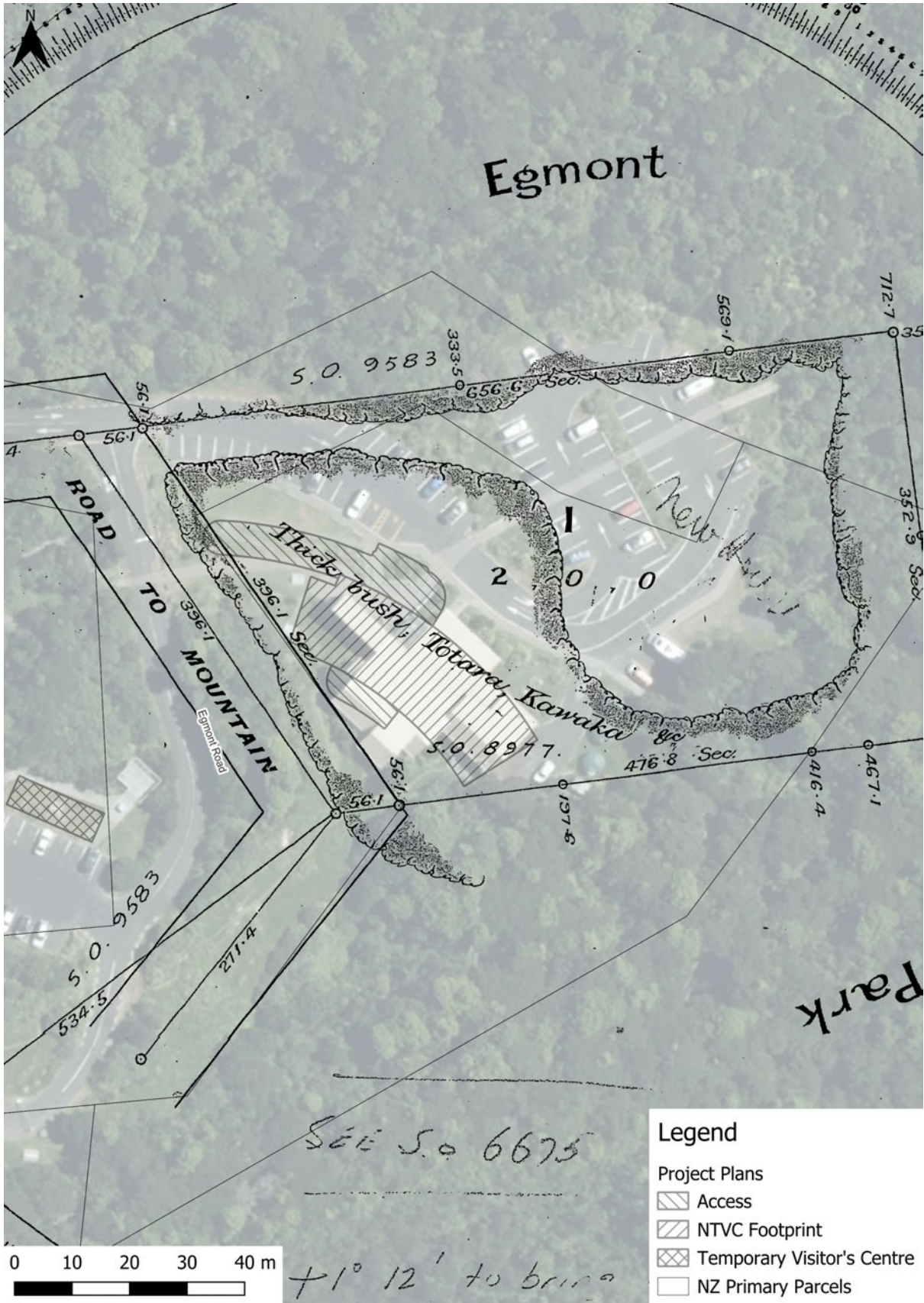


Figure 16: Detail of SO 4012 (1911) showing the clearing in which the Hostel would be built, with "New House" noted.



Figure 17: Detail of SO 6675 (1925) showing the new hostel, croquet lawn, Camphouse (Old House), cottage, and other buildings.

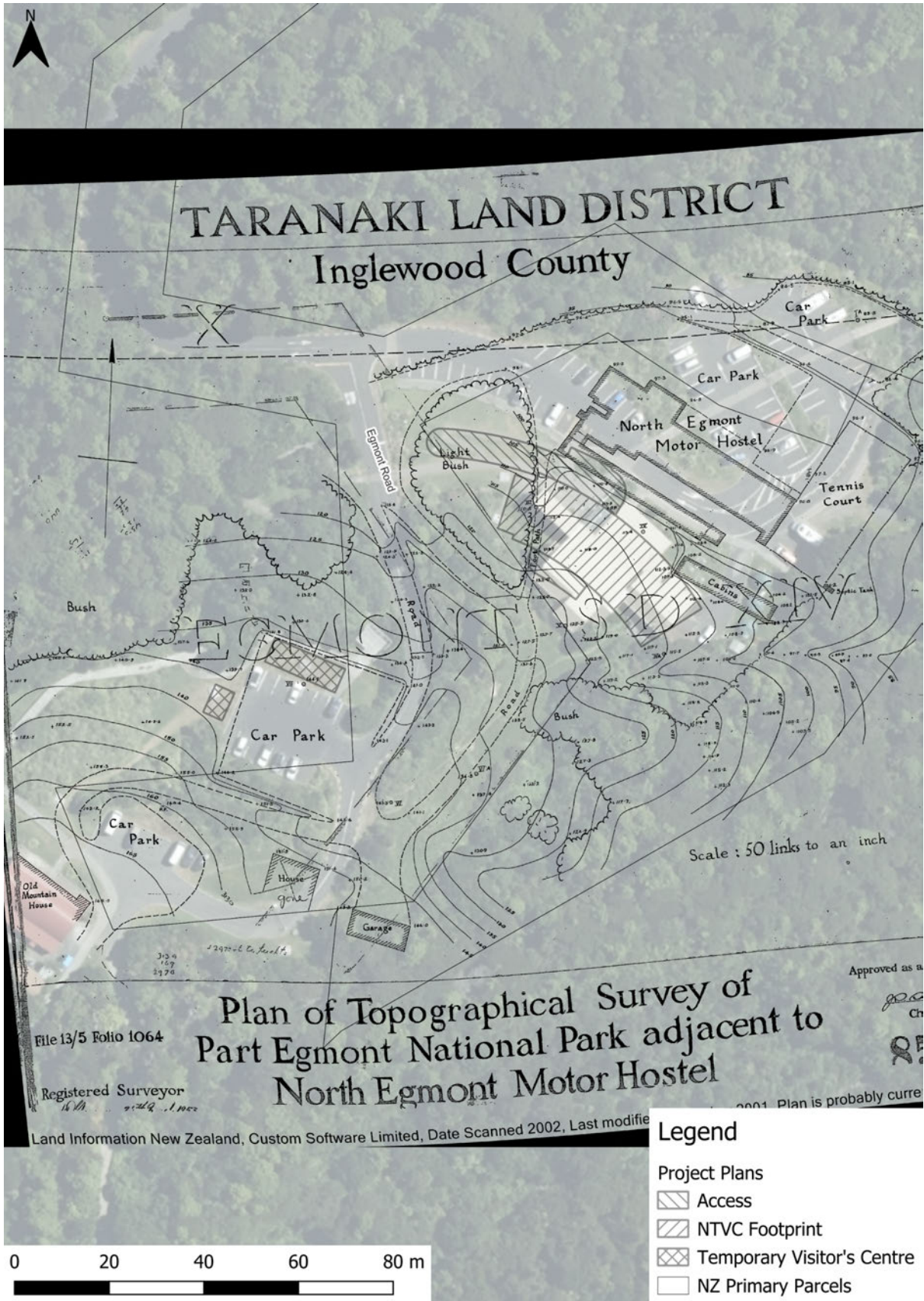


Figure 18: Detail of SO 8588 (1953), showing the "North Egmont Motor Hostel", Tennis Court, Car Park, Cabins, and other buildings.

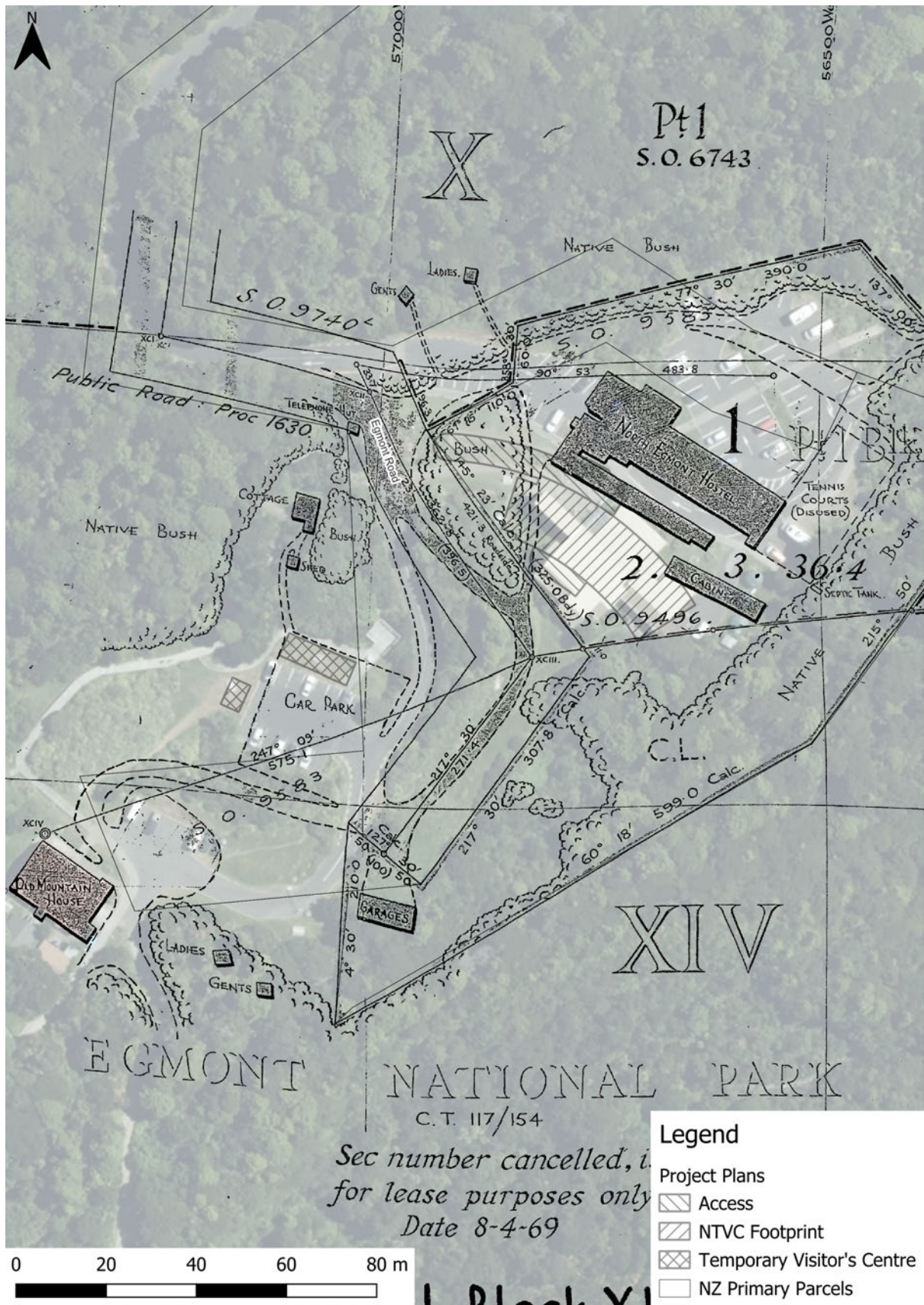


Figure 19: Detail of SO 9740 (1959), detailing the North Egmont Hostel, cabins, and discussed tennis courts.



Figure 20: Detail of 1965 aerial photograph showing the NTVC complex.



Figure 21: Detail of 1982 aerial photograph showing the NTVC complex.

4. Heritage Assessment

The assessment of the heritage values of the North Egmont Hostel considers both the building as it was, the remnants of the building as they are today, and the historical significance of the building – its place within the cultural history of its community. The historical significance of the North Egmont Hostel begins with its designer, the architect Frank Messenger.

4.1. Frank Messenger

The North Egmont Hostel was designed by Frank Messenger, and built by Boon Brothers Ltd, a prominent local construction company, in 1912.

Frank Messenger was one of Taranaki's most significant and prolific architects, and his design touch is seen in a vast number of historically significant buildings in Taranaki. Francis (Frank) John Messenger was born on 4th July 1865 to William and Arabella Messenger. William was the oldest son (and second child) of William and Mary Messenger, who had immigrated to New Plymouth from London in 1853 (Pritchard 1994, pp. 6–10).

Frank was born into the immediate post-war environment and became an enthusiastic rifleman and held the rank of Lieutenant in the Taranaki Guards (ibid. p. 7). He was educated at New Plymouth and served with the architect H.J.T Edmonds for four years, who was notable for the three-storey wooden convent for the Sisters of our Lady of Missions, built in 1884.

Messenger went to Melbourne, Australia in 1883, working for the architectural firm Oakden and Kemp for ten years, continuing to engage in his rifleman pursuits alongside his employment. He married his second cousin Lucie Messenger on 14 March 1889, in Melbourne. They returned to New Plymouth in 1893, and Frank started his own architecture practice (Figure 22), designing many significant commercial buildings, church buildings and residences in New Plymouth and the wider district. From 1909 some of his work was in collaboration (as the firm Percival and Messenger) with Mr William Edward Percival, and architect and Mayor of Inglewood, an affiliation that lasted until c.1914.

In 1917 he entered partnership with the local architect Mr H.V.S Griffith, with Mr W. Taylor joining the partnership in 1920. After the dissolution of the partnership, Messenger and Taylor were partners until Messenger's death on 11 October 1945, at the age of eighty.

Frank trained as an architect through design observation, imitation and development (ibid. p. 5). He had a career as an architect in Taranaki over 66 years from 1879-1945, leaving a lasting impact on the architecture of the region, designing hospitals, schools, churches, and business buildings. He was a very detail-oriented architect, with attention paid to the smallest of design elements, which is highlighted in many of his surviving works. At least 315 buildings in Taranaki were designed either by Messenger himself, or in partnership (ibid.). Ultimately Messenger was a small-town architect, but he had an oversized contribution to that "small town".

As New Plymouth develops, more and more of Messenger's buildings are being destroyed, and his imprint on the architectural landscape of Taranaki is being lost, with the remaining evidence of his work becoming increasingly more critical to preserve. Some of the most notable buildings designed by Messenger include:

- St Mary's Church North Transept, Lady Chapel, and Peace Hall
- New Plymouth Fire Station
- Taranaki Jockey Club

- Carnegie Library and Museum (King Street), now part of Puke Ariki
- Inglewood Town Hall
- New Plymouth High School Boarding House
- New Plymouth Boys High School Carrington House
- St Johns Anglican Church, Kaimata
- St Andrews Church, Inglewood
- Cenotaph
- Sisters of our Lady of Missions
- Barrett St Hospital Nurses Home
- New Plymouth Girls High School New School

FRANK MESSENGER,
ARCHITECT.

DEVON STREET, NEW PLYMOUTH,

.....189

Dear Sir,—

Having decided to settle in New Plymouth and practise my profession as an Architect, I hope to receive a fair share of public patronage.

I beg to state that I am an old resident of Taranaki, and served my time with Mr. H. J. T. Edmonds, Architect, late of this town. Since then I have been for eight years with Messrs. Oakden and Kemp, of Melbourne, Architects and Surveyors (the last three years as their Chief Draughtsman), where I have had considerable experience of all classes of work.

Should you at any time contemplate building, I shall be pleased to receive the favour of your support.

Yours faithfully,

FRANK MESSENGER.

Figure 22: Frank Messenger's introductory note.

4.2. Bungalow Design

The overall design language utilised by Messenger for the North Egmont Chalet was a localised spin on the Californian Bungalow, an architectural style imported from America. By 1910 the exuberant, formal, laced villa gave way to the more casual designs of the bungalow. These bungalows represented a more casual approach to architecture, in contrast to the formality of the villa. Although the bungalow style was a direct import from America, the style grew from various sources including Japan, India and Spain (Salmond 1986, p. 186). By 1918 no builders were advertising new houses in the villa style in New Zealand, so it is not surprising that Messenger chose the emerging style of the bungalow for the Chalet.

In New Zealand the “bungalow style” was more of a buzzword than a formal style, initially representing “not villa” more than any particular style (ibid. p. 187), and in the 1910s many bungalows were really just villas with bungalow trimmings. This led to a style of house that was transitional – with the awkwardness of a villa, but the fresher style of a bungalow.

The bungalow design language brought wide eaves, deep porches, heavy beams and thick tapered piers, massive chimneys, and shingles for the walls. The New Zealand take included bow and bay windows, casement-and-fanlight windows, corrugated iron roofs and weatherboard walls (ibid. p. 189). The defining feature of the style was the roof. Until 1925 the gable roof was typical, with a dominant single span and secondary roofs covering porches on all sides. With more complicated floor plans the roof could become very fragmented, with the main roof lost in a sea of bargeboards and ridges. Typically, the bungalow style was simply finished, but some designs had flourishes of decoration, such as scalloped bargeboards.

Porch spans were often very wide, with arches being uncommon for the style internationally, but more frequently utilised within a New Zealand context. Fireplaces moved to the outer walls from the villa's more central placement. Although the roof was the dominant variation from the villas that came before, the design and position of windows and doors was also a marked difference from what came before. More variation in window size was adopted, with casement-fanlight combinations introduced, often in great numbers along a wall, to introduce more light into rooms (ibid. p. 194). The bay window of the villa remained in bungalows, eventually evolving into curved bow windows, protruding from the walls and corners of the building.

By 1910, kauri, the dominant building material of villas, had become scarce due to the bulk of it being exported to Australia, and so other native timbers began to be harvested and milled in greater volumes. The American bungalows were built with Oregon pine (Douglas fir), cedar and redwood, and large shipments of exotic timbers started to flood into New Zealand, particularly Oregon pine and cedar. By 1927 native timbers were being milled enough to replace the imported timbers, and construction moved to timbers such as rimu, matai and pūriri. It is unclear what timber was used to construct the Chalet, but it was most likely a mixture of rimu, matai and some rata, based on other buildings designed by Messenger, who was always very specific on which materials should be used where.

Building foundations adapted to the new design changes also. Glazed ceramic piles started to replace totara or pūriri house blocks from 1910 and concrete piles became cheap and commonplace from 1920, although wooden foundations remained common throughout the 1920s (ibid. pp. 202–3). Solid concrete foundations became critical to support stucco finishes, lest cracking occur with foundation movement.

Average bungalow wall heights dropped from the high ceilings of the early transitional bungalows down to approximately 2.75m, and the pitch of the roof fell from the early bungalow's typical 30° to between 15° - 20°. Rafter spacings also increased. In contrast to their American siblings, the weatherboard remained the dominant wall covering in New Zealand bungalows, as it had been for villas, however from 1920 the heavy boxed corner gave way to the more subtle mitred corner, protected with a metal soaker, which had been invented in American in 1914.

Bungalows were generally sheet lined internally, and sometimes externally, which was a cheap, self-finished and low maintenance option as timber became scarcer and more expensive. These linings included asbestos cement sheets, initially imported from England under the "Poilite" brand, and later from Australia as "Fibrolite". These boards were 5mm thick, and 0.45 – 1.2m wide and were easily cut and nailed.

Stucco became common in the bungalow style. While in America this cement mix was applied over brick, in New Zealand it was commonly applied directly over sheet materials such as asbestos cement board, which was an effective water proofer (ibid. pp. 204–5). Gibraltar sheeting was also used as a stucco backer, being a gypsum board backed with paper, the namesake of the modern "Gib" board. These boards were coated in bitumen before the stucco was applied.

While in the dry Californian climate, bungalow roofs were typically covered in cedar shingles, this was uncommon in New Zealand, requiring a steeper roof pitch to remain watertight. Instead, corrugated iron was more commonly used, allowing the pitch to remain true to the Californian low pitch style. Asbestos cement or slate tiles were also sometimes used.

4.3. North Egmont Hostel Design

The style of the North Egmont Hostel was distinctly bungalow, but it was not entirely typical, partly due to its size and function. Evidence of the design and construction of the chalet comes in two forms. In 1911 a newspaper article (Figure 29) details Messenger's plans for the construction of the chalet. It is well known that Messenger was a stickler for detail, and several photographs exist showing the hostel which suggest that the plans were faithfully executed.

The details of the planned design of the hostel include:

- One storey building in the bungalow style.
- 125ft long and 40ft deep.
- Concrete walls.
 - Rough cast exterior.
 - Plastered interior.
- Front elevation including bold gables at either end.
 - Right gable containing a dining room (28ft 6in by 22ft 6 inches).
 - Left gable containing a smoke room and social room (each 17ft 6in by 14ft).
 - Both sides accessible from the veranda through side doors.
- 8ft wide veranda spans between the gables, with a concrete floor.
- Main entrance at the centre of the veranda, covered with an ornamental gable.
- Main entrance opened to a hall 8ft wide.
 - Leads to a corridor 4ft 6in wide, running the length of the building.
- Small manager's office at the rear of the building.
- Three bedrooms on either side of the hall.

- Two double rooms and four singles.
- Eight single bedrooms on the southern side of the corridor, with two bathrooms.
- At the rear of the dining room:
 - Large kitchen with range.
 - Store
 - Scullery
 - Back porch.
- Large fireplaces in dining rooms, smokeroom, and social room.
- Dining room ceiling covered and beamed, in the bungalow style.

The external elements describe were all faithfully executed in the final build, as shown in photographs from its early years. The only photographs able to be accessed for this assessment are of the front elevation of the hostel, and due to the width of the hostel compared to its surroundings, most photographs only include part of the frontage, as the photographer was likely unable to back far enough away to capture the entirety of the frontage.

The highest quality early photograph is from the 1910s, probably not long after construction (Figure 23). The position of the hostel beneath Mt Taranaki is striking, and it is clear that careful consideration was given to its placement and orientation by Messenger. The triangular gables of the bungalow style are an architectural mimic of the imposing, triangular Mt Taranaki in the background of the hostel – this is strikingly apparent in Figure 23. It is almost a certainty that it was the intention of Messenger that the eye was drawn from the hostel to the maunga.

The carpark, which is dirt or gravel like the access track at the time, is edged by a raised stone foundation, likely designed to make exiting cars easier for visitors, bringing the floor of the car level with the platform. The stone turned circle in the centre is similarly designed for being able to be driven to and disembarked onto. This would have been helpful if the carpark was muddy, or snow covered. The carpark was just a turning circle, as space was restricted by the drop-off slope immediately outside the carpark area (Figure 24). The central turning circle became overgrown with vegetation in later photographs (Figure 25).

The concrete construction of the hostel is evident, and although it is not clear in most of the c.1910s photograph, the rough exterior finish planned by Messenger is visible in the shadows of the veranda.

The flat gable end siding was accented with dark wooden stripe half-timbering, creating a striking effect that was not typical in New Zealand bungalow designs but was not uncommon. The gable end of the central entrance is an unusual design of vertical and horizontal half-timbering, topped with wooden shingles (Figure 25). Each of the gable ends is topped with a gooseneck finial, an atypical design choice, clearly specified by Messenger. By 1923 a flagpole had been erected replacing at least the main entrance gable finial (Figure 26). Both gables at either end of the building are partial double gables.

The roof was corrugated iron, in short run sheets (two sheets for the main roof and another for the veranda). The roof pitch was 30°, typical for early bungalow design, but steeper than the later 15° - 20°. This was also likely a design choice to account for occasional snow accumulation.

The veranda features a shallow arch, which was a relatively common feature for the bungalow style. It was supported by lightly tapered support posts, again typical of the early bungalow, and not as flamboyantly stout as later bungalow designs.

Windows in the side areas appear to be unequal sized sash windows with the shorter upper window divided into 12 squares. Under the veranda, double hung sash windows reminiscent of the old villa style are present, in contrast with the windows of the wings. Notably no casement windows seem to have been used.

The North Egmont Hostel is an interesting piece of architecture, created by an architect with great technical skill, during a period of architectural transition. Although distinctly bungalow in form, it still retained some quirky references to the villas of a decade prior. The abundant double hung sash windows are almost a love letter to the past, drafted by Messenger. The choice of half-timbering in the unusual split double gable is an unusual choice, but this type of experimentation is typical of the period, where the bungalow style was rapidly transforming from the villas of the past, to the sometimes eclectically jumbled masterpieces that would come.

Messenger was designing the hostel, most likely, in 1910, the tail end of the villa period, and the resulting designing is both extravagantly transitional, and yet cohesive within itself. Messenger had not discarded the villa completely yet, there are still traces of the villas DNA in the hostel's windows, finials, and to a degree the roof, however he was clearly embracing the Californian bungalow with fervour. The building techniques are distinctly bungalow, and for all intents and purposes it is bungalow, despite being a public building, rather than a residence.

The hostel represents an important inflection point in New Zealand's architectural history. The carefully manicured designs of English villas were being discarded for more practical designs from the new world. New construction techniques allowed for this transition, and in New Plymouth, Messenger appears to have been at the forefront of it.

Although much of the hostel is gone, demolished within living memory, it is expected that at least some of the foundation remain. The heavy concrete walls of the hostel would have had large concrete foundations, which are expected to be present, either as concrete footprint, or as a visible earthen footprint where the concrete was removed during demolition. Dave Rogers, of the Department of Conservation, has noted that he observed the concrete foundations being buried under the modern carparks during the Hostel's demolition in 1977.

No extensive earthworks have taken place within the footprint of the original hostel, so there is every reason to believe that at least some of the hostel may be recoverable through archaeological investigation. In addition to the footprint of the hotel, some evidence of the following may remain underneath the carparks (see Figure 9, page 19):

- The croquet area noted in 1925.
- The tennis courts noted between 1953-1959.
- Two buildings noted on survey plans at the rear of the hostel, one of which is noted as cabins. These would be located under the proposed centre's footprint.

4.4. North Egmont Hostel Impact

The North Egmont Hostel holds a relatively significant place in the Taranaki region. It formed a critical part of the North Egmont visitor experience up until its demolition in 1977 and replacement with the existing visitor's centre. Although the Camphouse and cottages came before it, the establishment of the Hostel provided a premium visitor experience beyond what the spartan Camphouse and cottages provided. This allowed a broader range of visitors to comfortably visit Mt Taranaki, increasing park visitor numbers significantly.

Hostel visitors were drawn to the natural beauty of the park, with a brochure from the 1920s extolling the nature walks and features of botanical interest within walking distance of the hostel (Appendix 2: Figure 39). This brochure notes:

As things are at present, people who lack the genius of the independent explorer frequently stay at the mountain for a few days and come away without having seen a quarter of the beautiful and interesting objects which lie within an hour's stroll of the hostel.

The establishment of the Hostel, and subsequent increased tourism, led directly to the 1929 tar sealing of the access road, which led to a flood of tourism into the park. Ironically the Hostel became victim to its own success, as the development of the road meant that tourists no longer needed to stay at the hostel overnight to experience the park and day trips became commonplace. Although it took another 50 years, this was ultimately what led to the demise of the Hostel – it was a beautiful but built for another time. A modern visitor centre experience catering to day-trippers was a more suitable establishment for this location, with any overnight stays catered for with the basic facilities of the Camphouse.

The Visitors' Centre complex of today owes much to those buildings that came before it, which opened the park to the public. The Hostel was part of this push to bring people to the park, making it a significant aspect of the tourism of Taranaki.



Figure 23: c.1910s photograph of the North Egmont Hostel (ATL: PA-Group-00719).



Figure 24: c.1910s photograph of the North Egmont Hostel, showing the entirety of the front elevation (Hocken: E5577/20).



Figure 25: 1914 photograph of the main entrance to the North Egmont Hostel (Auckland Libraries: 499-ALB116F-01-03)



Figure 26: c.1923 photograph of the North Egmont Hostel, showing a flagpole erected on the central gable front (Puke Ariki: WD.009803).



Figure 27: Undated photograph of the chalet, probably later in its life, showing changes to the area in front of the building (Hocken: E5582/1)

4.5. Heritage Values

Although guidelines exist for the investigation, recording and heritage assessment of built structures (HNZPT 2018), these are not particularly relevant now that the structure has been demolished and entirely covered over with carpark. As such it is best examined as an archaeological site.

HNZPT have established criteria to determine the archaeological (and other) values of heritage sites that may be affected by the development (HNZPT 2019, pp. 9–10), however Waka Kotahi provides standard criteria for assessing Historic heritage (NZTA 2015, pp. 15–16), which expands upon that provided by HNZPT and are more suitable for historic heritage sites like the North Egmont Hostel, and thus this criterion is implemented in this report (Table 2).

The North Egmont Hostel has been assessed as having high heritage value in its original state, due primarily to it being the work of Frank Messenger, and forming such a critical role in the development of the tourism industry of Taranaki and opening the maunga to a wider audience of public. The development of the modern road to the NTVC can be directly traced to the requirements of the North Egmont Hostel.

Although the foundations of the hostel are not a protected archaeological site under the HNZPTA, due to being post-1900, the original building meets the criteria of significant historic heritage under the RMA(s2), which defines historic heritage as those natural and physical resources that contribute to an understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures, derived from archaeological, architectural, cultural, historic, scientific, or technological qualities.

The Conservation Act also requires Te Papa Atawhai to manage, for conservation purposes, historic heritage on managed lands, with no limit on the age of the heritage. Under the most recent Management Plan for the park, the objective of Heritage Protection at the park is “to preserve in perpetuity and restore where possible the ecological systems, landscape, wilderness, natural, cultural and historic features of Egmont National Park” (Department of Conservation 2002, p. 43). The management plan also notes “The Department is required by section 4 (2) (c) of the National Parks Act 1980 to preserve as far as possible sites and objects of archaeological and historic interest. The [Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014] and the [Protected Objects Act] 1975 must also be taken into account” (ibid. p. 62).

The remnants of the hostel still retain moderate historic heritage value, and investigation through archaeological techniques could provide valuable insights into the hostel and its operations.

Table 2: Assessment of Historic Heritage values of the North Egmont Hostel / Chalet.

| Assessment Criteria | Detail |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Archaeological Information Potential | Medium. The most likely aspects of the hostel that may have survived are the foundations, or the footprint of them, which are known to have been buried underneath the modern carparks. Some artefactual material associated with the use of the hotel may also be recoverable. |
| Architecture | The hostel present exceptional architectural values. It was the creation of a regionally significant architect, at an inflection point in architectural design in which the English villa style designs were giving way to the newer bungalow designs. The hostel was a transitional design, having not discarded the villa completely, and not completely embraced what the bungalow would become. |
| Technology and Engineering | The transitional bungalow period was driven, in part, by advancements in building technology, imported from America and adapted by builders and architects to meet the design challenges of the unique New Zealand environment. |
| Scientific | No relevant values. |
| Rarity | The building was one of over 300 buildings designed by Frank Messenger but is relatively uncommon in its transitional form. |
| Representativeness | The hostel was a good example of the transitional period of bungalow design but is atypical due its scale. |
| Integrity | The site likely retains little to no integrity. |
| Vulnerability | Nearly the entirety of the hostel is likely destroyed, but any remaining evidence will almost certainly be destroyed by the proposed developments. |
| Context or Group | The site is part of the North Egmont visitor area, which includes the Camphouse (P20/132) as well as numerous other earlier buildings that have been destroyed. |
| People | The hostel was designed by the regionally significant architect Frank Messenger. |
| Events | No relevant values, beyond having been opened and visited by several significant people. |
| Patterns | The hostel is strongly associated with patterns of tourism, which had their seeds in the early track to the summit, then the Camphouse and cottage, reaching an apex with the hostel. Since the hostel, tourism within the park has shifted to be more commonly day-tripping, so the hostel forms a bridge between the older tourism patterns and the new. |
| Identity | The hostel was the primary face of national park tourism until it was replaced by the modern NTVC. |
| Public Esteem | The architectural values of the hostel were probably not significantly recognised during its lifetime but are increasingly relevant as more of Messenger's buildings are destroyed across the region. |
| Commemorative | No relevant values. |
| Education | No relevant values. |
| Tangata Whenua | No relevant values. |
| Statutory Recognition | The entire visitors' centre complex is within the Egmont National Park, significant to multiple iwi. |

5. Conclusions

The North Egmont Hostel presents significant architectural, cultural, and historic values. It was the work of a regionally significant architect, Frank Messenger, an architect who had an oversized impact on the region. This legacy is rapidly declining, as so many of his buildings are being demolished across the Taranaki. Although the North Egmont Hostel was never one of his most significant architectural achievements, it does represent an interesting inflection point within regional and national architecture. The hostel represents a gentle discarding of the old ways of the Victorian design school, and a tentative embracing of the architectural styles of the Californian bungalow, with those designs themselves impacted by Indian, Spanish, and Japanese designs.

A building without function has little significance, but the hostel was central to the burgeoning park tourism that started to develop through the 1920s and 1930s. The Hostel ushered in a new era of easy access to the maunga for the wider public, including those who could only stay for a day. It led directly to improvements to the access road that are still felt today. It is difficult to consider North Egmont tourism without the impact of the hostel.

While the hostel itself is gone, demolished in 1977, its legacy lives on in the NTVC, and evidence of it still lies beneath the modern carpark. Under the Resource Management Act significant historic heritage sites should be protected from inappropriate development, however in this instance the site has already been demolished, so consideration should be given to the management of the remaining evidence of the site, as a mitigation effort. This is particularly important given the responsibilities of DOC to manage heritage resources on public conservation land, under the Conservation Act.

The proposed works are expected to impact remaining subsurface evidence of the hostel. Despite not being afforded legal protection under the HNZPTA as an archaeological site, it would be appropriate that some investigation of the footprint of the hostel be investigated during earthworks, to help mitigate effects on historic heritage under the Conservation Act and Resource Management Act.

6. Recommendations

The following recommendations are made:

1. The North Egmont Chalet / Hostel should be considered historic heritage of moderate significance, under Section 6 of the Conservation Act and the Resource Management Act.
2. It is expected that the proposed works will negatively impact the remnants of the hostel, potentially removing the last traces of the site. This is primarily a risk if the carpark is modified.
3. An HNZPT General Authority to modify or destroy an archaeological site is not required for the proposed works to proceed, as the site is not a protected pre-1900 archaeological site. A precautionary authority could be obtained to cover any unexpected archaeological finds that could occur during works.
4. It is recommended that an archaeological investigation be undertaken during earthworks for the carpark and the new Visitors Centre, to help mitigate the effects on historic heritage under the Conservation Act and the Resource Management Act.
5. If any Māori heritage sites, features, taonga or koiwi are uncovered during any earthworks for the project, works in that location must cease and Iwi, the DOC representative and Project Manager must be notified immediately. Earthworks may not commence until all parties have agreed on the management of the find.
6. A copy of this report should be provided to all tangata whenua groups associated with the project area for feedback. No sites of significance to Māori have been identified in this report, but tangata whenua may be able to provide more insight.

The following recommendations have been provided by Te Papa Atawhai following review of this report, and are expected to be included as conditions on a concession document:

1. The project must follow the recommendations for the management of heritage as noted on page 46 of Geometria Ltd's Heritage Assessment North Taranaki Visitor's Centre Egmont National Park dated 15 August 2023.
2. An Archaeological Site Management Plan must be developed for the project which clearly describes the heritage requirements and the procedures which must be followed in the management of archaeological/heritage remains during the lifetime of the project. This plan must be referred to and supplied to the contractor(s) during the contractor induction (see below) and a copy kept in the site works office. The Archaeological Site Management Plan must be approved by Te Papa Atawhai before any earthworks commence.
3. Prior to any earthworks commencing for the project, all contractors undertaking earthworks must be inducted on the nature and extent of heritage in the project footprint and their obligations regarding its management as outlined in the Archaeological Site Management Plan. This induction must be undertaken by the project archaeologist and, if they believe it is required, a representative of the Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust.
4. All archaeological/heritage material recovered from the archaeological investigations for the project must be stored and then analysed following archaeological best practice so as the results of this work can be included in the final archaeological/heritage report.
5. A preliminary report on the archaeological work undertaken for the project must be completed and provided to Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust and the Te Papa Atawhai within 1 month of completion of the on-site archaeological work.


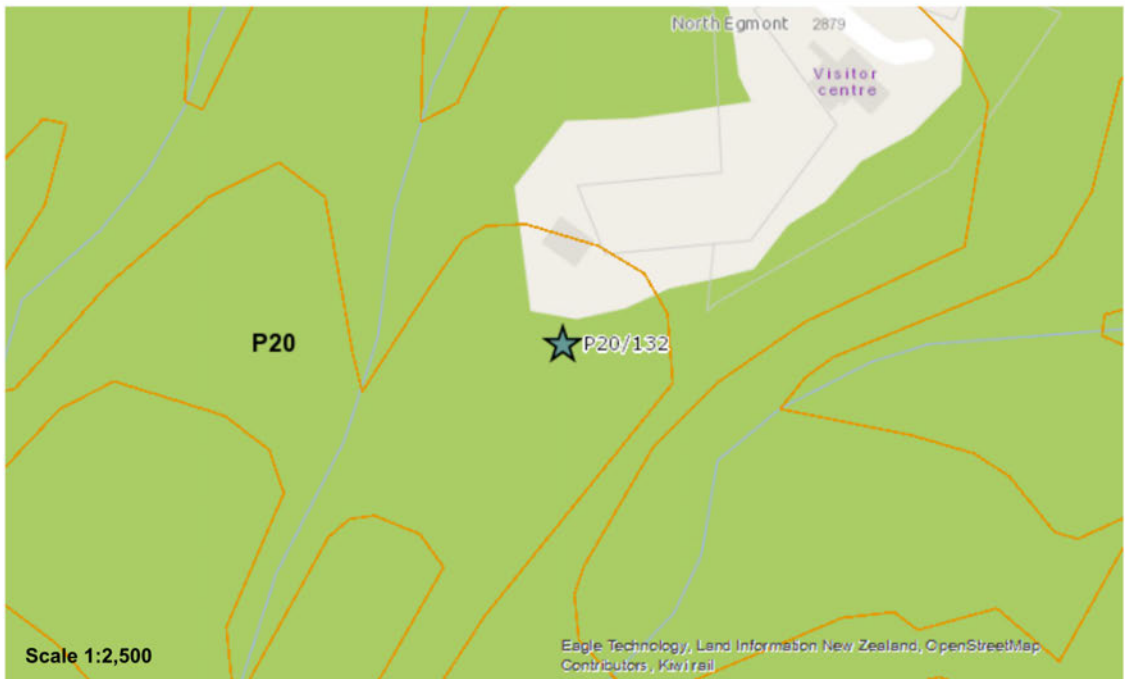
6. A final report on the archaeological work undertaken for the project must be completed and provided to Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust and the Te Papa Atawhai within 12 months of completion of the on-site archaeological work.
7. No archaeological/heritage material may be disposed of until discussions and agreements on their management between the Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust and the Te Papa Atawhai have been completed. The Senior Heritage Advisor for the Region must be included in these discussions.
8. All costs for the management of heritage for the project are the responsibility of the Te Kotahitanga o Te Atiawa Trust.

7. References

- Department of Conservation (2002). *Egmont National Park Management Plan*.
- HNZPT (2018). *Investigation and Recording of Buildings and Standing Structures*. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.
- HNZPT (2019). *Writing Archaeological Assessments*. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.
- NZTA (2015). *Historic Heritage Impact Assessment Guide for State Highway Projects*. March 2015, version 1, final. Wellington: NZ Transport Agency.
- Pritchard, I. (1994). *Frank Messenger, architect: the work of a New Plymouth architect*. New Plymouth [N.Z.]: I. Pritchard.
- Salmond, J. (1986). *Old New Zealand Houses 1800-1940*. Reed Publishing (NZ).

Appendix 1: NZAA Site Record Forms

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

| | |
|---|---|
|  <p>Site Record Form</p> | <p>NZAA SITE NUMBER: P20/132</p> <p>SITE TYPE: Historic - domestic</p> <p>SITE NAME(s):</p> <p>DATE RECORDED:</p> |
| <p>SITE COORDINATES (NZTM) Easting: 1694417 Northing: 5652540 Source: On Screen</p> | |
| <p>IMPERIAL SITE NUMBER: METRIC SITE NUMBER: P20/132</p> | |
|  <p>Scale 1:2,500</p> <p>Eagle Technology, Land Information New Zealand, OpenStreetMap Contributors, Kiwitrail</p> | |
| <p>Finding aids to the location of the site Approximately 100 metres upslope from the North Egmont Visitors Centre</p> | |
| <p>Brief description Barracks Hut. Shipped to NZ and erected on Marsland Hill in 1855, relocated to North Egmont in 1891.</p> | |
| <p>Recorded features Building - accomodation/ boarding house, Building - barracks</p> | |
| <p>Other sites associated with this site</p> | |

Printed by: [REDACTED]

07/08/2023

1 of 3

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

| SITE RECORD HISTORY | NZAA SITE NUMBER: P20/132 |
|--|---------------------------|
| <p>Site description Updated: 09/05/2013 - NZTM E1694417 N5652540 (On Screen). Site location revised using on screen grid reference from Google Earth. Amended default attributes. See also NZHPT Register No. 7233. Update by: Nester, Richard.</p> <p>Condition of the site</p> <p>Statement of condition</p> <p>Current land use:</p> <p>Threats:</p> | |

Printed by: 

07/08/2023


2 of 3

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SITE RECORD INVENTORY

NZAA SITE NUMBER: P20/132

Supporting documentation held in ArchSite

| | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION SITE RECORD FORM (NZMS260) | | NZAA METRIC SITE NUMBER <i>P20/132</i> | |
| NZMS 260 map number P20 | | DATE VISITED December 2003 onwards | |
| NZMS 260 map name Egmont | | SITE TYPE Accommodation House | |
| NZMS 260 map edition 1999 | | SITE NAME: MAORI n/a OTHER Camphouse | |
| Grid Reference Easting 2.6 0 4 4 0.0 | | Northing 6.2 1 4 2 0.0 | |
| 1. Aids to relocation of site | | | |
| At Egmont roadend approximately 100 metres uphill from North Egmont Visitor Centre at start of Holly Hut and Veronia Loop Tracks. Signposted. | | | |
| 2. State of site and possible future damage | | | |
| Restored and upgraded in 1999. Managed by Department of Conservation according to Conservation Plan. Site is in above average condition. Possible treats to site include fire and earthquake or volcanic eruption - although real both threats are regarded as being low. | | | |
| 3. Description of site (Supply full details, history, local environment, references, sketches, etc. If extra sheets are attached, include a summary here) | | | |
| <p>The building was designed by Captain Clarke of the Royal Engineers and prefabricated in Victoria, Australia, and shipped to New Zealand on the brig Alexander, arriving on July 4 1855. It was required to form part of the military barracks complex on Marsland Hill, New Plymouth, which housed troops during the Waitara Land Wars. In 1891 one of the barracks was sledged from Kaimiro almost halfway up Mount Egmont to what is today known as North Egmont, and since then has provided accommodation for generations of New Zealand and overseas tourists. It was known as Tahurangi House until 1913, the Old House until 1977, and finally the Camphouse. A more complete history is contained within the attached Department of Conservation Heritage Inventory (1995).</p> <p>Physical modifications to the structure are recorded in the Department of Conservation Conservation Plan (1997) [relevant section attached]. Structure was restored in 1999.</p> <p>New Zealand Historic Places Trust Category I Building (1995-7233)</p> <p>References: Cochran, Chris. 1995. Heritage Inventory: Camphouse, North Egmont, Taranaki. Wanganui: Department of Conservation. Burgess, Robyn and Chris Cochran. 1997. Conservation Plan: Camphouse, North Egmont, Taranaki. Wanganui: Department of Conservation. (additional references are provided in these two publications)</p> | | | |
| 4. Owner | Department of Conservation | Tenant/Manager | Gary Ogle |
| Address | C/- Stratford Area Office Pembroke Road Stratford. | Address | C/- North Egmont Visitor Centre |
| 5. Nature of information (hearsay, brief or extended visit, etc.) | | Number of visits. | |
| Photographs (reference numbers and where they are held) | | Department of Conservation file HHA-07-19-5002 and other associated files. | |
| Aerial photographs (reference numbers and clarity of site) | | | |
| 6. Reported by | Jonathan Welch | Filekeeper |  |
| Address | C/- Department of Conservation Wanganui. | Date | 4/4/2006 |
| 7. Key words | Barracks, Accommodation, New Zealand Wars | | |
| 8. New Zealand Register of Archaeological Sites (for office use) | | | |
| NZHPT Site Field Code | | | |
| Latitude S | | Longitude E | |
| Type of site | | Present condition & future danger of destruction | |
| Local environment today | | Security code | |
| Land classification | | Local body | |

Printed by: 

07/08/2023

3 of 3

Appendix 2: Historical Reference Material

THE MOUNTAIN HOSTELRY LEASE GRANTED BY THE BOARD.

At a meeting of the National Park Board yesterday morning, the secretary of the committee of guarantors wrote asking for the lease of an area which had been selected for the site of the hostelry proposed to be erected on the northern slopes of Mount Egmont.

Mr. W. A. Collis dealt fully with the proposals of the guarantors' committee. Certain people in New Plymouth considered that the accommodation at the mountain should be made more elaborate, and with a view to having superior accommodation the new scheme had been drawn up. It was the idea of these gentlemen to co-operate with the present North Egmont Committee to manage the new house.

Mr. Marchant was willing to see a lease granted, but they should run it themselves and not ask the committee to do so.

Mr. Smith pointed out that there was no intention to work antagonistic to the present house.

Mr. Marchant: But it will suck up the present house.

In reply Mr. Smith pointed out that the object was for the purpose of catering for people who desired better accommodation than that at present provided.

Eventually it was decided that the Board grant the proposed lease, but the tenants must erect and manage the house themselves.

Figure 28: *Taranaki Daily News*, 29 September 1910, Page 7

A PLAN ADOPTED.

The committee of the guarantors of the North Egmont Mountain Hostelry has adopted the plan of Mr. Frank Messenger for the new building to be erected a little below and to the right of the present accommodation house. The plan was on view yesterday in Mr. T. Avery's window. It provides for an attractive one-storey building of the bungalow type, 125ft. long, with a depth of 40ft. The hostelry will be erected in concrete, with rough cast treatment on the outside, and plastered inside. The front elevation shows a bold gable at either end, the one on the right containing the dining-room, which is 28ft. 6in. by 22ft. 6in.; the one on the left a smoke-room and social-room, each 17ft. 6in. by 14ft., and between is an 8ft.-wide verandah with concrete floor. The main entrance to the building is situate immediately in the centre of the verandah, and is covered by an ornamental gable, which adds considerably to the appearance of the building. Access is also gained to the verandah from both the dining-room and the social hall. The main entrance open into a hall, 8ft. wide, and this in turn opens into a corridor, 4ft. 6in. wide, which runs the whole length of the building. At the back of the hall, on the south side of the corridor, is a little office for the manager. On either side of the hall three bedrooms are provided, two of these being double rooms and four single rooms, and on the southern side of the corridor are eight single bedrooms, together with two bathrooms, linen press, and sanitary conveniences. At the rear of the dining-room is a large kitchen, store, scullery, and a back porch. The dining-room, smoke-room and social-room are supplied with large open fireplaces, and the kitchen with a range. The dining-room ceiling will be coved and beamed, thus retaining the bungalow treatment.

Figure 29: *Taranaki Daily News*, Issue 6, 1 July 1911, Page 3

TENDER.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS will be received at my office up to 4 p.m. on **FRIDAY**, July 28, for the Erection of a "HOSTELRY" in concrete, on Mount Egmont.

FRANK MESSENGER,
Architect, Devon St.

c579

TENDERS.

TENDERS are hereby called for the removal of earth (barrow work).

Apply on job at Hooker Printing Co., Ltd., Devon Street.

c624

Figure 30: *Taranaki Herald*, 20 July 1911, Page 7

NEW PLYMOUTH, INGLEWOOD, AND MOUNTAIN HOUSE MOTOR 'BUS SERVICE.

TIME-TABLE:

New Plymouth to Inglewood, every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

Leave Masonic Stables, Devon Street, 7 a.m., arriving Inglewood 8 a.m.

Leave Post Office, Inglewood, 8.30 a.m., arriving New Plymouth 9.45 a.m.

Leave Post Office, New Plymouth, 4 p.m., arriving Inglewood 5.15 p.m.

Leave Inglewood 6 p.m., arriving New Plymouth 7 p.m.

FARE: Return 3s, Singles 2s; Children, half fare.

PARCELS: Parcels up to 14lb. and under 20lb., 1s; over 20lb. and under 30lb., 1s 6d; other parcels, etc., by arrangement.

MOUNTAIN TRIPS.

New Plymouth to North Egmont Mountain Hostelry.

Leave Masonic Stables every Tuesday and Sunday at 10 a.m., arriving Hostelry 12 noon.

Leave Hostelry 4 p.m., arriving New Plymouth 5.45 p.m.

FARES: New Plymouth to Hostelry, return same day, 12s 6d; returning on any other day of service, £1. Single fare, 10s; children on knee free, up to 12 years of age half fare.

Parcel Rate same as Inglewood service. Special trips can be arranged either with the Proprietor or the Manager of the Hostelry.

Parcels from Inglewood left with Mr. W. G. Ladbroke, Railway Stables, will be attended to.

Parcels for Mountain Hostelry must be left at Masonic Stables, Devon Street, New Plymouth.

Telephone 315. Telegrams: Masonic Stables.

W. W. JACKSON
Proprietor

671

Figure 31: Taranaki Herald, 28 December 1914, Page 4

NORTH EGMONT HOSTELRY HOLIDAY SEASON COMMENCING:

Among the visitors last week at the North Egmont Mountain House were Mrs. and Miss Greig (Nelson), Dr. and Mrs. Benely (Adelaide), Mrs. Curtis (New Plymouth), Mrs. MacDiarmid (New Plymouth), Mrs. D. Allen, Mrs. Newton Stephenson, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Estaugh (Hawke's Bay), Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Cock (Mt. Eden), Mr. Lowry (U.S. Consul), and Mrs. Lowry, Mrs. C. Mackersey (Hastings, Hawke's Bay), and her daughter, Mrs. Noel Beamish.

On November 12, Mr. Brian Wilson walked from Dawson Falls, spent the night at the northern hostel, and returned on Sunday afternoon. Although the weather was rough and stormy, Mr. Wilson covered the ground in record time.

"Busy as a hive of bees," is the impression one gains on visiting the North Egmont Hostel, where extensive alterations and additions are now being made. Work is proceeding rapidly.

To improve further the parking area at the hostelry, the Park Board are deviating the road and levelling a large space immediately below the house. The fine walks in the vicinity are being cleared, giving visitors further opportunities of wandering through the lovely bush.

As the holiday season approaches bookings indicate a busy time.

Recently two parties of Australians, numbering 27 and 34, visited the hostelry and climbed as high as time permitted.

Mr. Ben Stephenson, of New Plymouth, accompanied by Mr. Bill Daniels, of the North Egmont hostelry staff, made an ascent on Sunday. The going was fairly good, though steps had to be cut for nearly 1000 feet. The summit was slightly clouded, but they had a view to the south. A heavy gale was blowing on the top, but they sheltered for 45 minutes in the crater and made good time returning. The whole trip occupied five and a-half hours. This is Mr. Stephenson's thirty-eighth trip to the summit.

A large number of people took advantage of the fine day, and visited the mountain during the afternoon.

Figure 32: Taranaki Daily News, 21 November 1927, Page 6

NORTH EGMONT HOSTELRY ANNUAL REPORT.

The first annual report of the North Egmont Hostelry, Limited, states: Your directors are pleased to state that they have been able to discharge the whole of the liabilities of the old trustees and to complete the extension of the hostel, as contemplated on the formation of the company, including the installation of steam heating throughout the building, and also to provide parking accommodation for cars.

Calls have been made of 5s per share, as indicated when the company was floated. The balance of the requisite money has been borrowed from the Bank of New Zealand, on security of the uncalled capital and the guarantee of the directors, in conjunction with Mrs. Graham and Messrs. Boon, C. H. Burgess and Nolan.

Your directors wish to place on record their appreciation of the generous bequest by the late Mr. Newton King, which will be applied in reducing the amount owing to the bank.

The lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Lorimer, have conducted the hostel in a very capable manner, and it is hoped that its popularity will continue to increase.

Figure 33: *Taranaki Daily News*, 27 September 1928, Page 13

MT. EGMONT.**ADDITIONS TO NORTH HOSTEL.****OPENED BY MINISTER.**

At the North Mount Egmont Hostel on Saturday last the Hon. W. Nosworthy, Minister in charge of the Tourist Department, officially opened the new dining room lounge and portico recently erected to commemorate the generosity of the late Mr Newton King. There was a large attendance of shareholders and directors of the company with their friends, who were entertained at tea and later to a very enjoyable dance in the new lounge by the lessee of the hostel (Mr J. N. Lorimer).

Completion of the additions, which were officially opened on Saturday raises the total cost of the hostel since it was first erected in 1912 to approximately £9000. Since the original guarantors formed themselves into a limited liability company in 1926, the sum of £2300 has been absorbed in improvements and additions. Those present, who had not visited the hostel for some time were agreeably surprised at the transformation effected. In addition to providing an asphalt tennis court, a convenient parking area for cars, and permanent road improvements the company intended to open up picturesque bush tracks.

The Hon. W. Nosworthy was cordially welcomed by the chairman of the hostelry company (Mr J. S. Connett), who stated that the late Mr N. King and Mr C. H. Burgess were mainly responsible for the erection of the hostel in the first place, which in the nineties was accessible only by a rough track.

The chairman of the Egmont National Park Board (Mr T. C. List) referred to the admirable public spiritedness displayed by the people of New Plymouth when an effort was made to form the company. The capital required was £10,000 and he was sure that a far greater sum could have been raised if necessary. As chairman of the board he considered the magnificent efforts made by the hostelry company should be practically recognised although the

board had the oversight of three other houses, Stratford, Dawson Falls, and Kahui. It had cost approximately £550 a year to maintain the North Egmont road, but relief from this expenditure was in sight by the laying down of a tar-sealed road.

Messrs C. E. Bellringer, M.P., and H. V. S. Griffiths, Mayor of New Plymouth, stressed the importance of Mt. Egmont as a tourist resort, and paid a high tribute to the generosity of the late Mr Newton King.

The Hon. W. Nosworthy said his department was keen to increase the number of reserves and scenic resorts for the benefit of the public. The area now included in the Dominion's national parks was two and three-quarter million acres, in eight separate reservations. Scenic reserves totalled 777, and included a total area of 450,000 acres, while public domains for recreation numbered 678, with a total area of 69,000 acres. He was pleased to learn of Taranaki's efforts in the matter of tourists resorts, and as minister in charge of the Tourist Department he intended to do what he could for the Egmont National Park. New Plymouth had assisted to the extent of £600 or £700 for the tourist matters and it was his intention to ask Cabinet for a further grant.

The Minister then declared the new buildings open and unveiled the Newton King memorial, consisting of a handsome enlarged portrait of the company's late benefactor, bearing the inscription "Newton King, 1927. A lover of nature and a generous friend and benefactor to the North Egmont hostelry." In addition to being with Mr Burgess, an original trustee and guarantor to the bank, the late Mr King, said the Minister, bequeathed a sum of £9000 to the hostelry.

Figure 34: *Hawera Star* 2 April 1928, page 9

NORTH EGMONT HOSTELRY ANNUAL REPORT.

The first annual report of the North Egmont Hostelry, Limited, states: Your directors are pleased to state that they have been able to discharge the whole of the liabilities of the old trustees and to complete the extension of the hostel, as contemplated on the formation of the company, including the installation of steam heating throughout the building, and also to provide parking accommodation for cars.

Calls have been made of 5s per share, as indicated when the company was floated. The balance of the requisite money has been borrowed from the Bank of New Zealand, on security of the uncalled capital and the guarantee of the directors, in conjunction with Mrs. Graham and Messrs. Boon, C. H. Burgess and Nolan.

Your directors wish to place on record their appreciation of the generous bequest by the late Mr. Newton King, which will be applied in reducing the amount owing to the bank.

The lessees, Mr. and Mrs. Lorimer, have conducted the hostel in a very capable manner, and it is hoped that its popularity will continue to increase.

Figure 35: *Taranaki Daily News*, 27 September 1928, page 13

NORTH EGMONT ROAD

CHARM LIES IN ITS BENDS.

"The more circumlocutory the mountain track is, the more interesting it becomes," said the Prime Minister when speaking at the North Egmont hostelry yesterday. He added that a great deal of the charm of the track lay in the quick changes of scenery as the tourist went first in one direction and then in another as he rounded the numerous bends.

The district Public Works engineer (Mr. P. Keller) explained later that the track, which is about four miles long, has an average grade of one in 14, rising a distance of 1550 feet between the radius line gate and the hostelry. The steepest gradient on the track is one in 9½.

Figure 36: *Taranaki Daily News*, 7 May 1929, page 11

NORTH EGMONT HOSTELRY.

There seems good reason for optimism in regard to the future of the North Egmont Hostelry. Established for public benefit more than with any idea of profit-making, the institution has had a good many difficulties to contend with in the past ten years. Gradually these have been overcome, one of the greatest advantages, good road access, being achieved last year. There is an undoubted awakening of public interest in mountaineering, of which the formation of alpine clubs, the friendly rivalry between those clubs, the promotion of mountain sports and the movement for better control of all phases of mountaineering are manifestations. As an aid to this healthful form of recreation a well equipped hostelry as a starting point or centre of operations is a great advantage, and the need for similar provision at other "climbing stations" on Mount Egmont is recognised, and has been supplied so far as funds will permit. It is admitted that accommodation and management at the northern hostel are all that can be desired and that the tariff is reasonable. For those requiring a thorough relief from nerve strain and desiring the good effect of mountain air without any strenuous effort to obtain it the hostel affords an opportunity that is not always fully recognised. There are many who go much farther afield in search of the rest and change which they could obtain at Mount Egmont with considerably less personal inconvenience or worry, and the wonder is that in cases in which general recuperation is necessary the claim of the local mountain resort is so often overlooked. Those who have tried it are usually enthusiastic in regard to the results, and maintain that with a minimum of inconvenience it is possible to obtain a complete change of conditions and atmosphere within an hour or two's journey from any part of North Taranaki. With comfort assured and recreation of various sorts available, a "rest cure" at Mount Egmont should be as attractive as it is

possible for such holidays to be. All that the hostelry needs for complete success is the support of the public. Its founders took their courage in both hands, and it would be a thousand pities if their public spirit were rendered futile through lack of support by the community they are trying to serve.

Figure 37: *Taranaki Daily News*, 11 October 1930, Page 6

NORTH EGMONT HOSTELRY TRANSFER TO PARK BOARD

SHAREHOLDERS' PUBLIC SPIRIT.

VIRTUAL GIFT OF OVER £10,000.

A special meeting of shareholders of the North Egmont Hostelry Ltd. on Thursday evening agreed to transfer its buildings and rights in the hostelry to the Park Board on it paying the cost of the furniture—£1200.

Mr. J. S. Connett, chairman of the company, who presided, said that for years the hostelry has been run at a loss, which was fairly considerable in 1931, and the directors felt that it was inadvisable to carry on any further. He pointed out conditions had changed entirely in recent years, and visitors, instead of staying overnight at the hostelry, simply ran up for the afternoon or day. The improved road facilitated this, and instead of it being a benefit to the company, as had been anticipated, it had proved quite the reverse. The patronage had steadily decreased, notwithstanding the improvements and extensions which had been made to the hostelry and capable management, and the economic depression had not improved matters.

All the economies possible had been effected, but with the interest charges to be met the directors could see nothing ahead but a continuance of the losses, and so they had come to the decision, very reluctantly he admitted, that the only thing left to do was to hand the hostelry over to the Park Board. Negotiations to this end had been proceeding for some time, and the North Committee had been able to ob-

tain the money for the purchase of the furniture from the proceeds of the last art union. It had also agreed to pay the company an additional £3000 during the next five years it received the amount from another art union. The company owed the bank about £5000, and to liquidate a portion of it calls would require to be made upon shareholders. A bequest would pay the interest on the balance and eventually pay off the principal.

Mr. Connett said that shareholders in taking up shares did so to help the town and the mountain and did not expect any direct return. At the same time they were under the impression that only a small amount would require to be paid up. The altered conditions had upset calculations in this as in other matters, and the shareholders would require to find another 5s per share. If the North Committee secured further moneys from an art union this amount would be returned to shareholders.

He had fought hard to obviate calling up further share capital, but to no purpose, and he deeply regretted the necessity for calling upon shareholders to find the additional share money. He pointed out that the North Committee would carry on the hostelry on the same efficient lines; it would not have to find heavy interest charges; it would effect considerable savings through amalgamation with the old house, cutting out the expense of a second manager, etc., and should be able to make a financial success of the venture, especially when improved times came.

Messrs J. McLeod, C. H. Burgess, F. S. Johns and T. C. List spoke in support of the directors' decision, which they described as the only way out.

The motion to authorise the transfer of the property to the Park Board and sell the furniture to the North Committee was unanimously carried.

At the National Park Board meeting yesterday when the transfer of the pro-

perty was affirmed, Mr. W. D. Armit spoke appreciatively of the public-spirited action of the people of New Plymouth in erecting such fine buildings as the hostelry, in conducting it for the benefit of the mountain, and now in handing it over free of liability to the Park Board. He regretted that they would be called upon to bear further loss. He moved, as follows:—

"That the Egmont National Park Board place on record its appreciation of the action of the North Egmont Hostelry, Ltd., in surrendering its lease to the board on such advantageous terms as have been arranged. The terms are recognised as representing a practical gift by the company to the board of the hostelry buildings, together with a considerable quantity of plant. The board regrets that circumstances associated with the general economic situation and changed conditions of patronage arising out of motor transport have resulted in a severe and continuous financial loss to the company. The board expresses its appreciation of the public-spirited efforts of the company to popularise the mountain reserve and fully recognises the assistance given the board by all those connected with the company."

Mr. Percy Thomson seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

The chairman (Mr. T. C. List) remarked that the transference of the hostelry represented a gift of something like £10,000 to the mountain and the board, for the buildings, plant and furnishings had cost more than that sum since the hostelry had been established. The people of New Plymouth had erected the buildings, extended them from time to time, and furnished them, for the express purpose of popularising the mountain. It was a worthy community action that merited greater financial success than

had been attained, because of circumstances that could not have been anticipated and over which they had no control.

Figure 38: Taranaki Daily News, 13 August 1932, Page 6

NORTH EGMONT MOUNTAIN HOUSE



HOUSE 3140ft. ABOVE SEA LEVEL.

TARIFF : To December 17, 14s per day. £3 10s per week ; December 18 to end
of season, 17s 6d per day. £5 per week.

SOME OF ITS FINE SIGHTS AND PLACES

RICH BOTANICAL WEALTH.

(BY OSCAR BLUNDELL).

Figure 39: c.1920 brochure for the "North Egmont Mountain House" (Puke Ariki ARC2012-082). Brochure is continued on following four pages.

Recent visitors to the hostel having complained that there was nobody there to tell them where they could go to inspect objects of botanical or scenic interest, it is suggested that a list of such things might be displayed at the Mountain House to indicate to visitors where they can go while staying there. Many persons visit the mountain who cannot take any of the more strenuous walks, such as that to Bell's Falls or the climb to the summit, but they are delighted when somebody can take or direct them to the numerous spots of special interest which lie within half a mile radius of the hostel. As things are at present, people who lack the genius of the independent explorer frequently stay at the mountain for a few days and come away without having seen a quarter of the beautiful and interesting objects which lie within an hour's stroll of the hostel. The following (with the exception of Nos. 4, 5, 21 and 22) are within very easy reach of the hostel:—

(1) Alpine flora.—Several species are to be seen at the side of the various tracks. *Ourisia macrophylla*, the Mount Egmont primula, flowers in December and January. *Ranunculus navicola* displays its fine yellow flowers about the same time. Lovely patches of *euphrasia* may be seen in February and March growing in open spaces below the forest limit. To see the alpine flora at its best, however, an effort should be made to reach the open alpine meadow on the Dawson's Falls track.

(2) *Aciphylla* (spear grass).—A specimen of this curious plant, which exhibits its spiny flower in March, may be seen to the left of the track just above the bush line.

(3) *Astelia*.—Species of these long-leaved plants are to be found in many parts of the neighbouring bush.

(4) Bell's Falls.—A walk of surpassing interest and beauty. Lunch should be taken for this trip and an early start made. The track is generally easy, though there are a few rough places.

Noble precipices tower above the track along several miles, being plentifully decked with sub-alpine plants. Every yard of the distance contains objects of interest to the botanist. The wide hanging valley, lying between the mountain and the Pouakai ranges, comes into view en route. It contains an extensive swamp area, through which the Stoney River meanders. Before reaching the falls the track runs through some charmingly open towhai forest sheltering lovely ferns. The foot of the falls can be easily reached by active persons if the river is low enough.

(5) Blundell's Bluff.—The track to this romantic spot starts at the bottom of the road running into the Ngatoro gorge at the old hostel. The distance is about one mile. The track, which was opened in 1920, includes a rather steep zigzag to the top of the spur, but thereafter is nearly all a quite easy grade. The bluff itself is about 300 feet in height, and has a very commanding and picturesque appearance. A little water can be obtained at the base about half-way along, except in a dry season. The return journey can be made by the same route, or the track can be followed to the top of the bluff, and then, by crossing the springy moss of the alpine meadow, the Dawson Falls track may be reached and followed back to the hostel. The complete walk round is just four miles. A small cave is to be seen at the foot of the bluff.

(6) Club mosses.—These can be seen on many of the trees near the hostel, but some particularly fine specimens are to be observed at the gap on the road three-quarters of a mile below the house.

(7) *Cordyline indivisa*.—The *toi*, or *puketoi* of the Maoris; also called the mountain palm. Fine specimens of this plant, which belongs to the same genus as the common cabbage tree (*C. Australis*), are to be seen growing wherever an open space has been made in the bush. The great bunches of white flowers appear in November.

(8) *Dactylanthus Talorii*.—"The flower of the grave," as the Maoris called it. This rare and extraordinary plant is a root parasite, and specimens of it are to be found near the hostel. It displays its dark, honey-scented flowers in March. A specimen, growing on the root of a raukawa tree, may be seen about two chains from the mountain road at a point 300 yards below the house and to the left.

(9) Dawson's Falls.—A walk of great beauty by an easy track. The distance is 7 miles. By starting early it is easy to reach the hostel at the falls before lunch time. The return journey can be made during the afternoon. The arduous climb by the usual route below Humphries Castle can be avoided by following the track mentioned at No. 5.

10.—Epi-phytes, or perching plants.—These are a feature of most New Zealand forests, but in the sub-alpine bush near the hostel they are specially numerous and interesting. Just below the croquet lawn stands a towhai tree almost surrounded by the long dependent roots of a raukawa which has found a lodging in the towhai's branches. Near the third bend in the road below the house another towhai supports a thick-rooted broadleaf (*Griselinia littoralis*) and in almost every direction similar instances of this adaptation to the crowded conditions of the forest may be seen.

(11) Giant Manuka Trees.—These exceptionally large specimens of one of the most common of New Zealand trees are to be seen by crossing the first gully to the left of the mountain road when descending. They are all dead but "tremendous still in death." One specimen is fully 18 feet in girth. They possibly represent all that remains of the original forest on the mountain at that altitude.

(12) Giant Broadleaf (*Griselinia littoralis*).—A robust specimen of this tree stands about two or three chains along the track mentioned at No. 5.

(13) Hanging Basket.—This very curious natural object is situated on a rata tree exactly opposite the three-mile peg on the mountain road. A raukawa tree, perched on the great rata's branches, has sent down a thick dependent root. This has become covered with a huge club-moss into which seeds of *astelia* and other plants have fallen. These have grown as if artificially arranged, and the whole beautiful decoration swings like a hanging basket in a green-house. Amidst all the host of curious growths around it this object holds an unique position.

(14) Humphries' Castle.—This conspicuous and well-known formation of hard basalt can be seen from many points. Its most imposing aspect appears from the Bell's Falls track.

(15) "Look out" spots.—Besides the "crow's nest" in front of the house, the most delightful coigns of vantage nearby are to be found as follows: At the end of the track beginning close to the motor shed; at the gap three-quarters of a mile below the house; at intervals along the track mentioned at No. 5; and from the "crow's nest" above the Waiwakaiho gorge. This last is a superb spot. Unfortunately, at present, the timbers have decayed, but no doubt a new staging will be erected.

(15a) Mountain road.—This affords the easiest walk of all, but only in one direction. The aspiring pedestrian is apt to find the downhill walk so pleasant and easy that the toilsome return is unthought of, and so the walk becomes too prolonged to be wise. Most people, however, can descend as far as the gap, or to the 3-mile peg a quarter of a mile lower down, without finding the return journey too arduous. Good walkers will find that to descend to the gate at the radius line provides far more pleasure and true delight than can be obtained over almost any similar distance elsewhere. Sir Rider Haggard's dictum that it affords the most entrancing walk in the world is hardly an exaggeration.

(16) Natural shrubbery.—Many places which might be so termed are to be seen in the zone of the sub-alpine scrub above the forest line, but a particularly charming example is to be seen on emerging from the forest on the track leading to the bluff described at No. 5.

(17) Ngatoro Gorge.—A track opens at the end of the croquet lawn and leads down into the gorge. A pleasant and not exhausting ramble may be enjoyed by descending to the rocky bottom and ascending the dry torrent bed to the road leading to the quarry, returning thus to the hostel. The distance is about half a mile.

(18) Orchids.—Several species of these curious flowers are to be found without leaving the beaten tracks to any great extent. The two species of *earina* do not naturally exist quite so high up as the hostel, but a plant has been placed on a low tree in front of the dining room where it has sustained itself for some years.

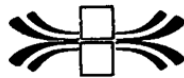
(19) *Todea superba*.—This most beautiful of ferns is to be seen growing in the bush not far from the next named object.

(20) Totara.—A deformed but vigorous specimen of this well-known forest tree will be seen on the left of the mountain road about a quarter of a mile below the house. The reason for its extraor-

dinary contorted shape is rather a mystery. Probably in its earlier years the ground around it stood much higher than at present, and erosion has laid bare its original primary roots. Another interesting specimen of this tree, having its trunk strangely twisted, is to be seen on the track 50 yards above the Ambury monument.

(21) Waiwakaiho Gorge.—Any active, able-bodied person can enjoy the experience of traversing a portion of the right branch of this magnificent gorge. The track to be taken commences to the right of the old hostel (looking upwards). Nine small and beautiful gullies are passed before the great gorge is reached. The descent is steep but not hazardous, and beside the clear mountain torrent, over moss-clad rocks and through charming patches of bush, the journey is continued until the junction of the right and left gorges is reached, then, entering a track marked by a notice board, the return trip is made by way of the mountain road. The entire distance is about four miles.

(22) Yellow ochre deposit.—This lies in the bed of the Waiwakaiho river at the upper end of the left branch. It can be reached either by ascending the river from the junction mentioned at No. 21 or by descending down the gorge from the Bell's Falls track. This trip entails some rough climbing, but is full of interest.



North Egmont Hostel

Health-Giving Air Unsurpassed Scenery Homely Comfort

TARIFF : Nov. 1st to Dec. 17th : 14s. per day and £3 10s. per week.

Dec. 18th to end of season : 17s. 6d. per day and £5 per week.

119
12/6
6-5-8

WEEK-END TRIPS

To December 17th, £1/13/6 per head, including Car hire and Park Fee.

MOTOR SERVICES

Cars for Week-End Trips leave Gibson's Garage, Brougham Street, 2 p.m. on Saturday, returning late Sunday afternoon

DURING THE SUMMER SEASON

Tourist Cars leave Tourist Office, Egmont Street, (if sufficient booking) Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday at 9 a.m., leaving Hostel for return 4 p.m. same day. Fares : Single 12/6; Return same day, 15/-; Return later, 22/6 Other days same /rates if sufficient inducement offers

UNTIL THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Cars only run when sufficient inducement offers at following tariff :
Minimum charge for Car—one passenger, £2/10/-; two passengers at £1 each;
Three passengers at 17s 6d each; Four or more 15/-

SPECIAL CARS CAN BE ARRANGED FOR PARTIES

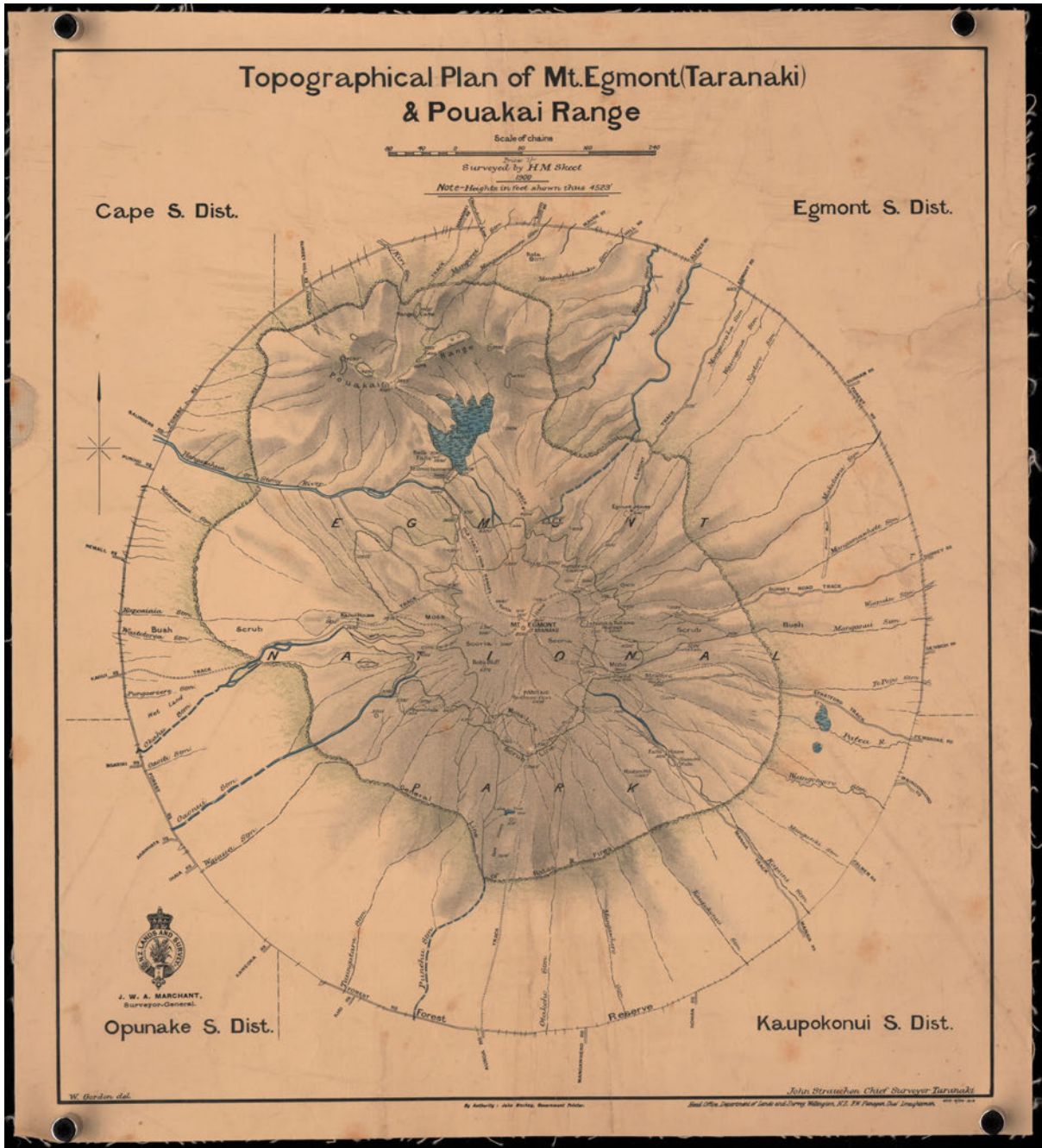
Park Fee : 1s. per passenger, payable on entering Park

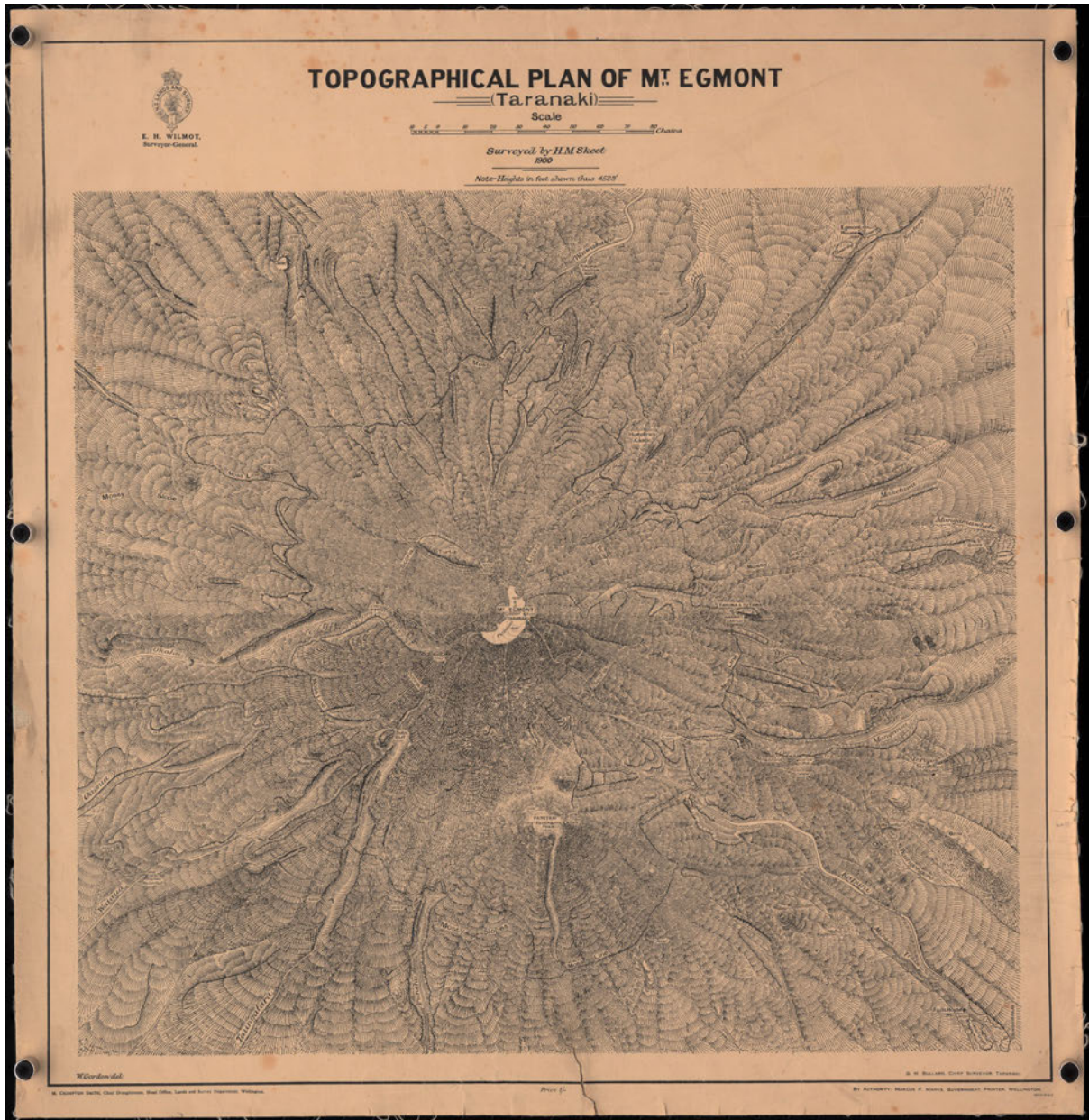
BOOKING OFFICES—GIBSON'S, Brougham St., Phones 506 & 357; Tourist Office Egmont St., Phone 642; or HUGH BAILY, Secretary, Phone 89; P.O. Box 145, New Plymouth
Telegrams or letters for accommodation—"Postmistress, Taururangi." (P.O. on Hostel)

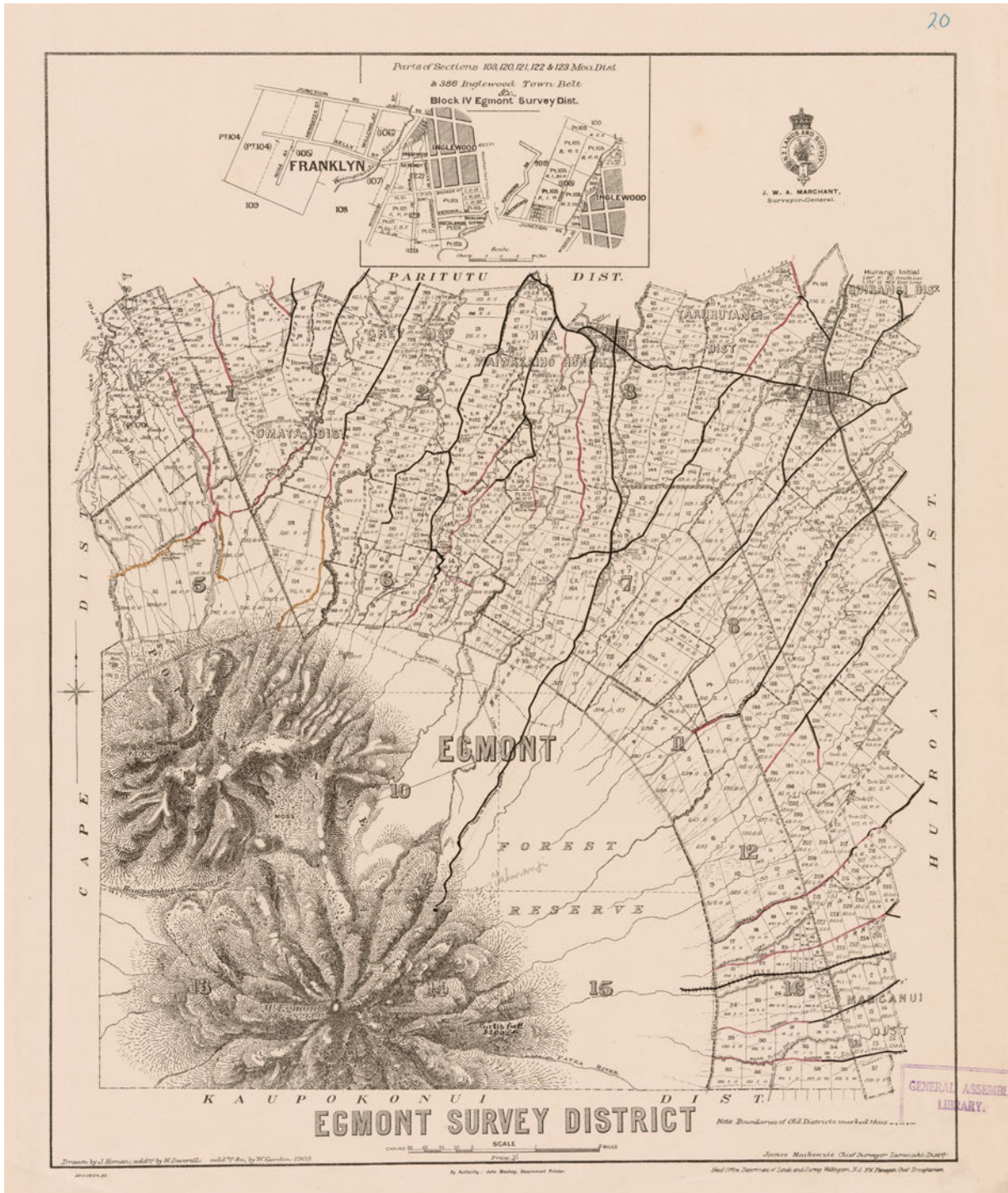
Manager

Appendix 3: Survey Plans





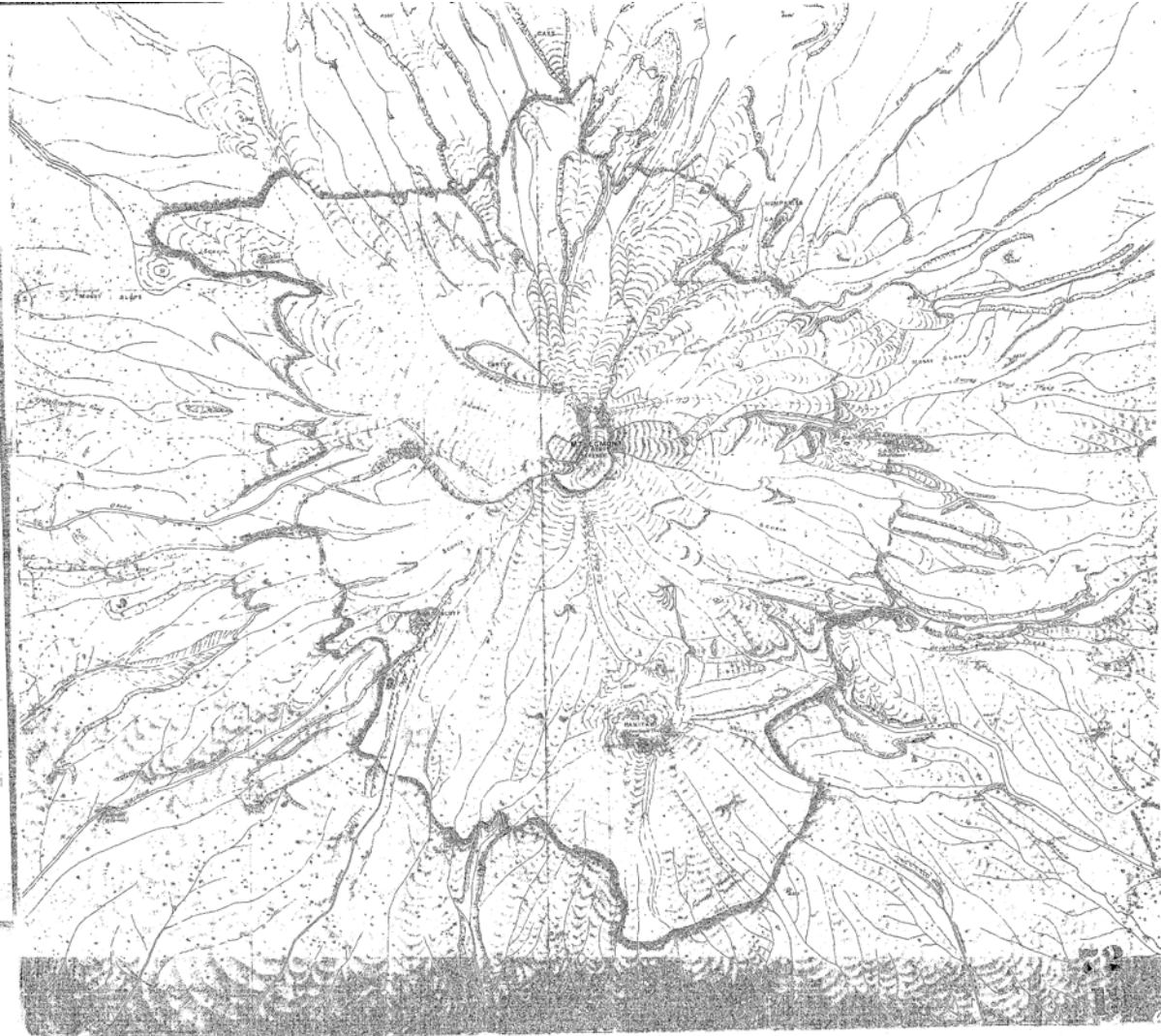




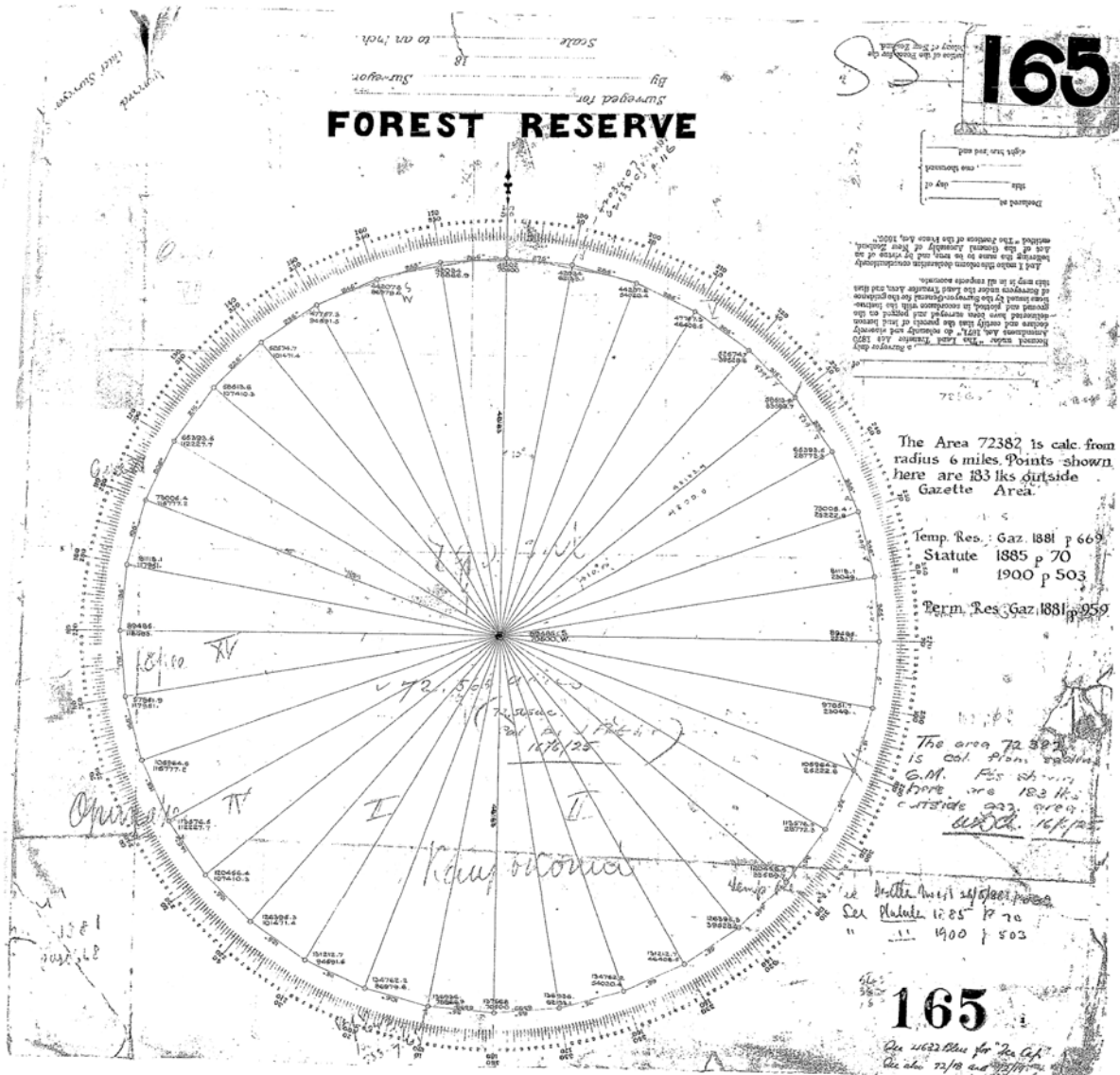
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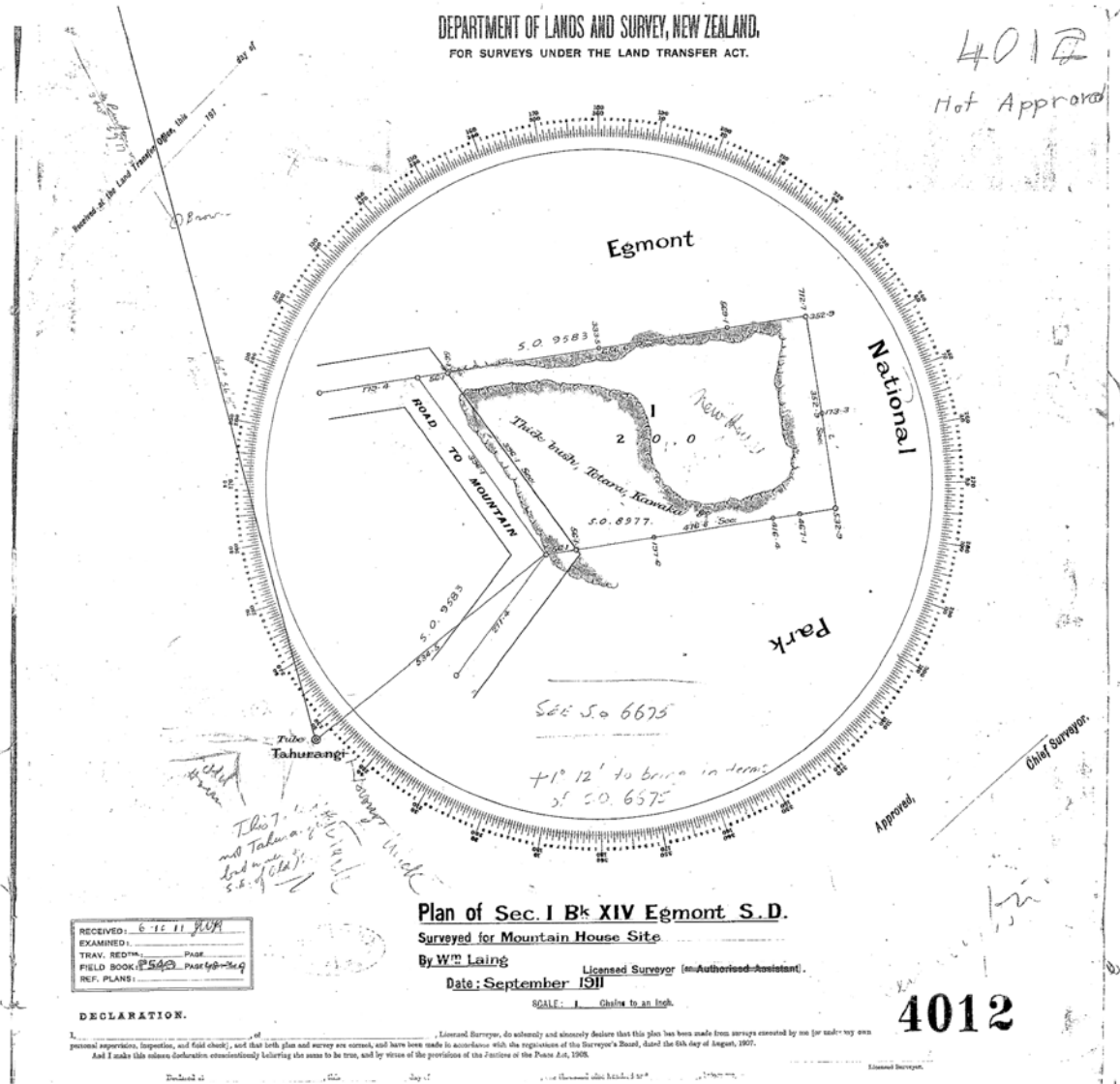




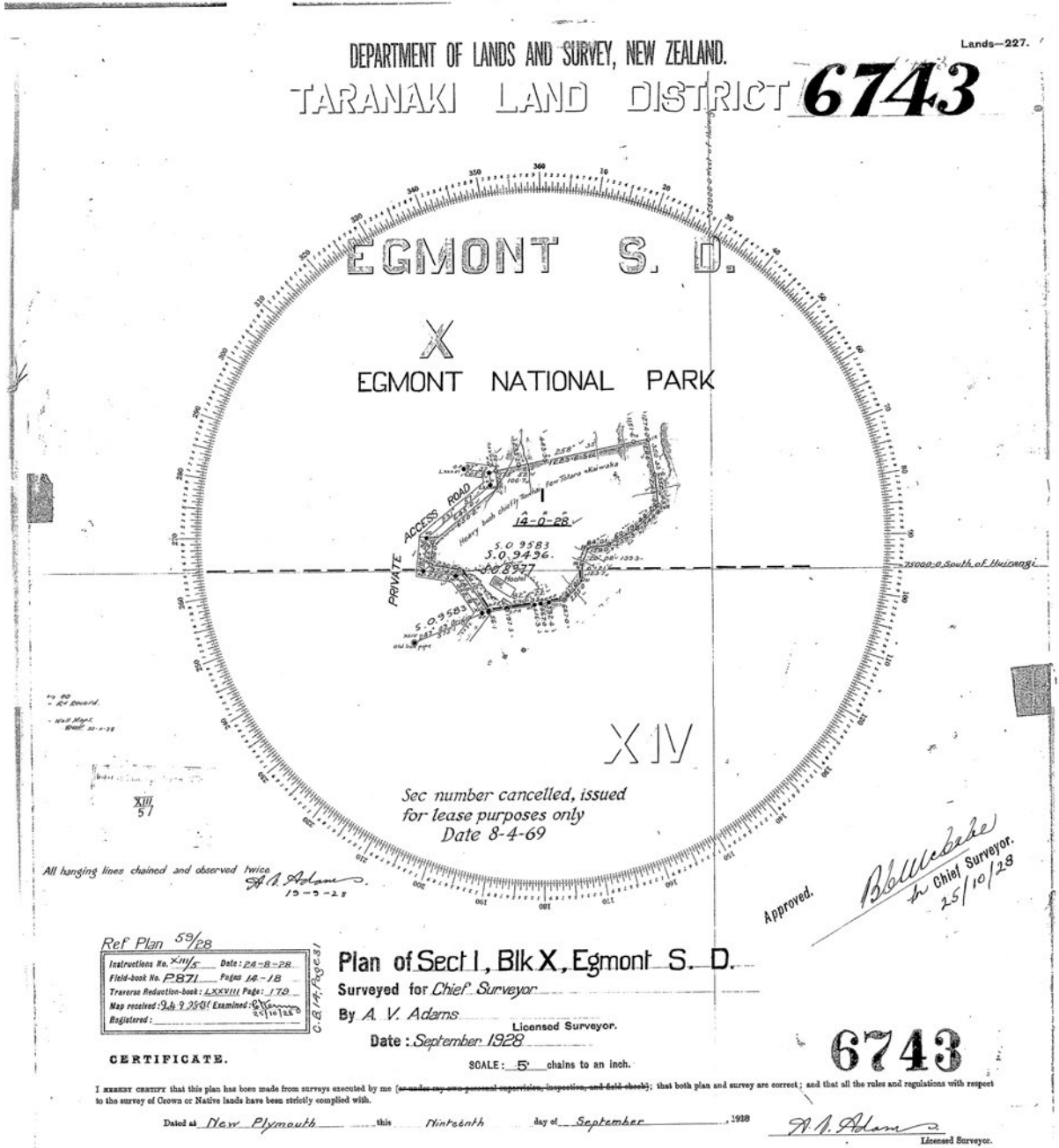
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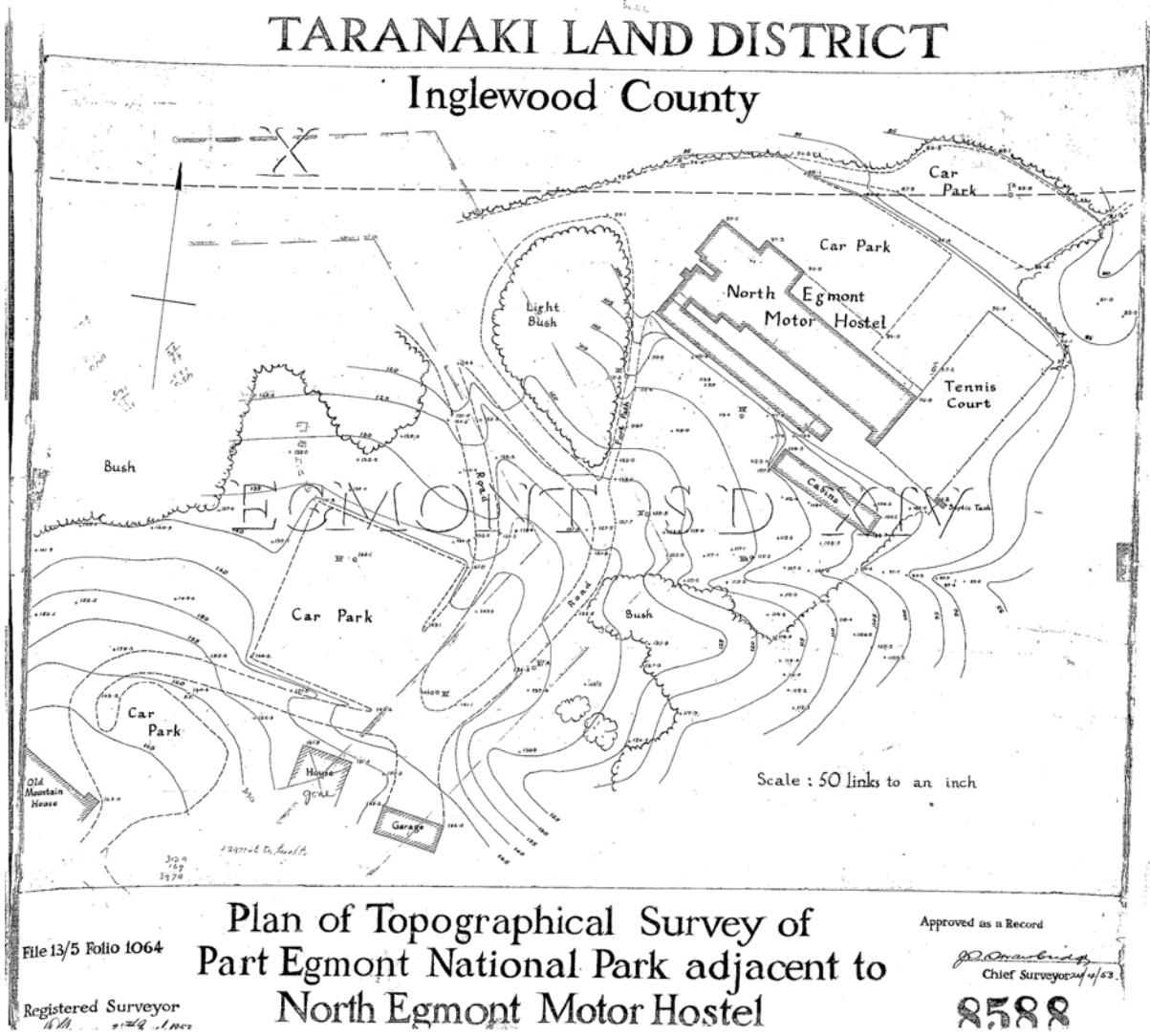
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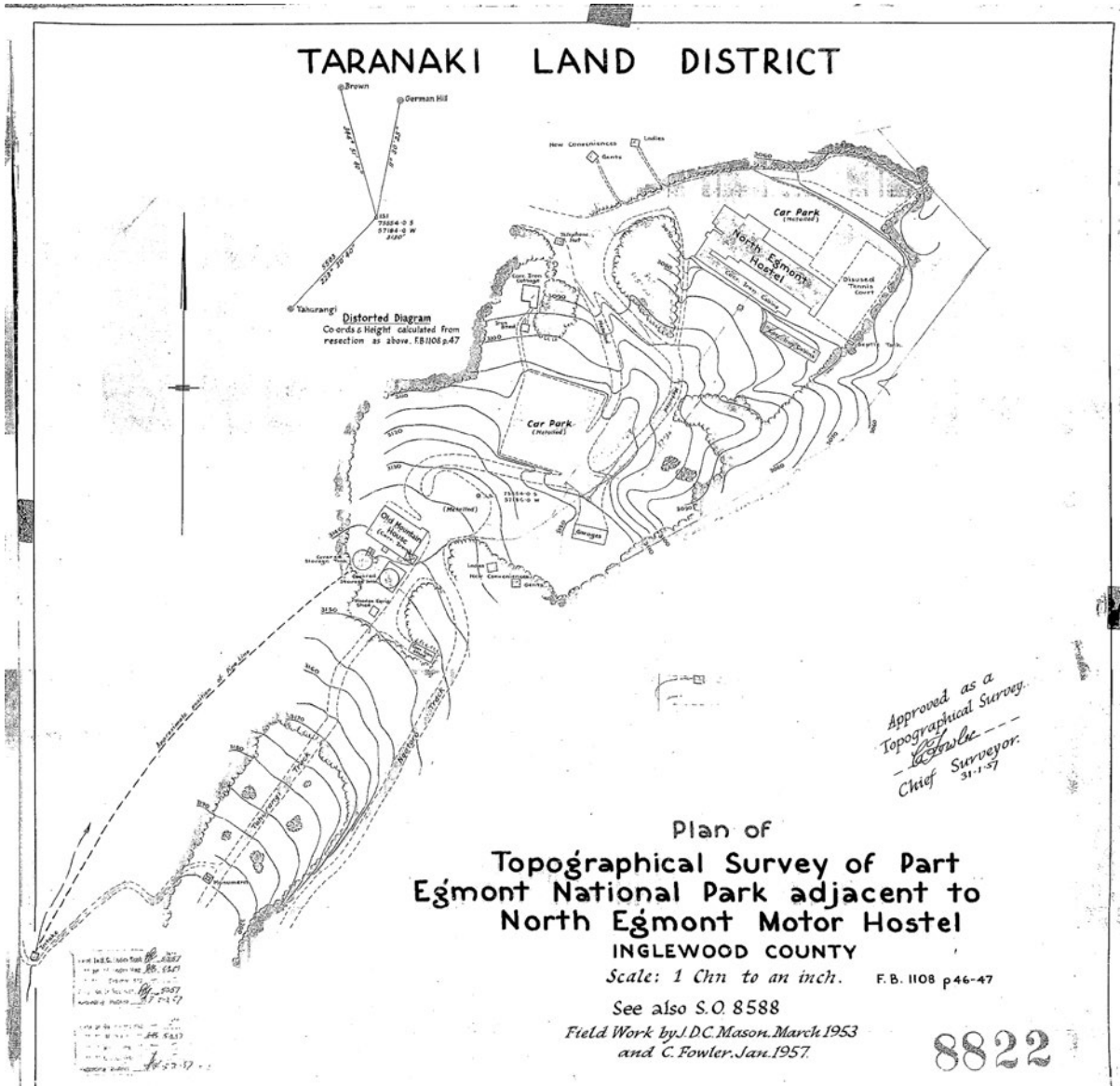
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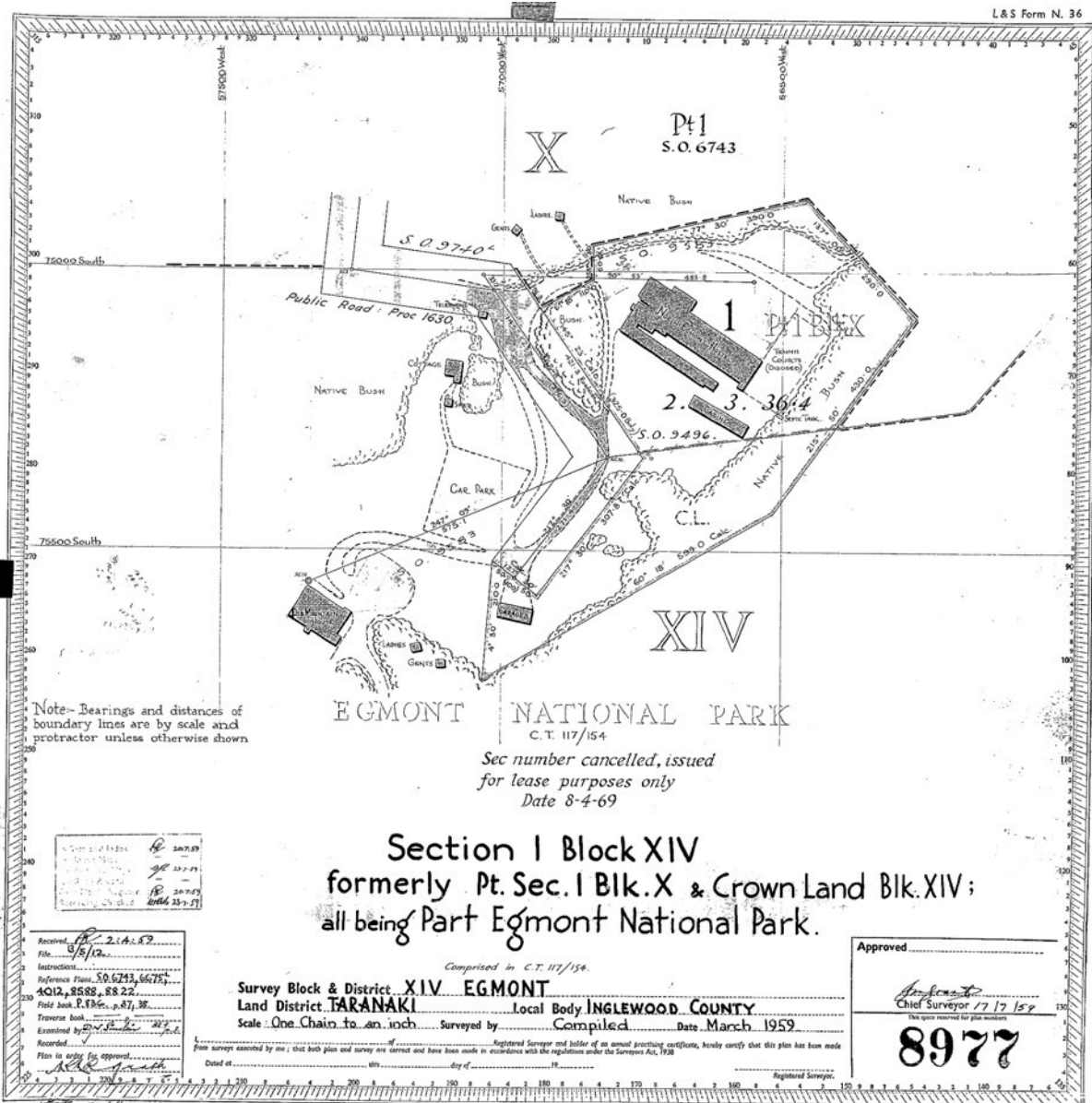
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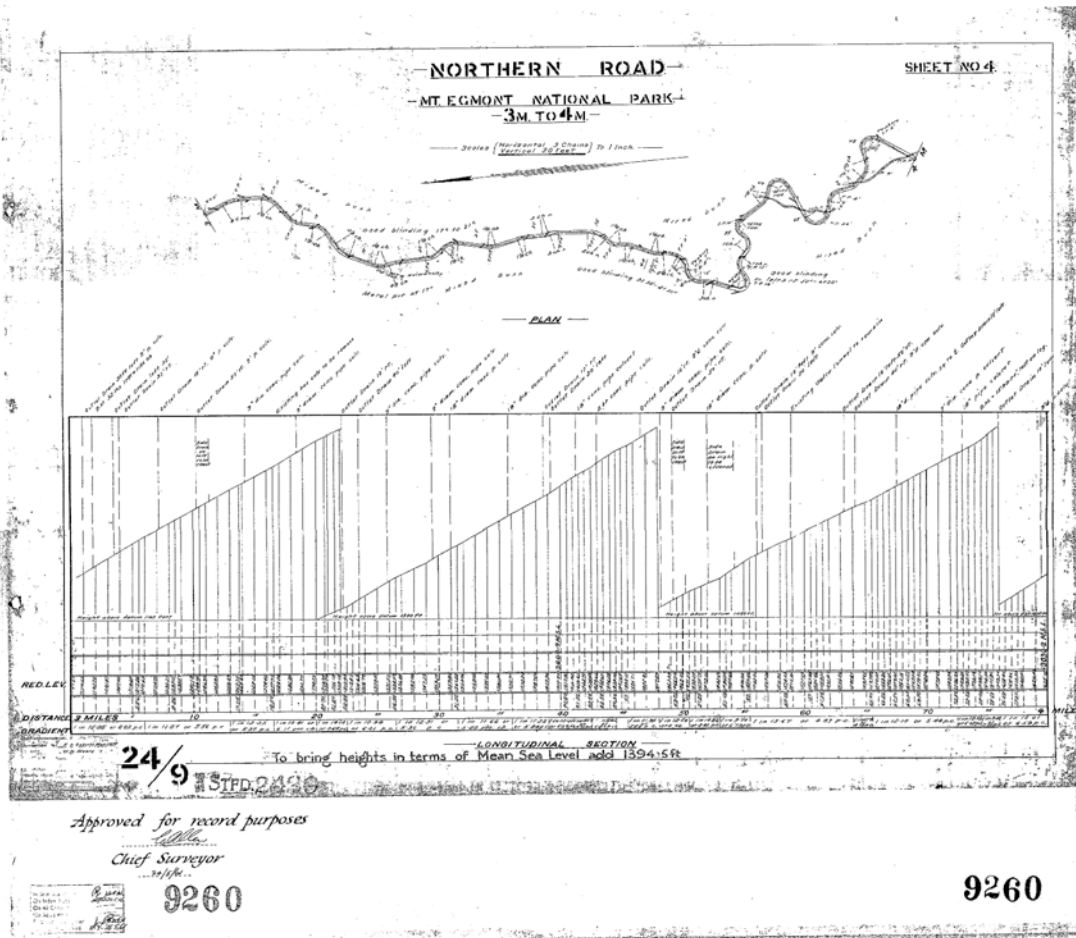


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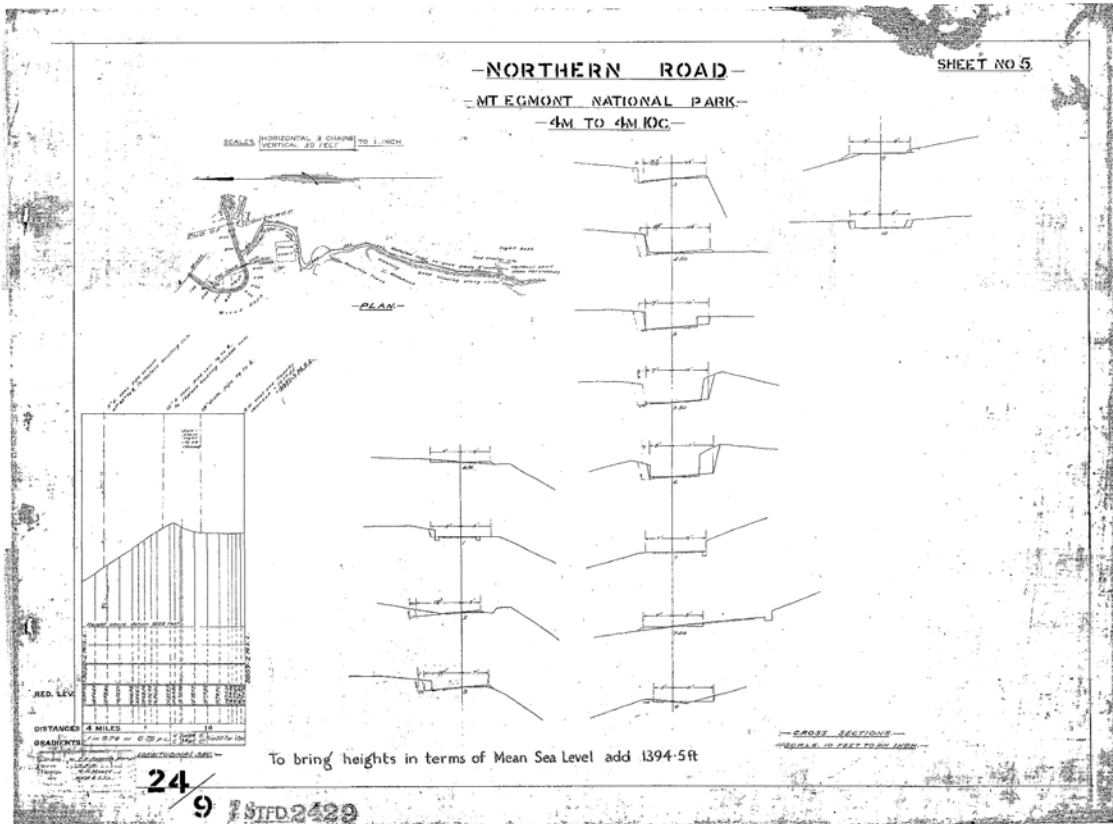
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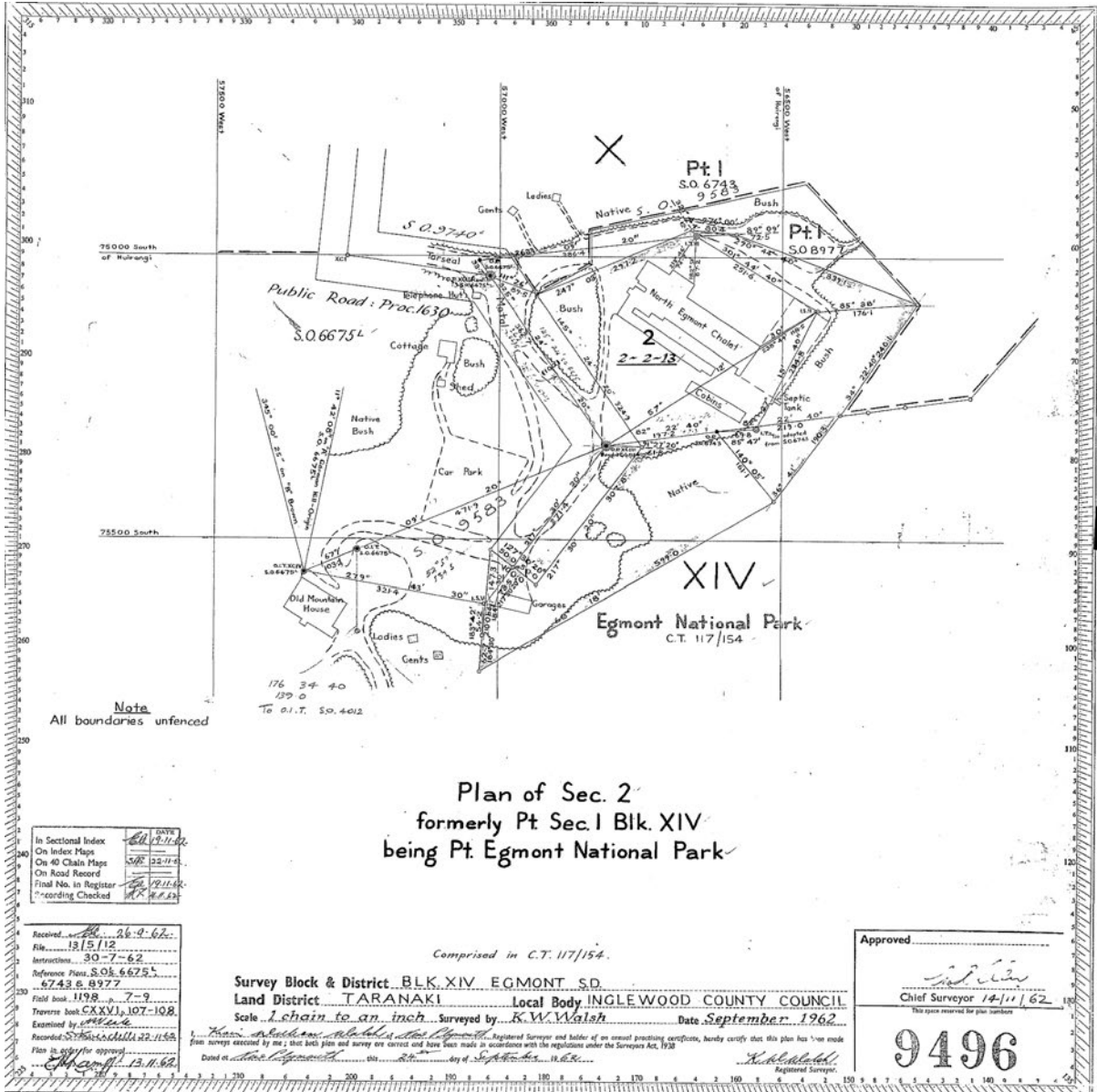
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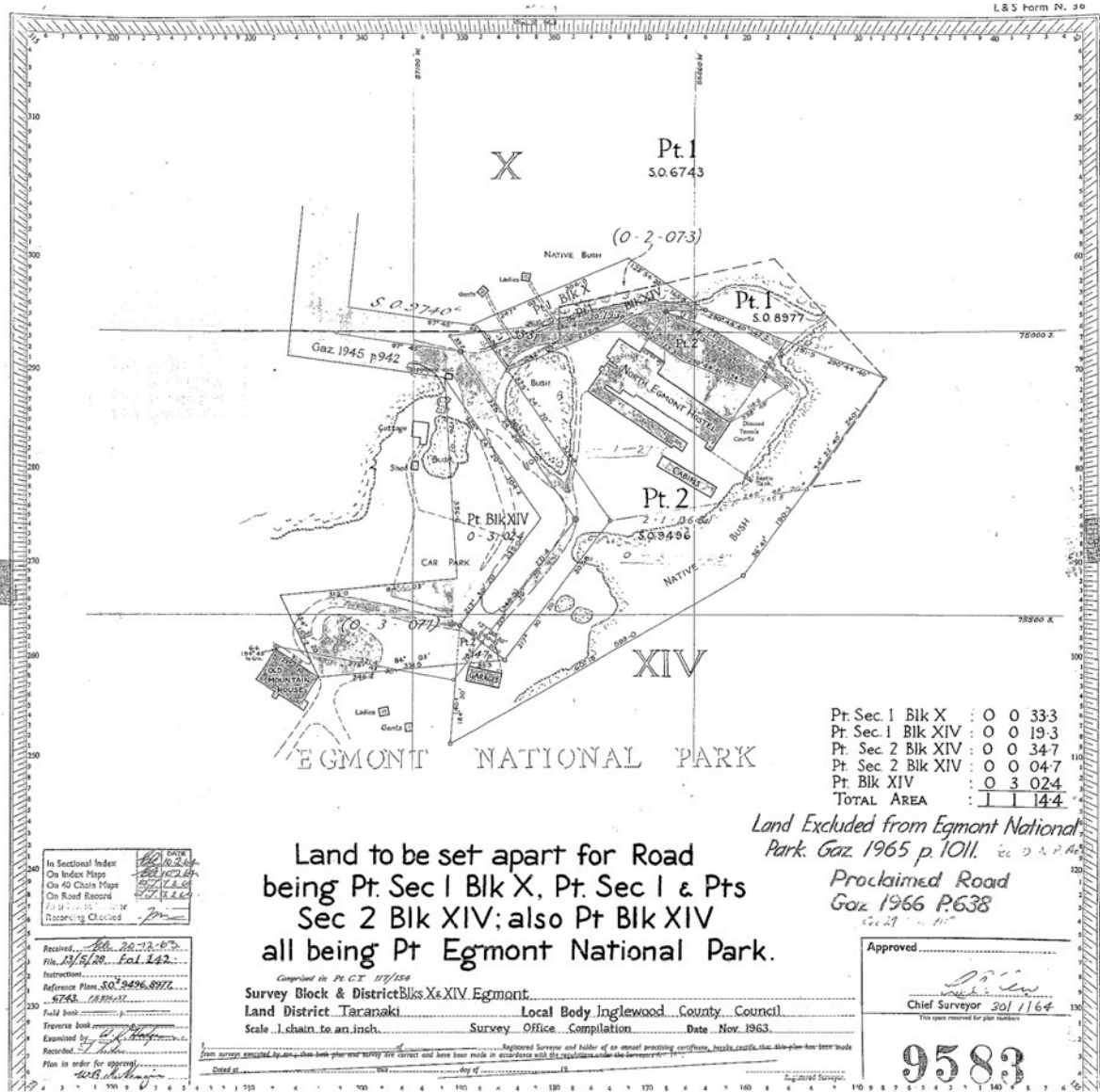
Approved for record purposes
[Signature]
Chief Surveyor

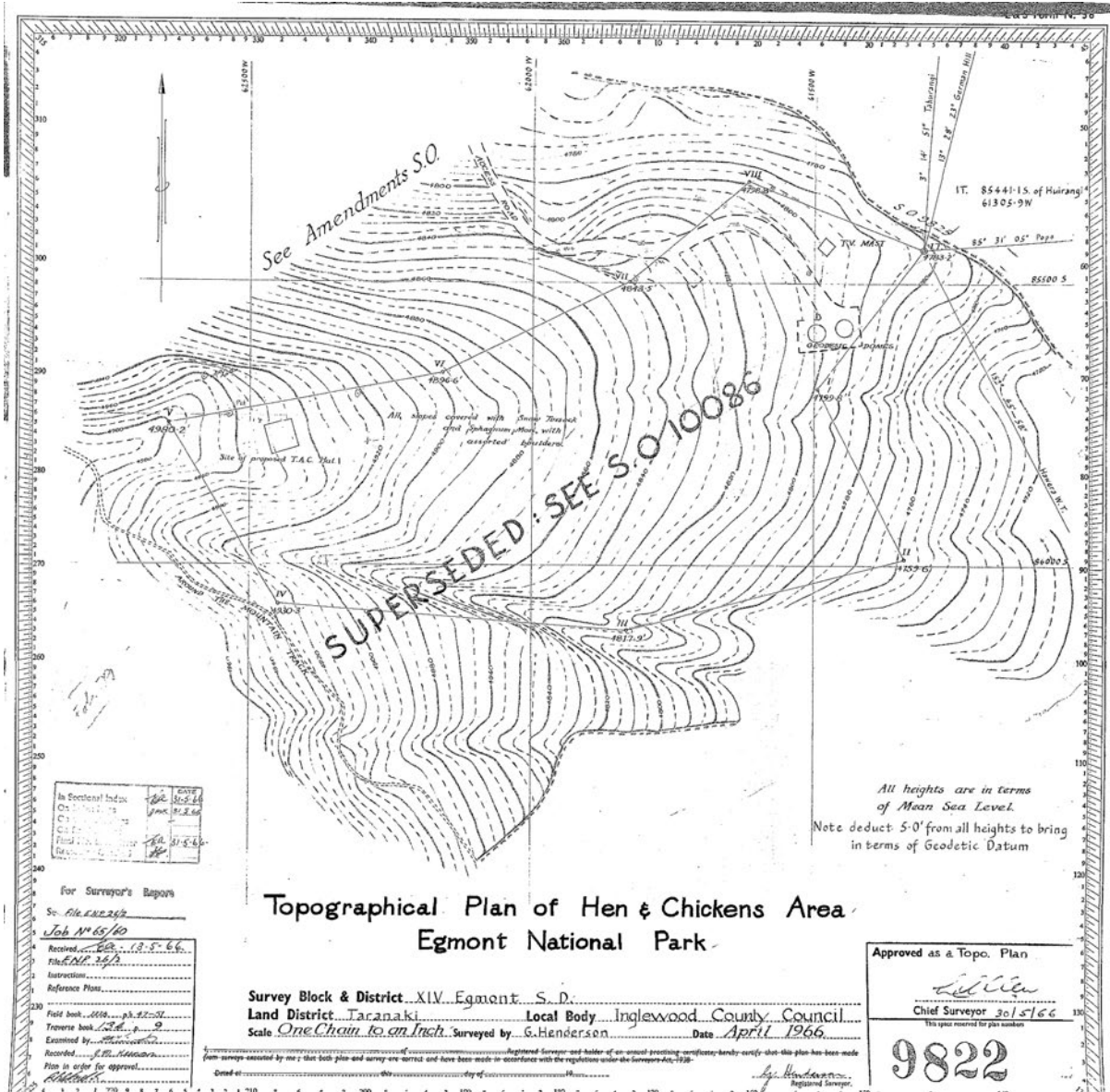
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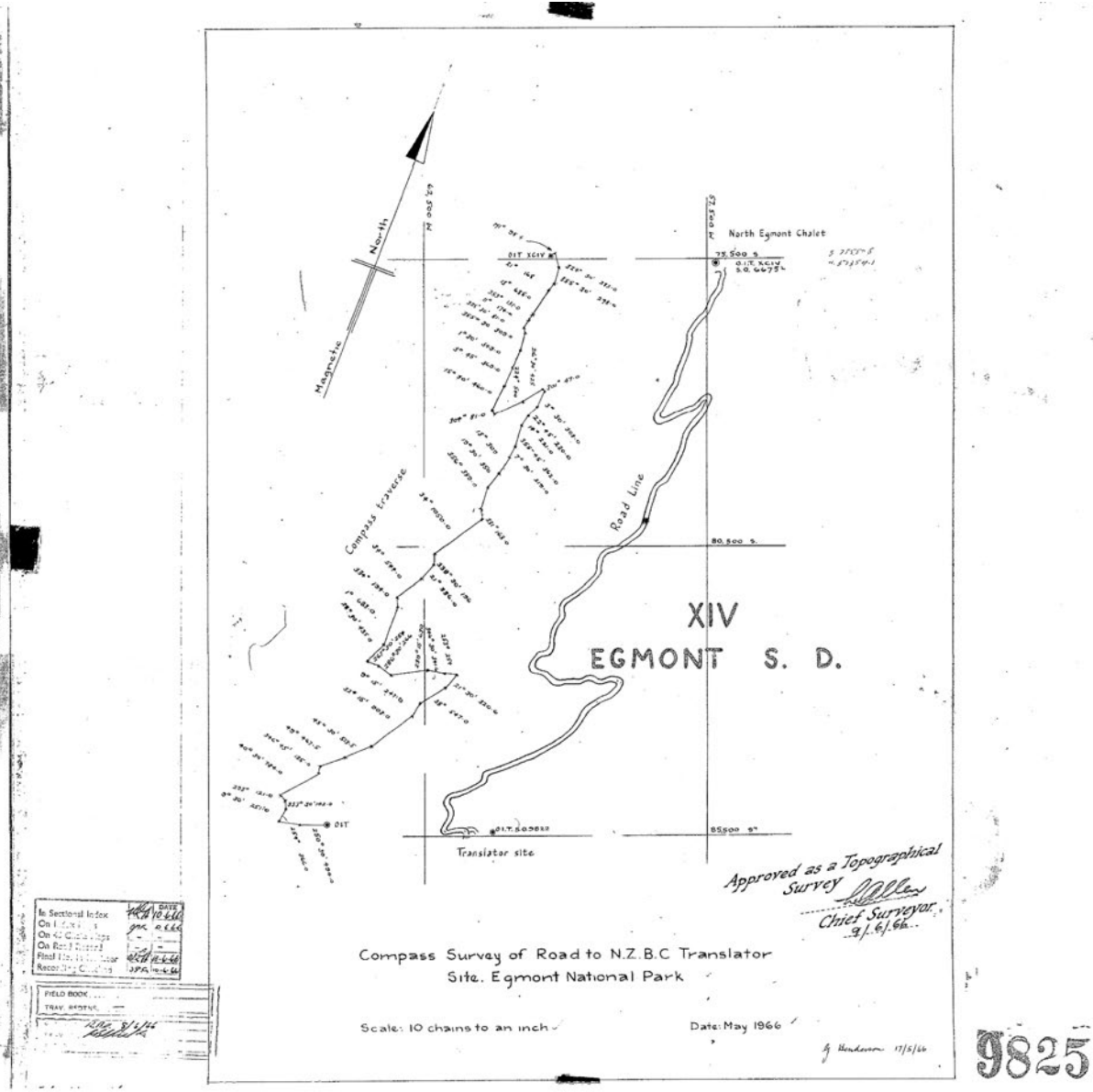


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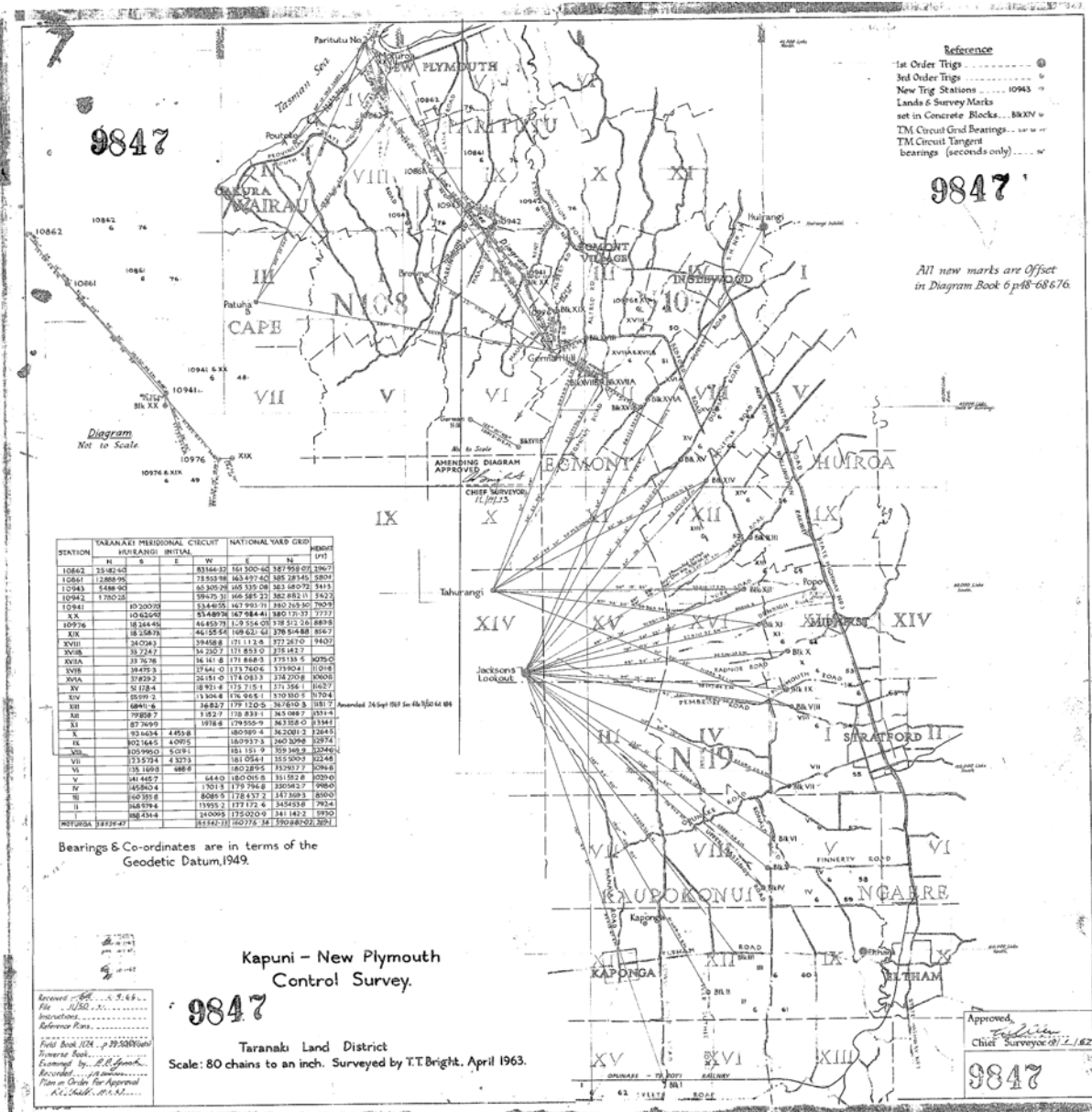


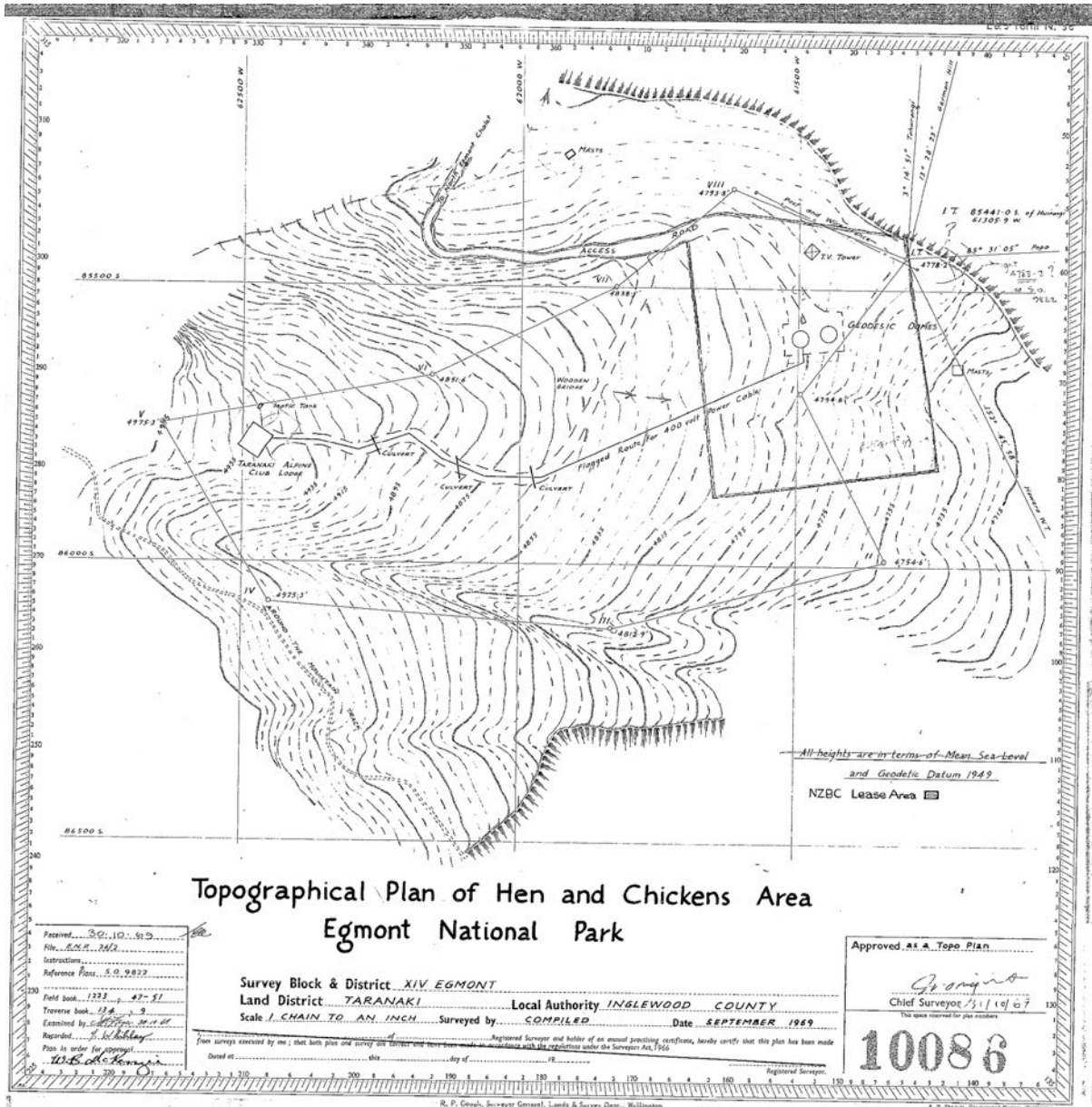


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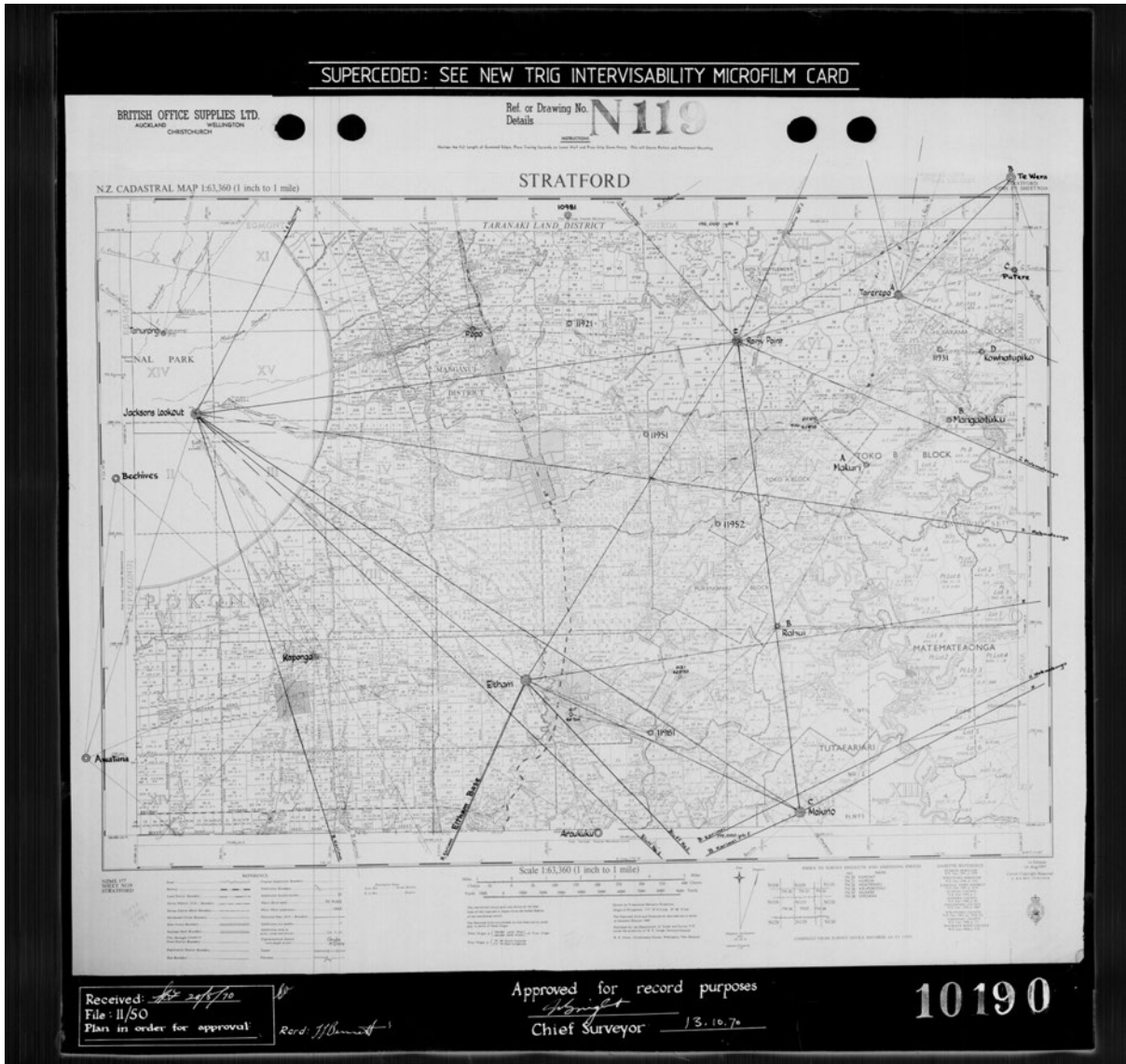


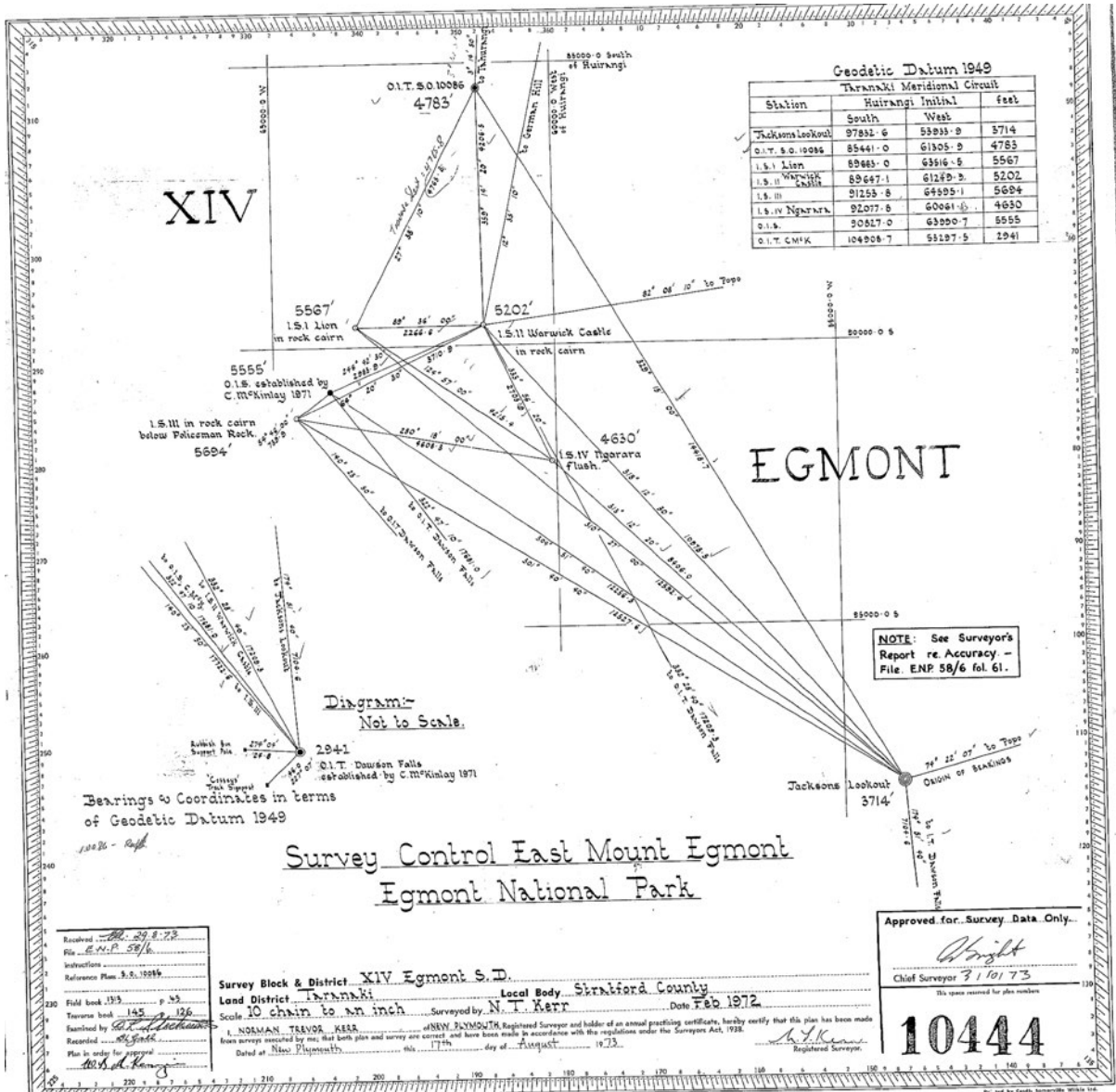
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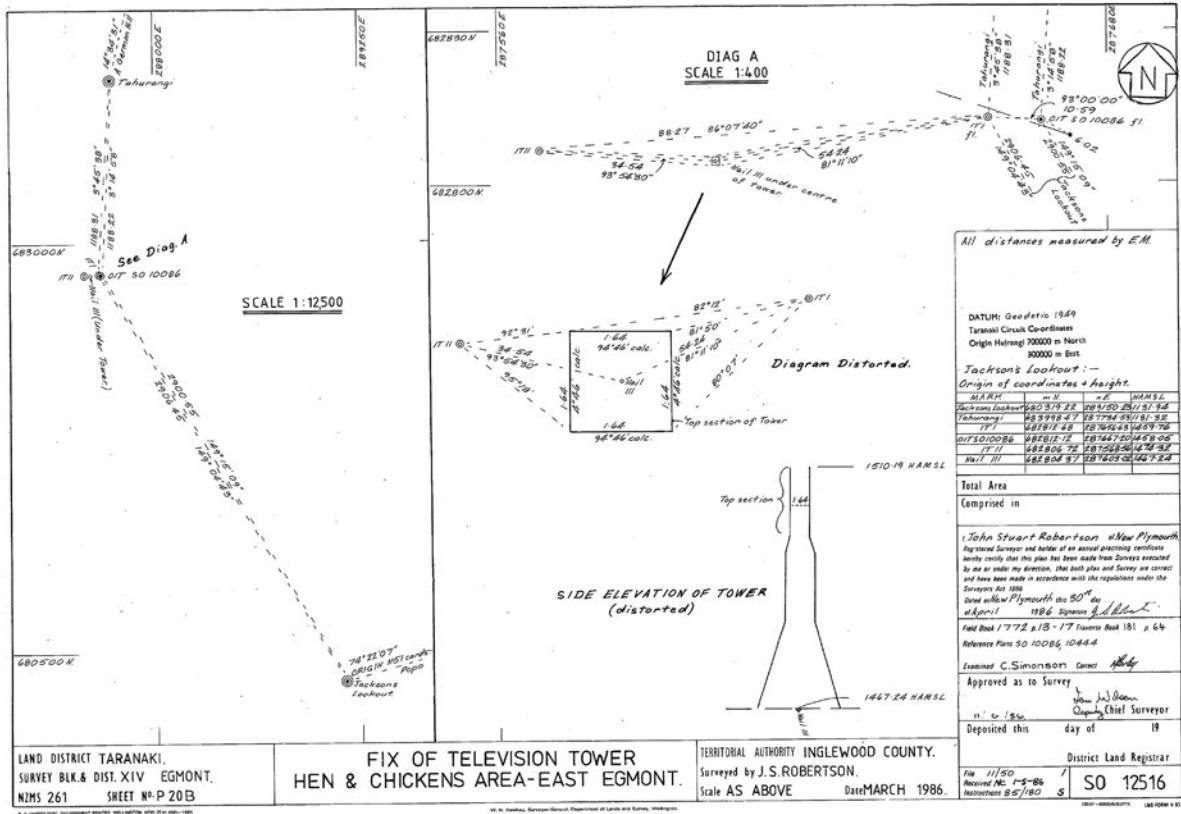


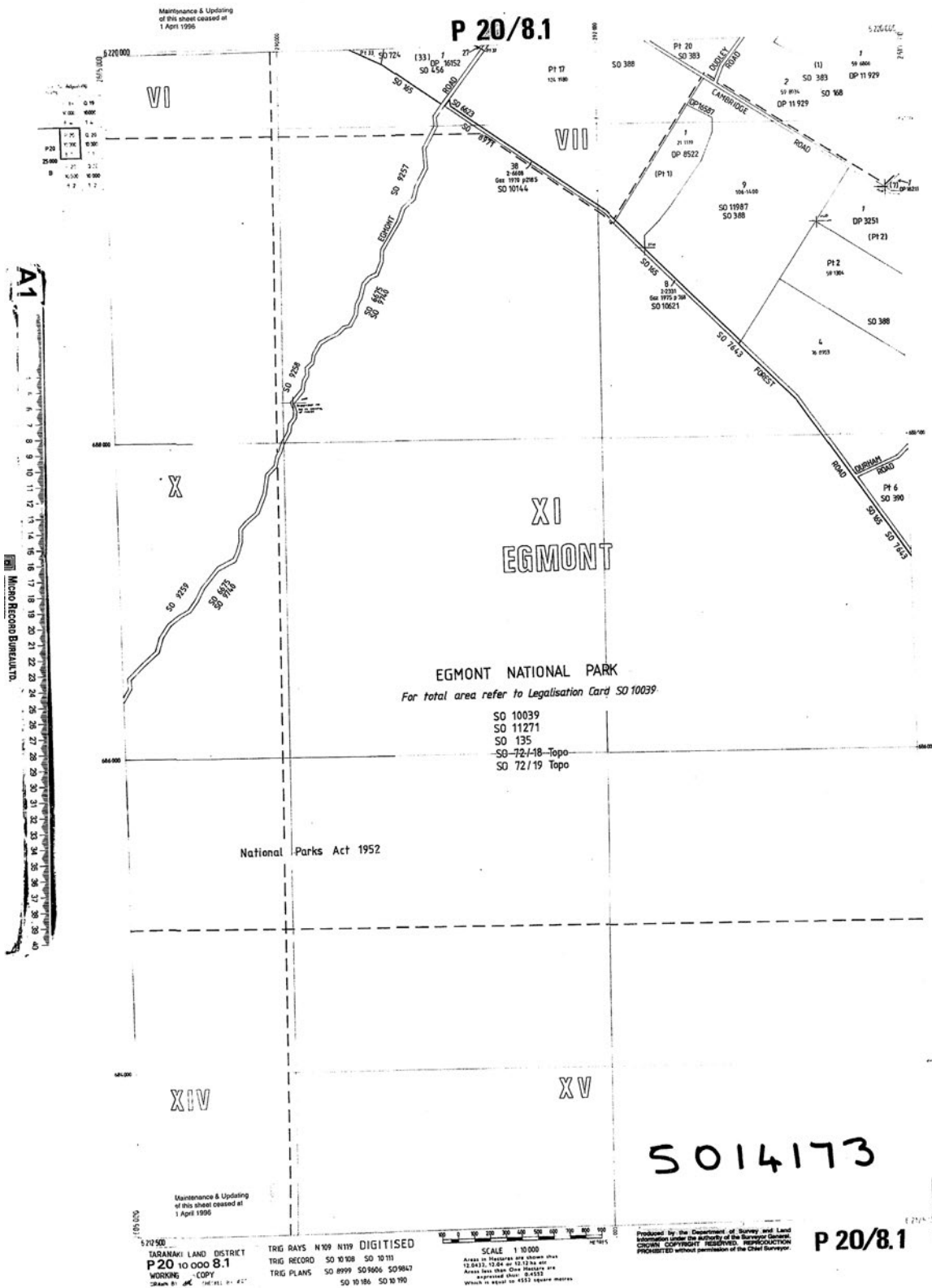
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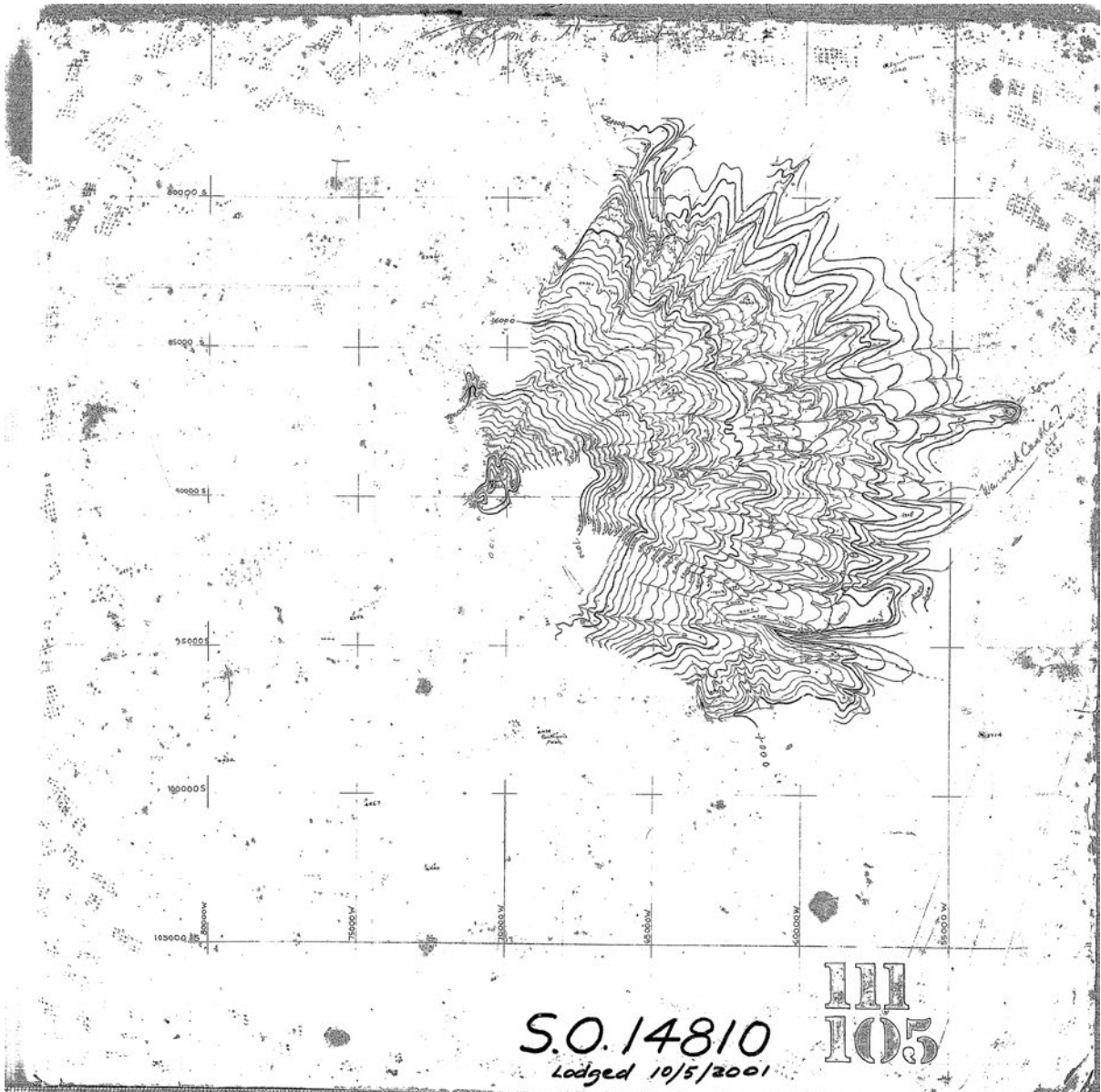




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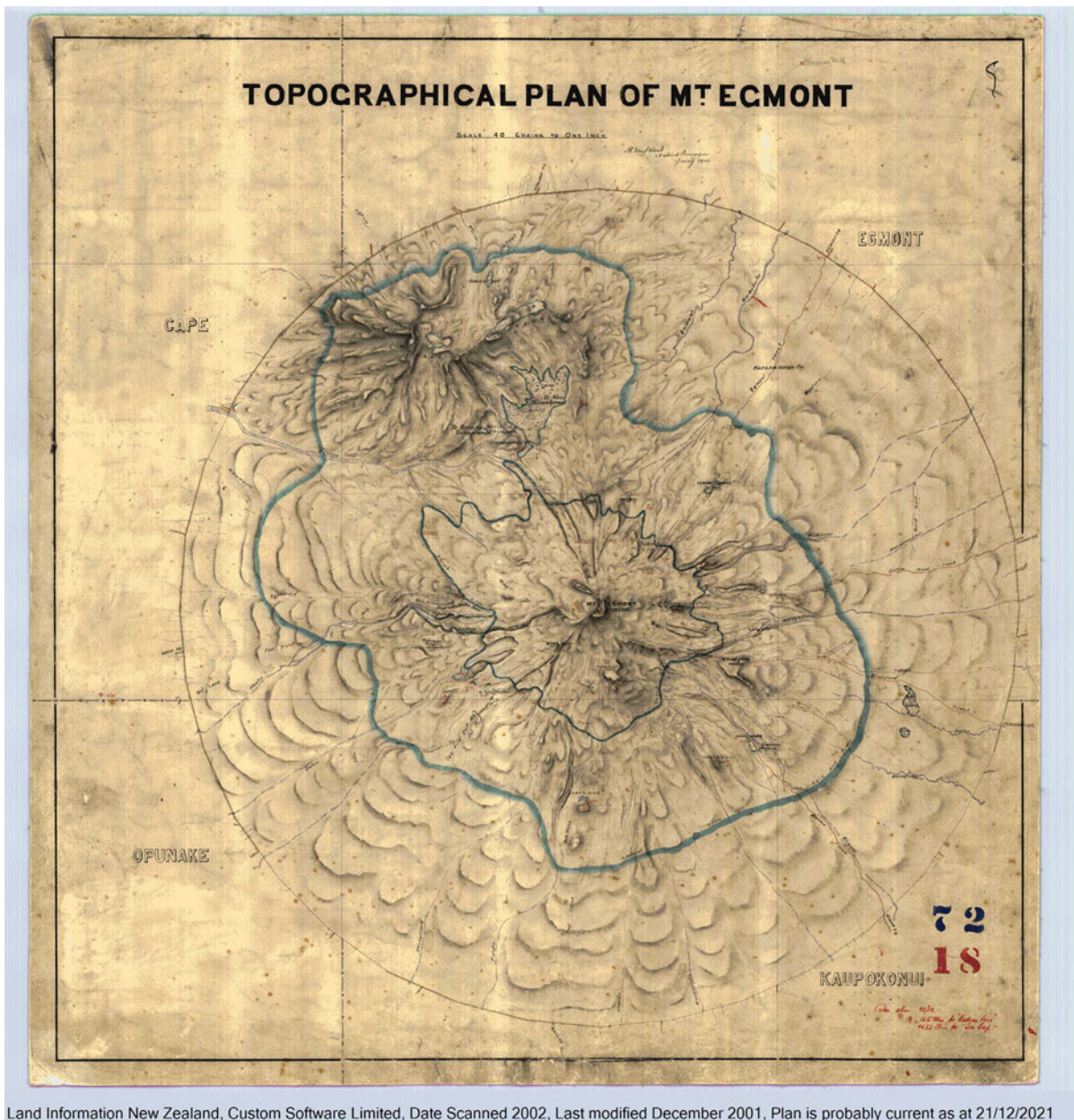




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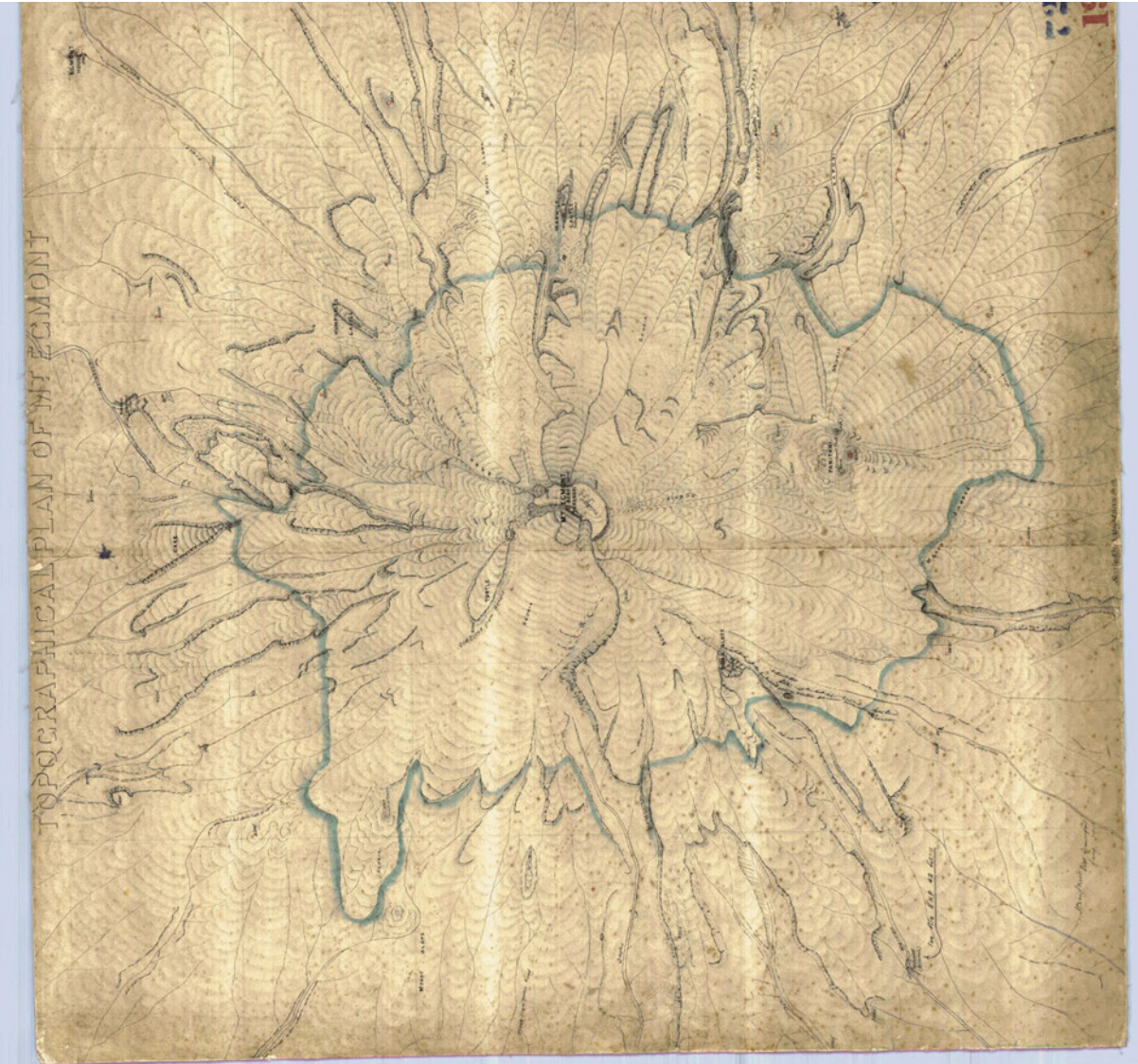
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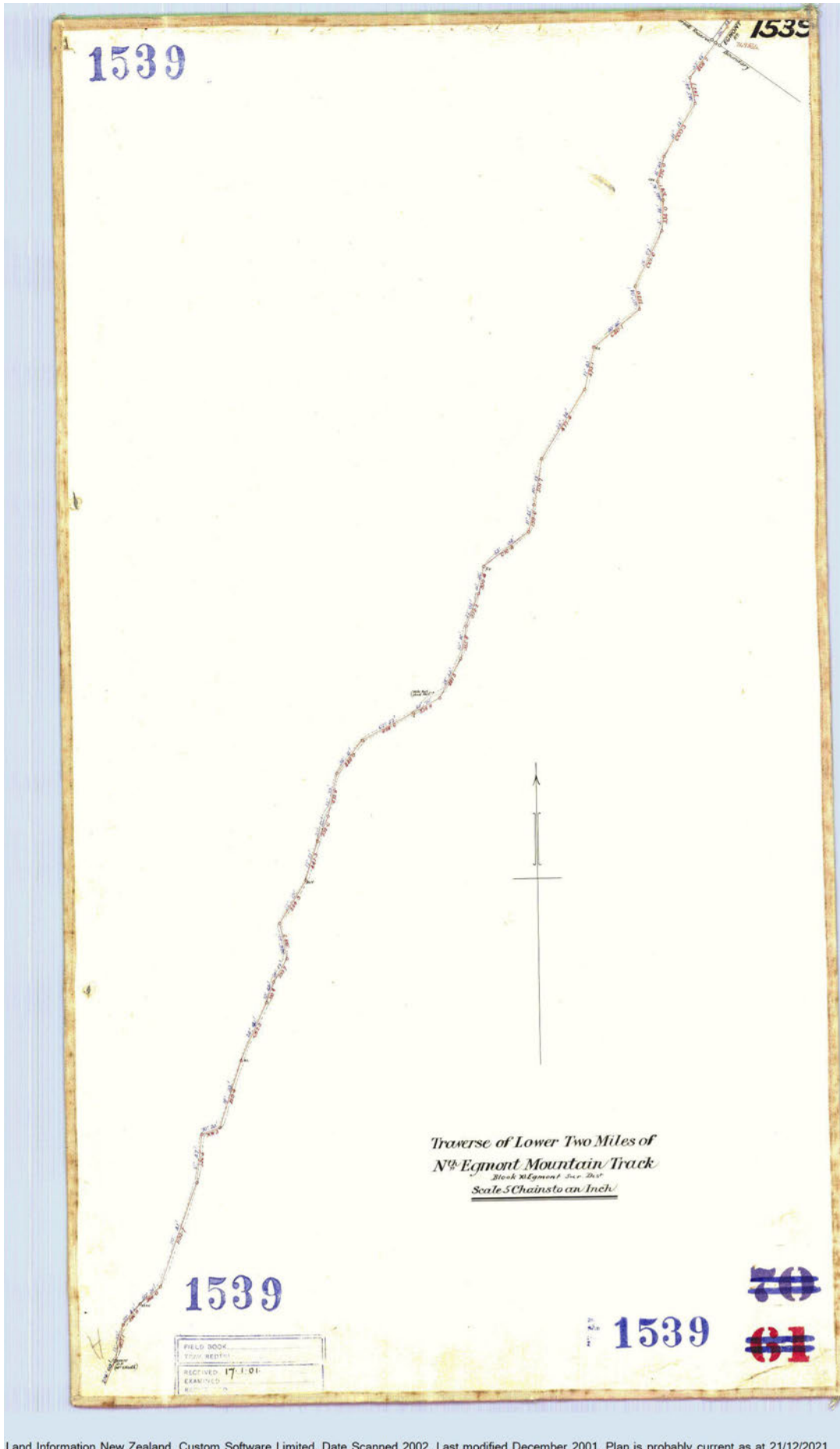
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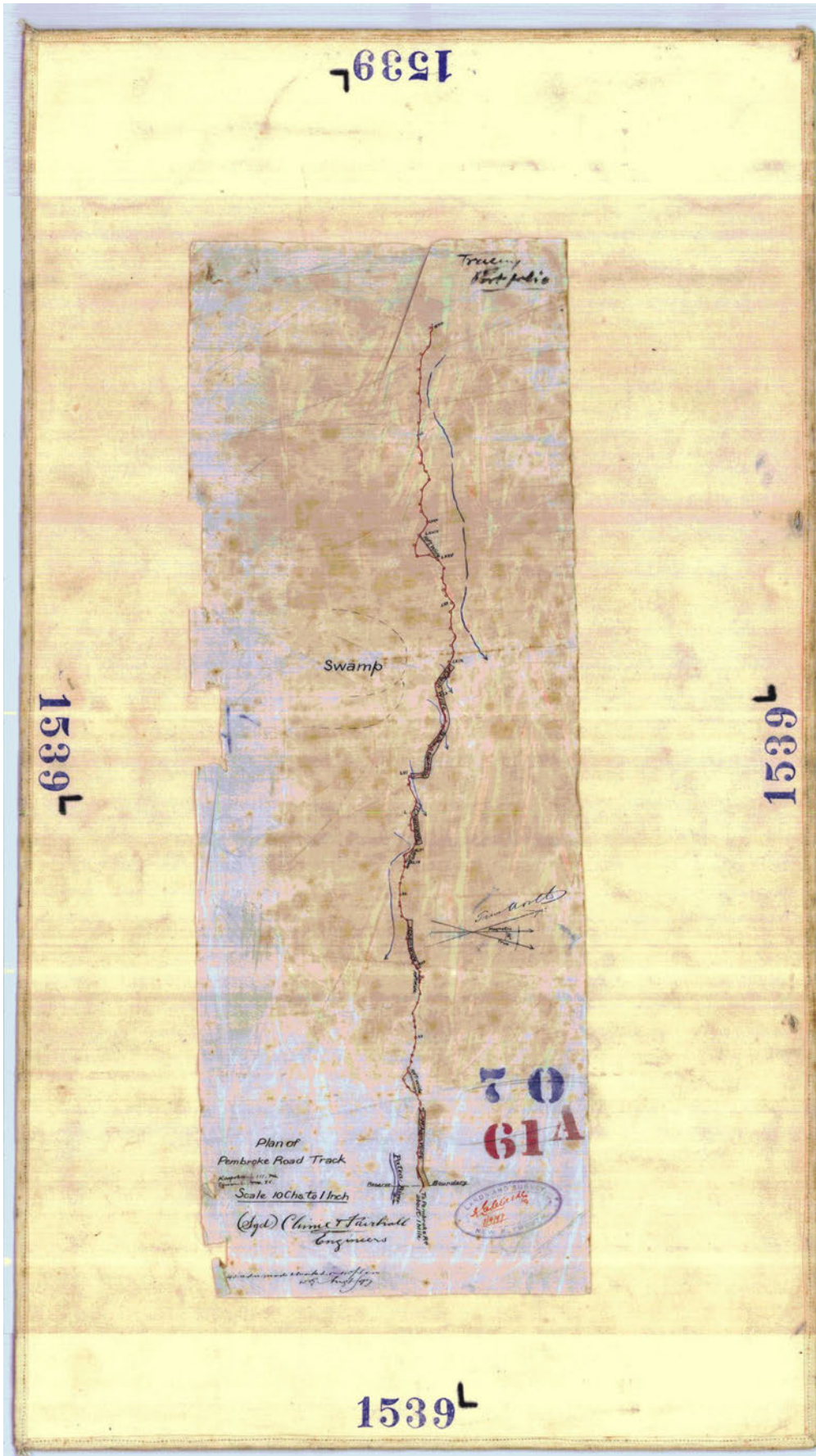
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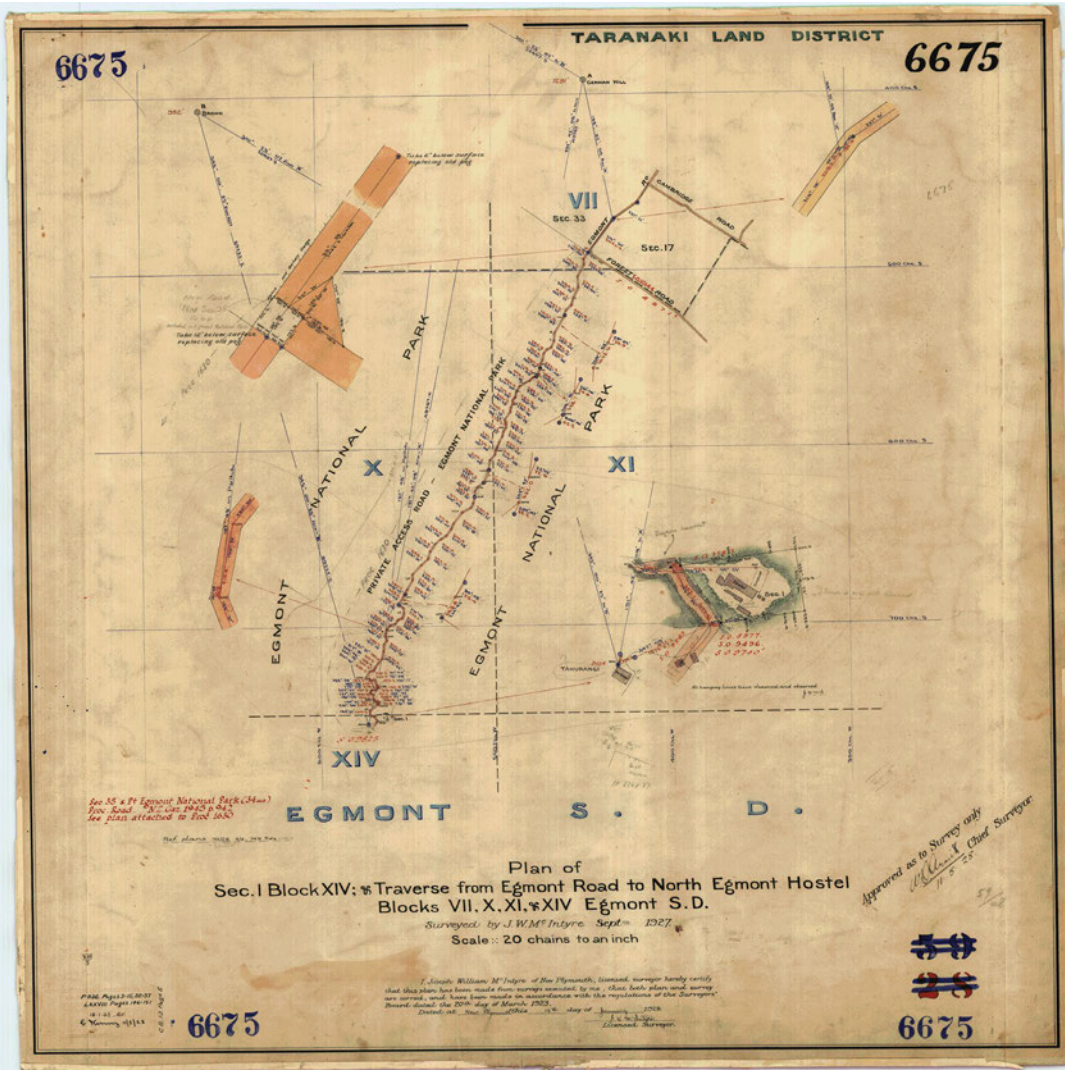
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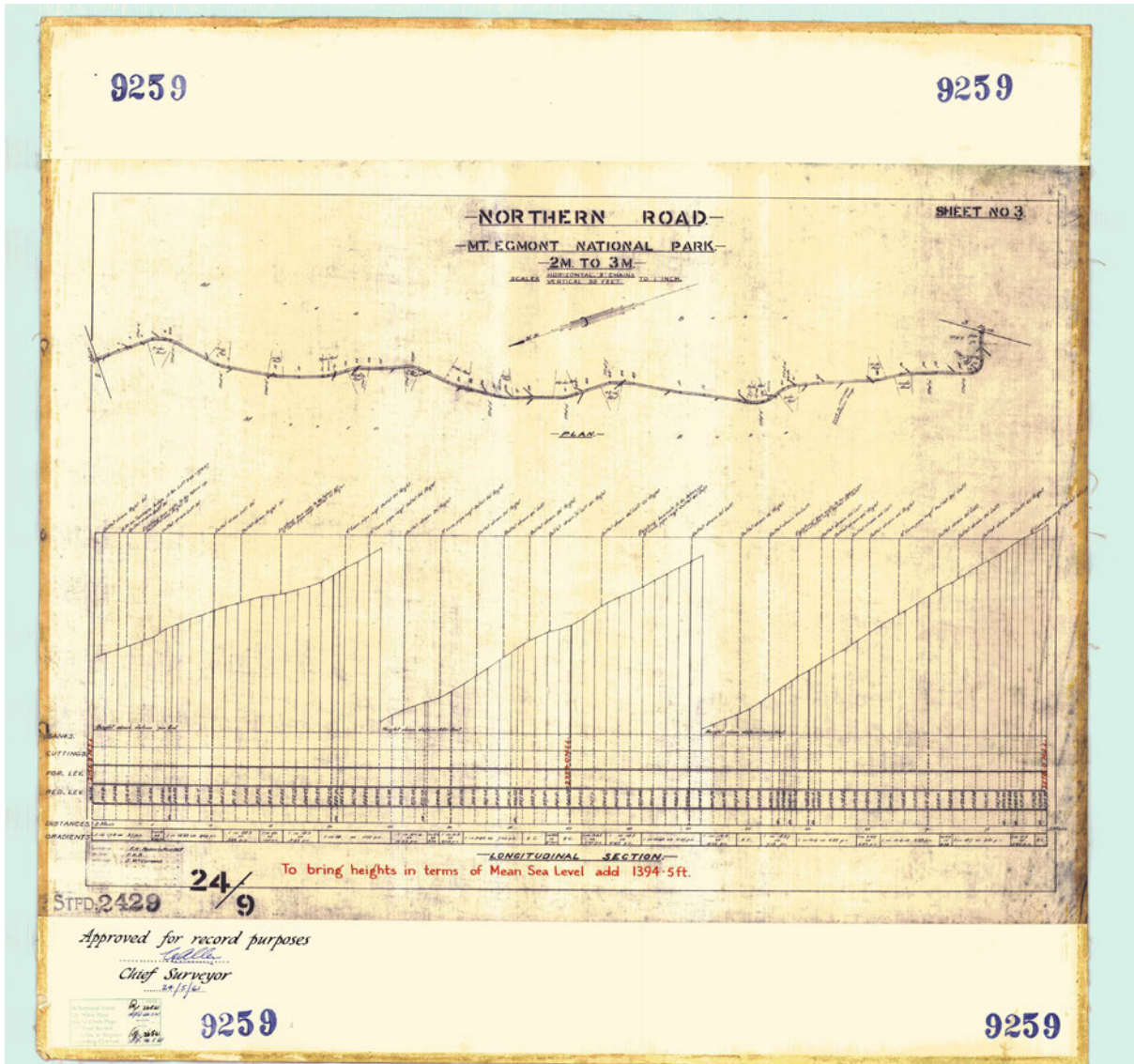
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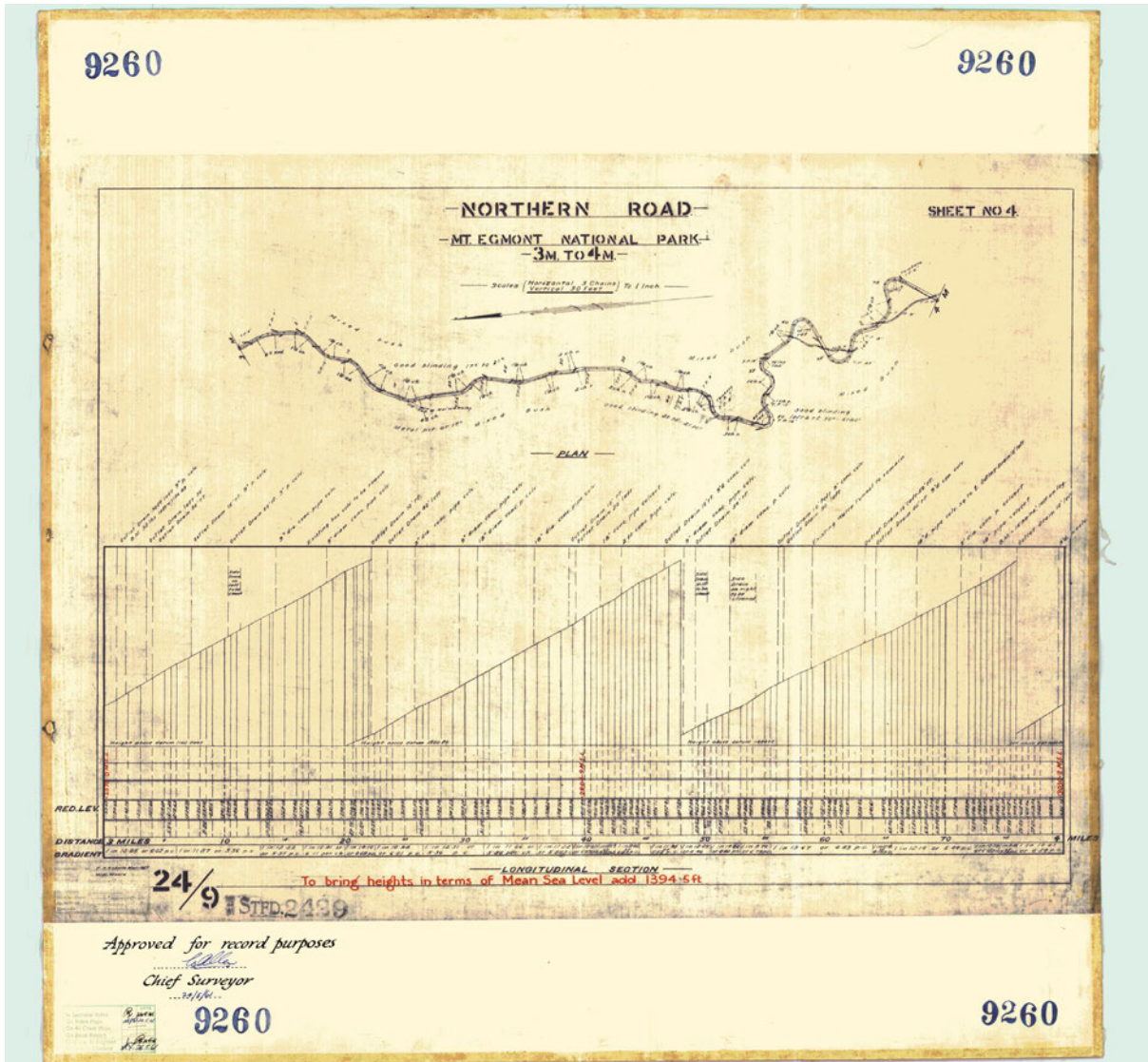
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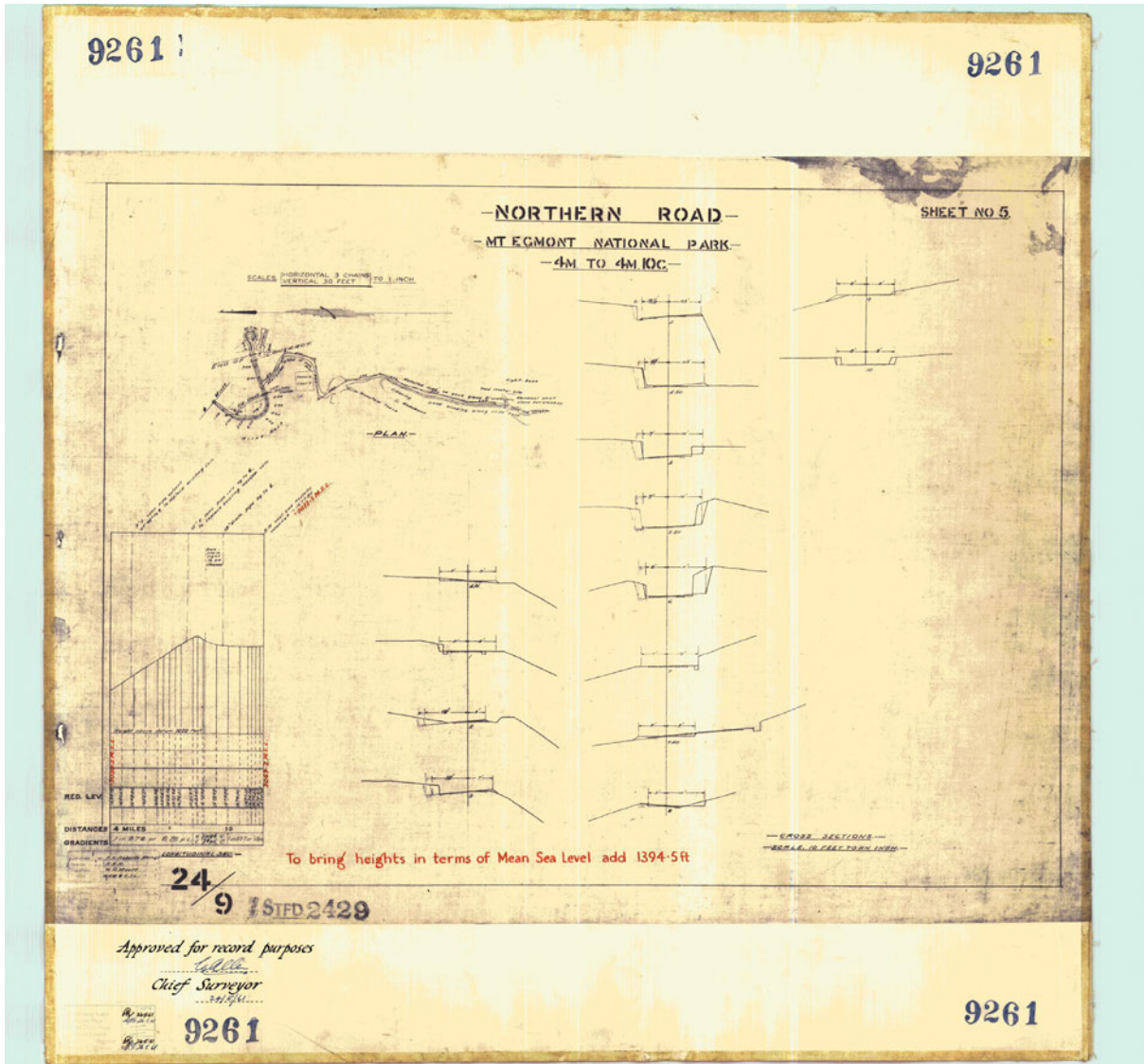
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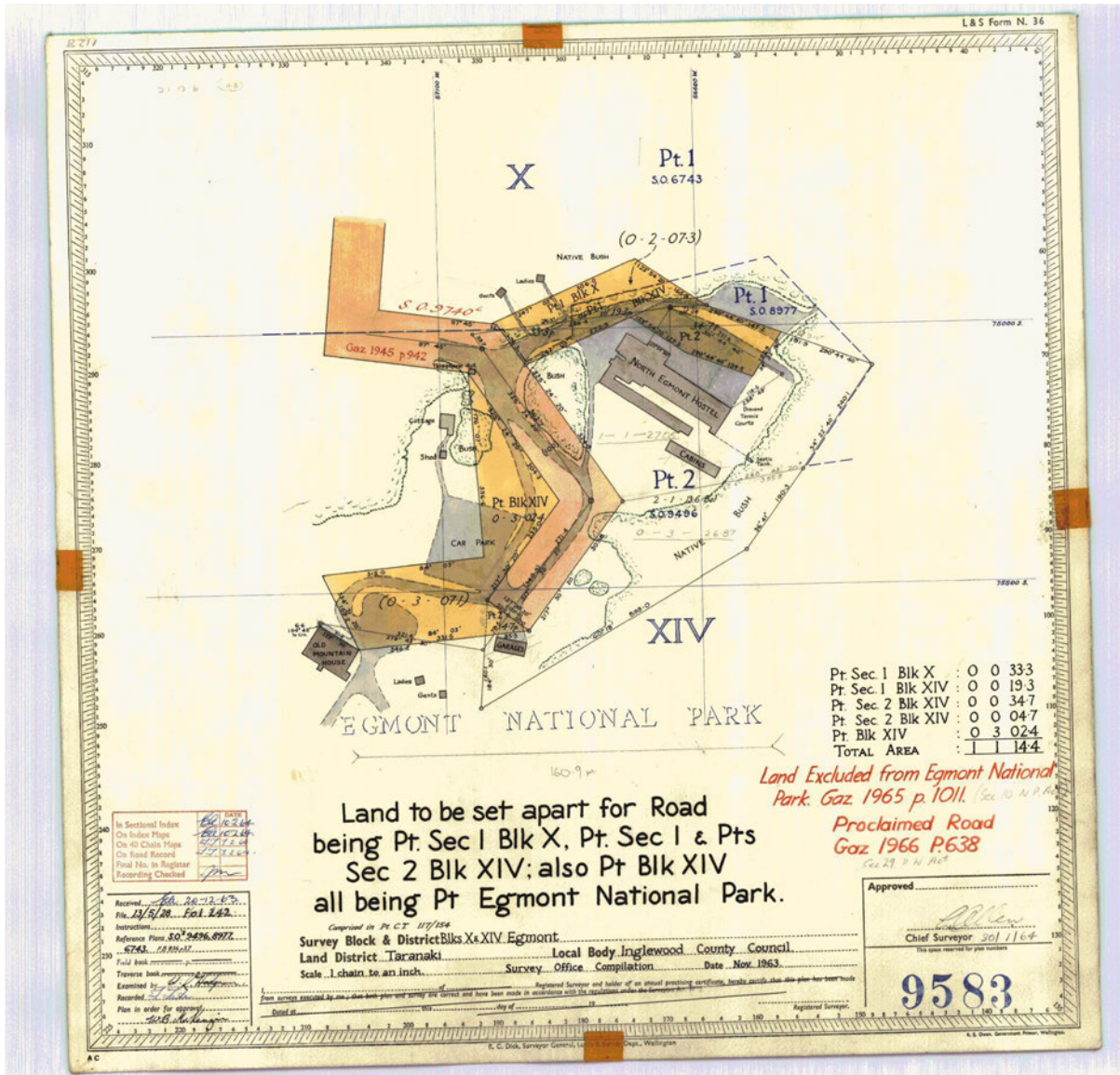
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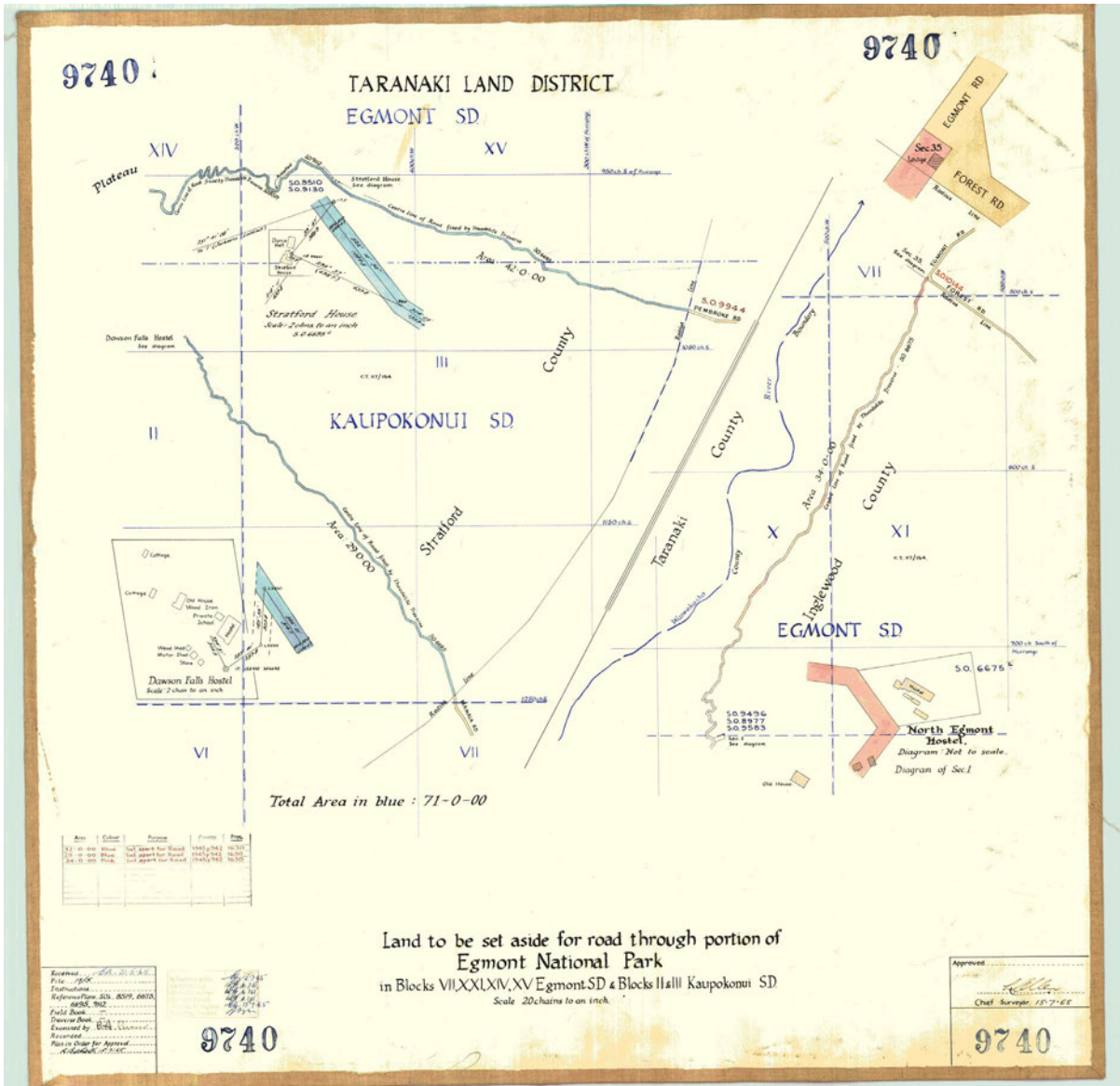
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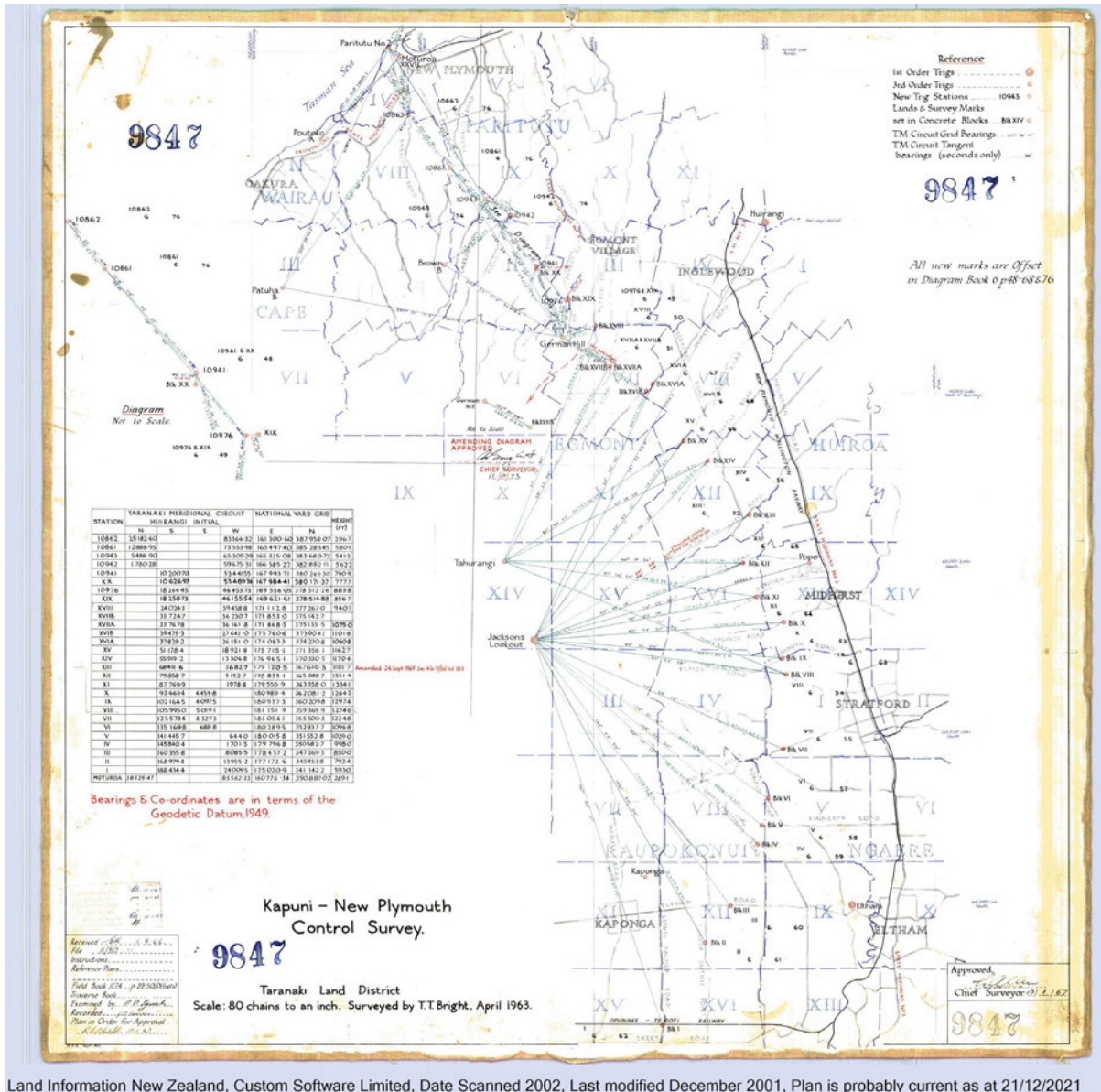
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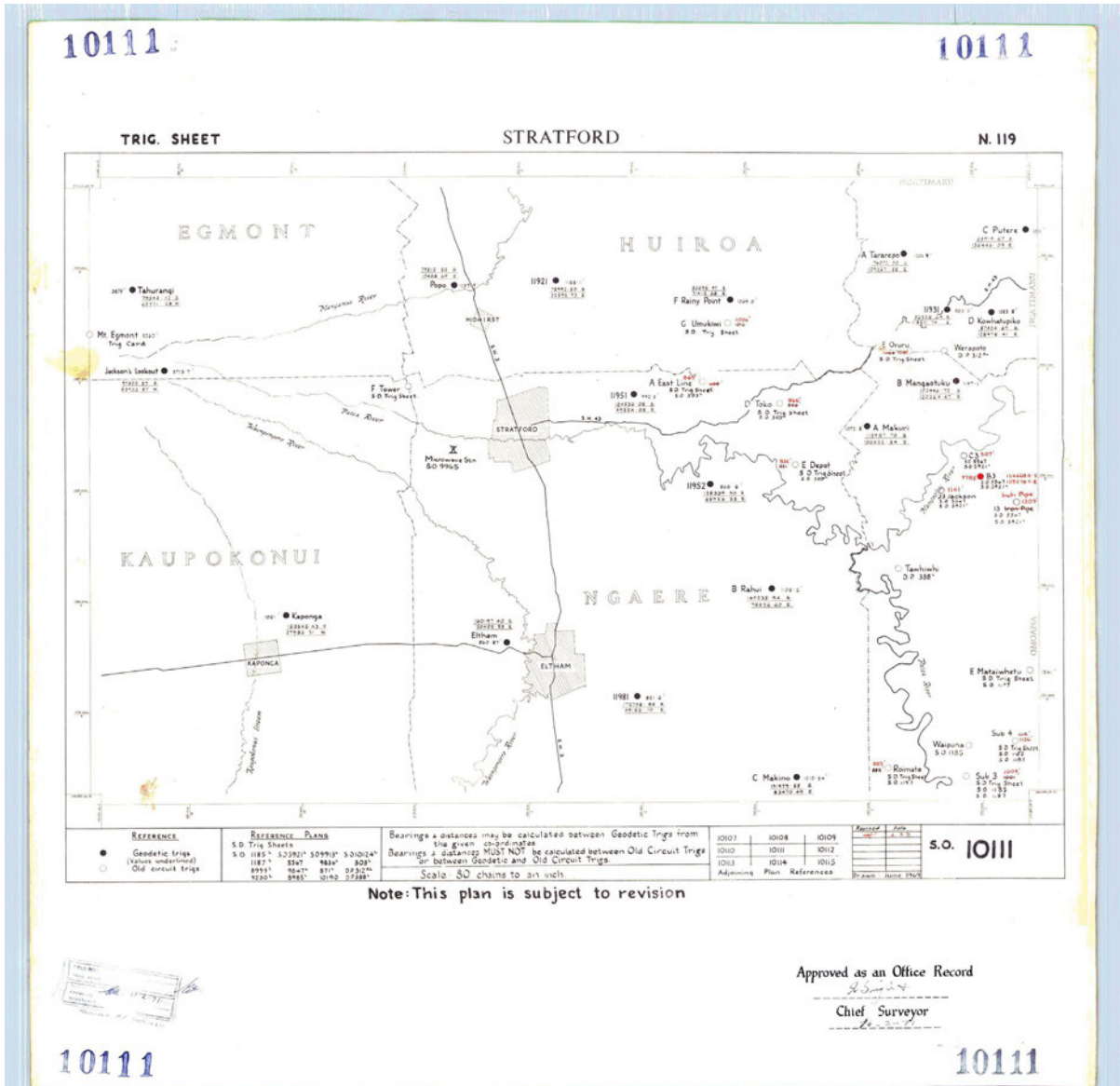
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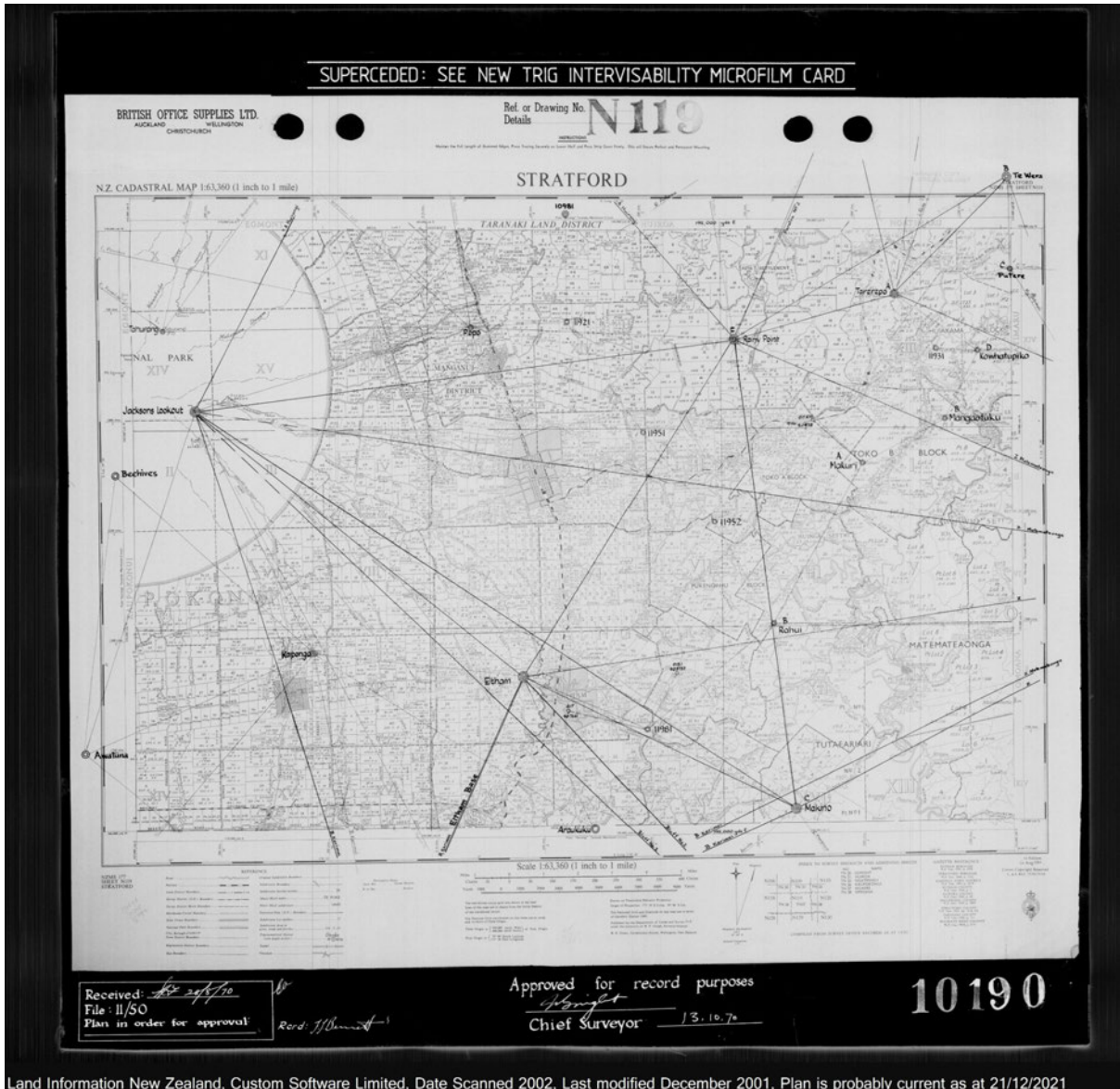
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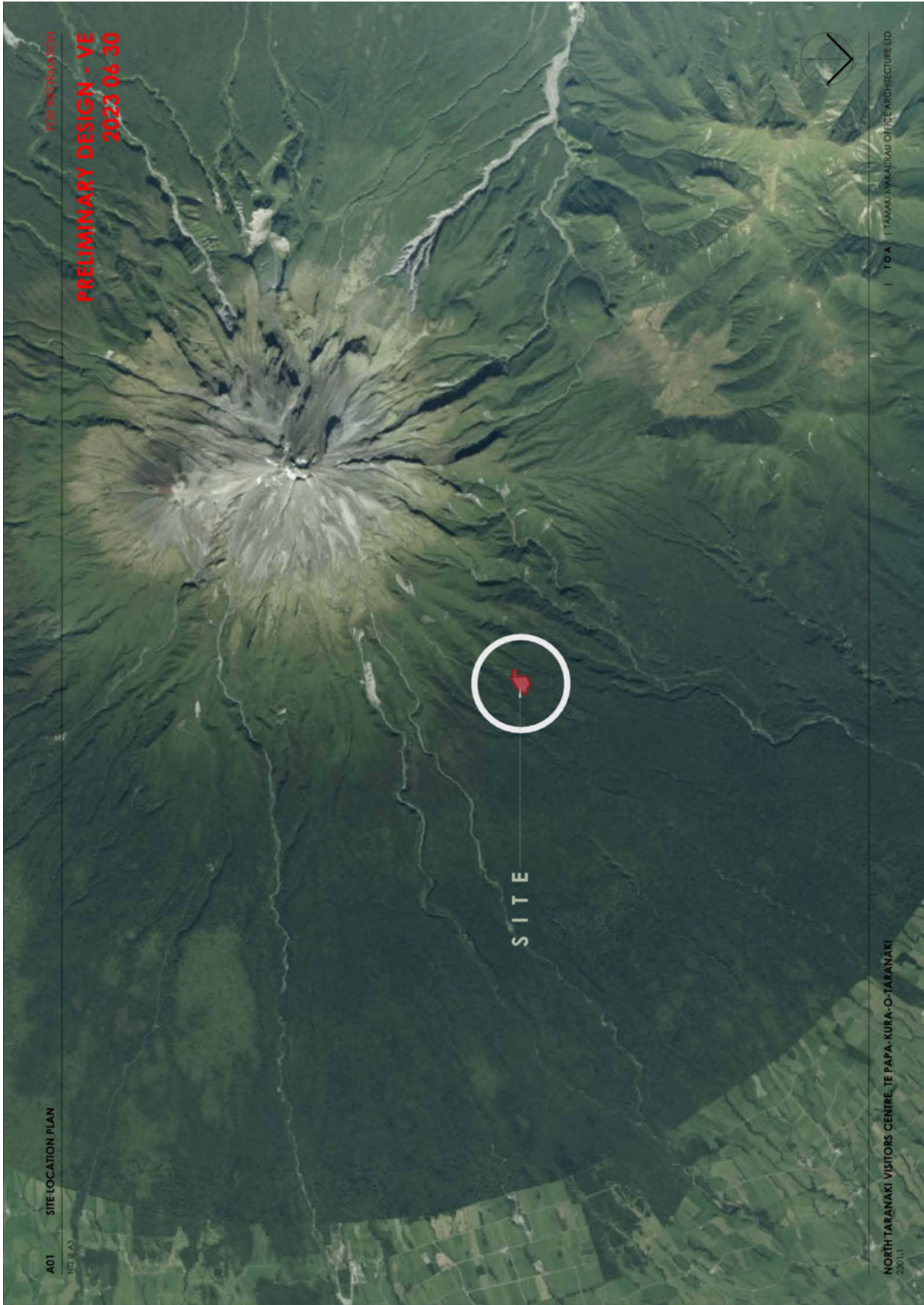
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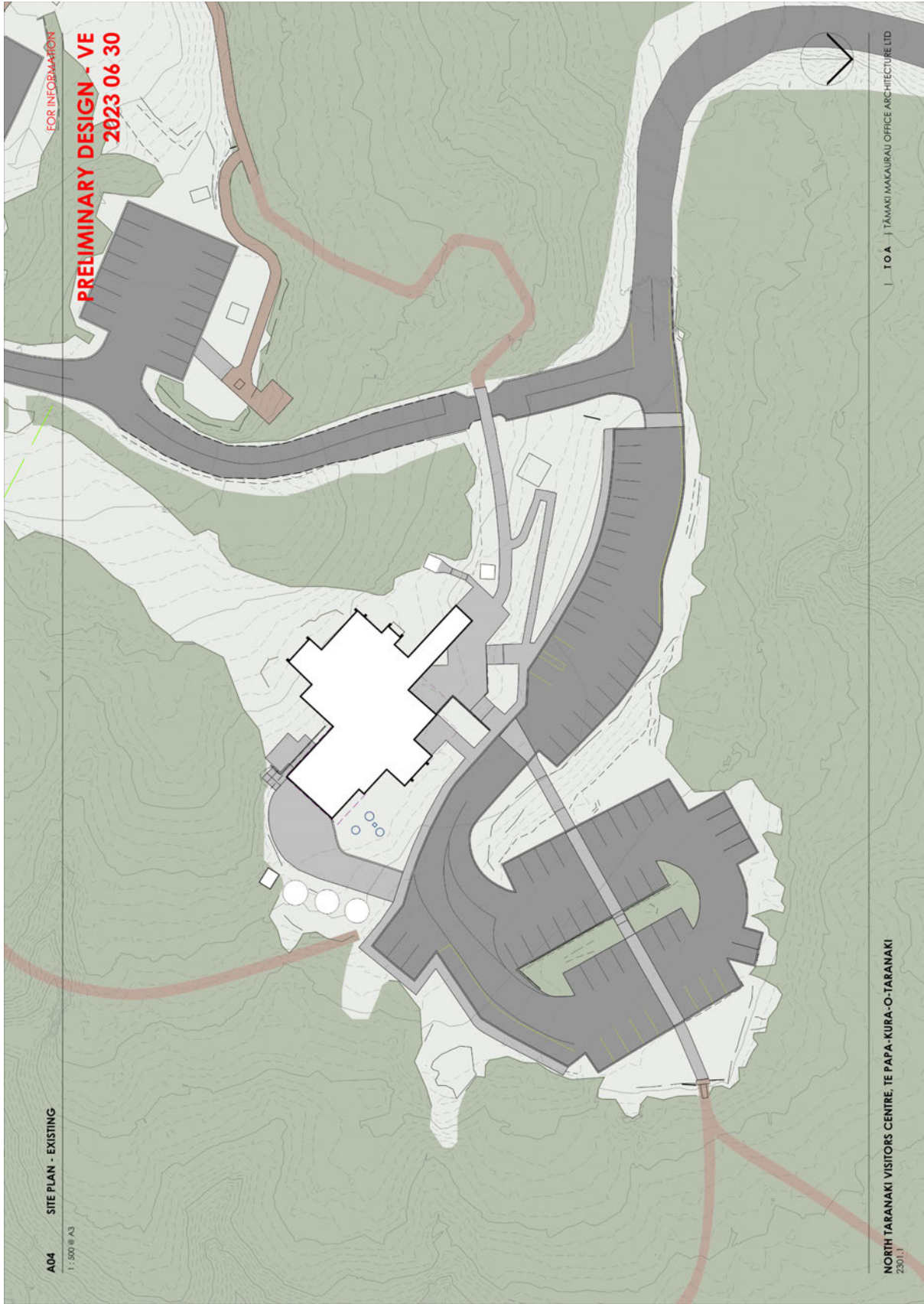
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Appendix 4: Project Plans

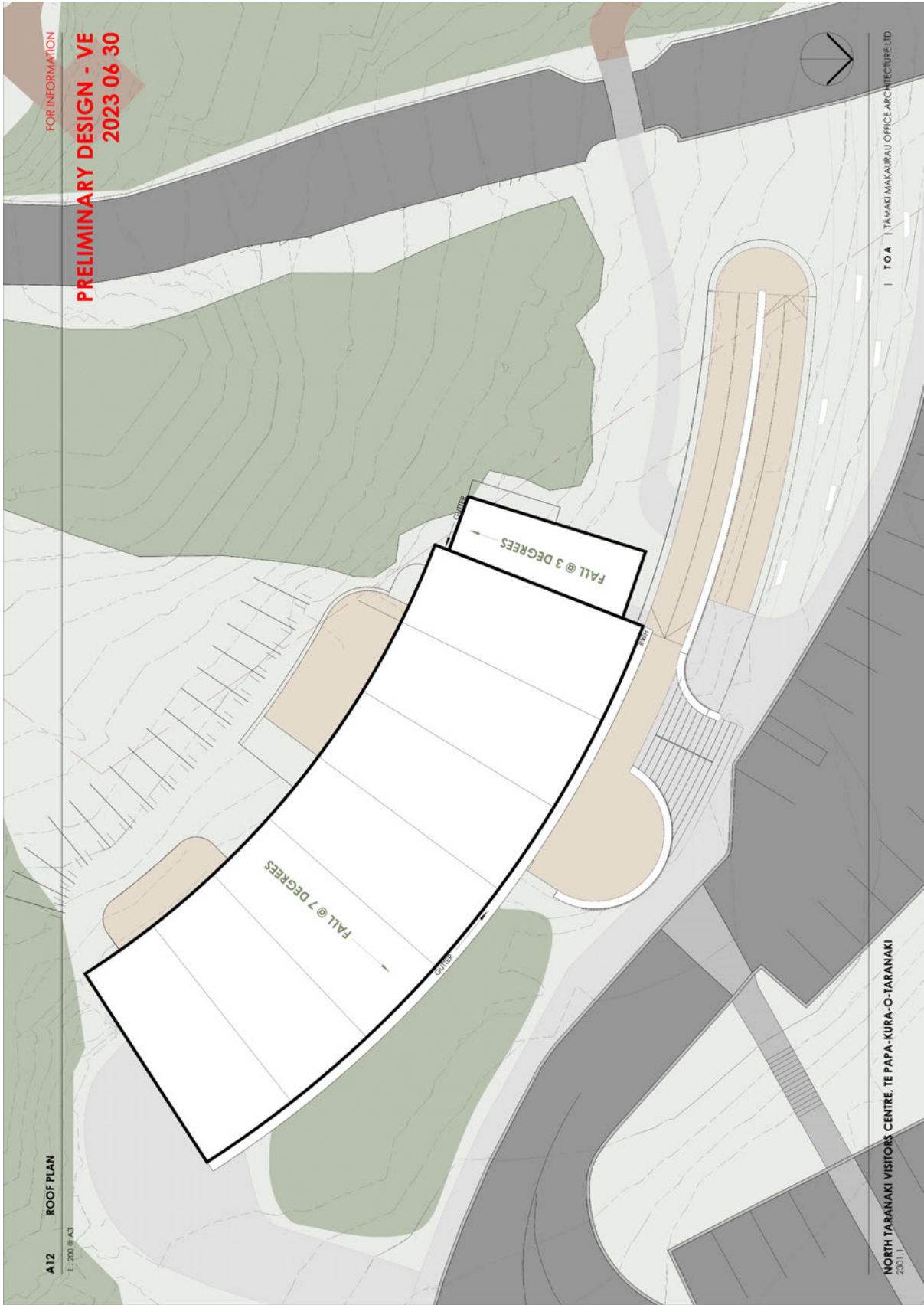


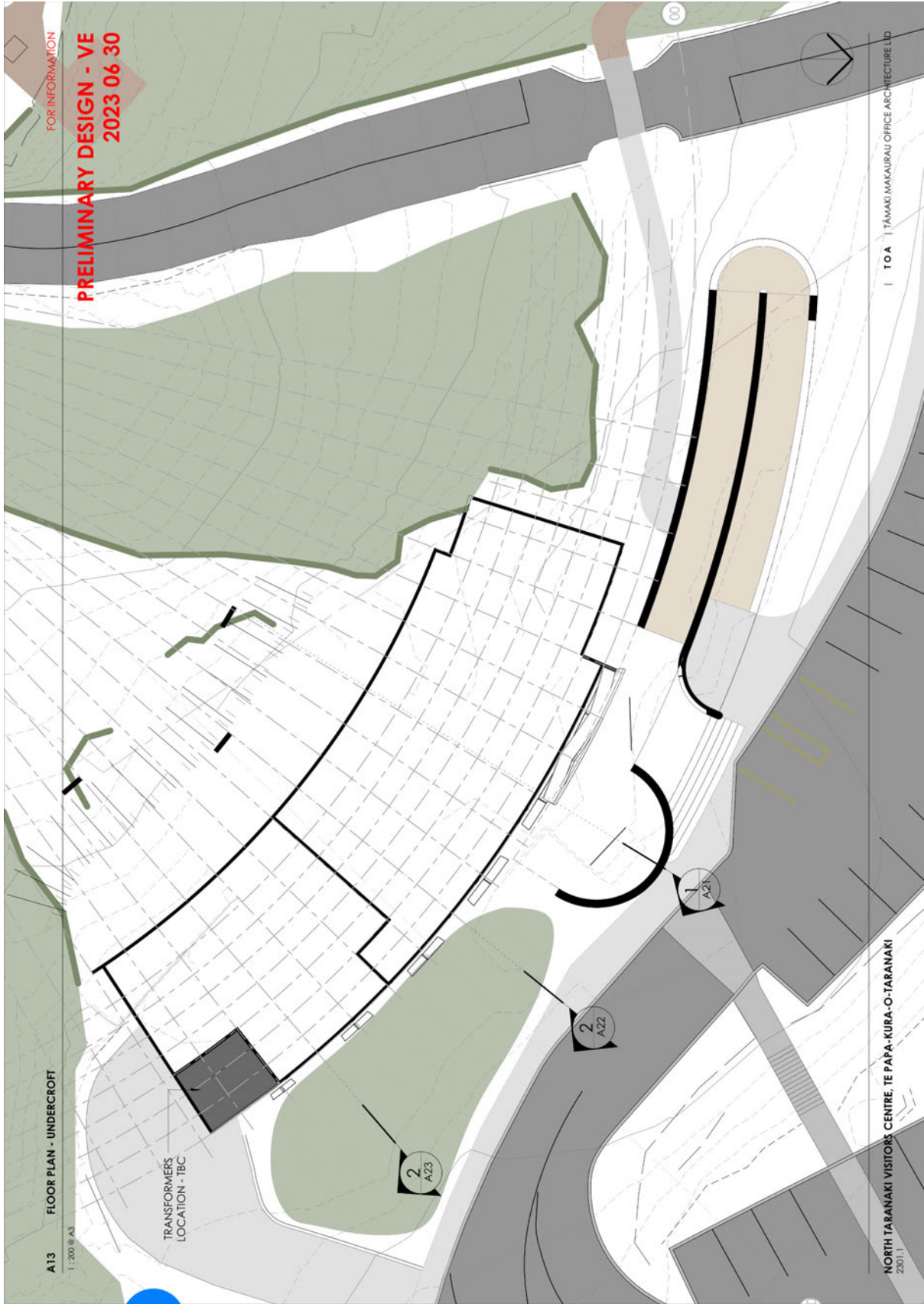




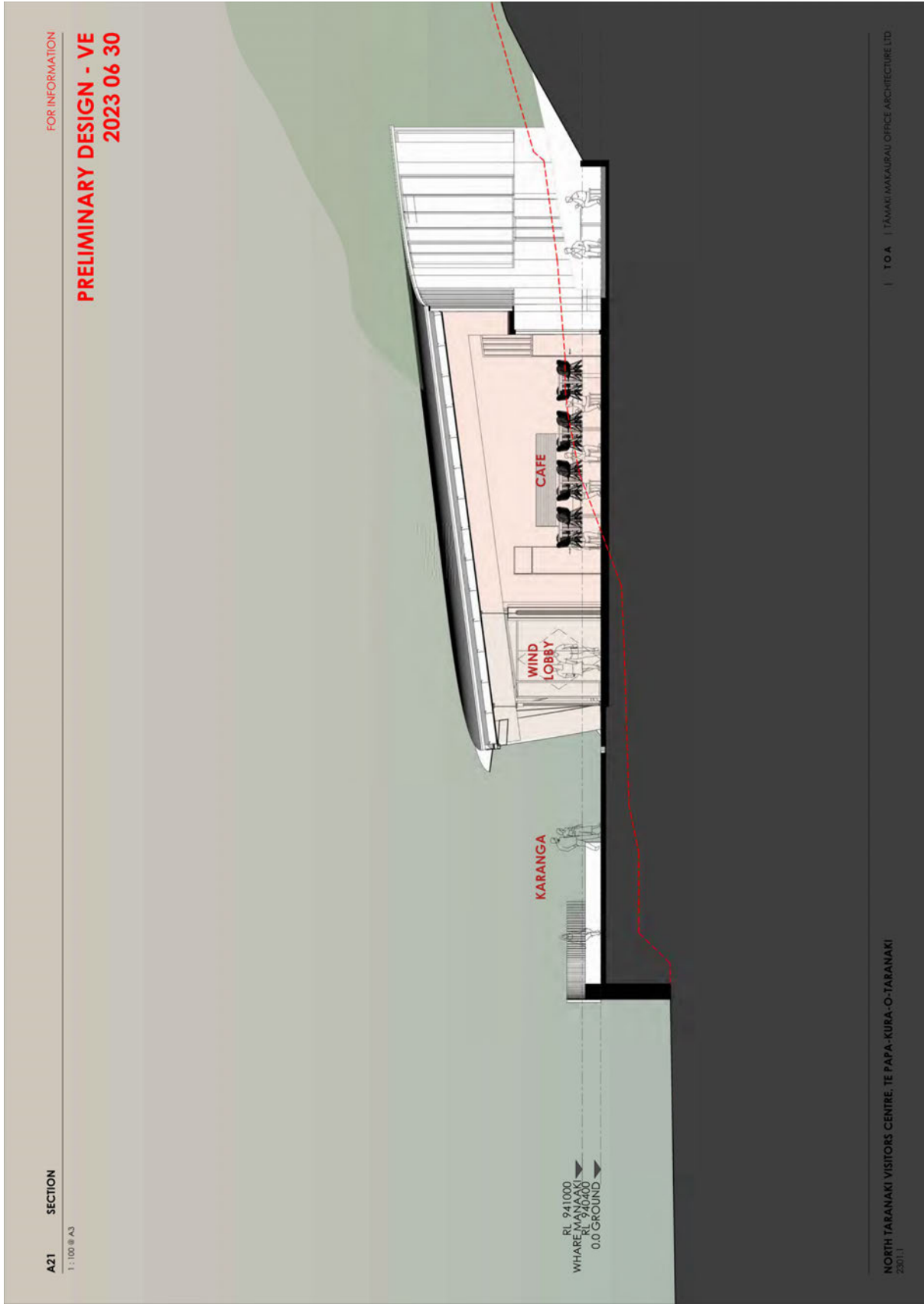


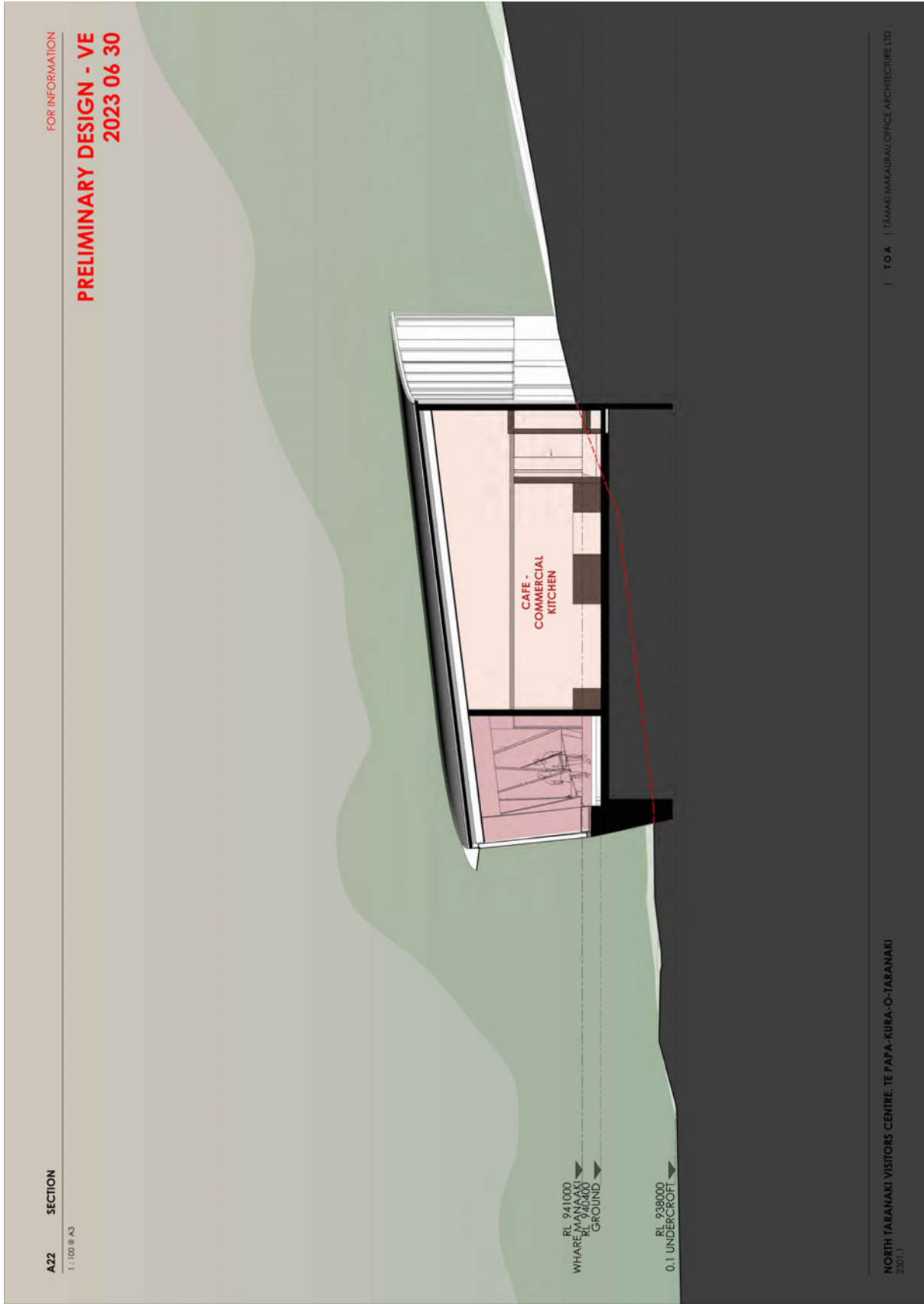


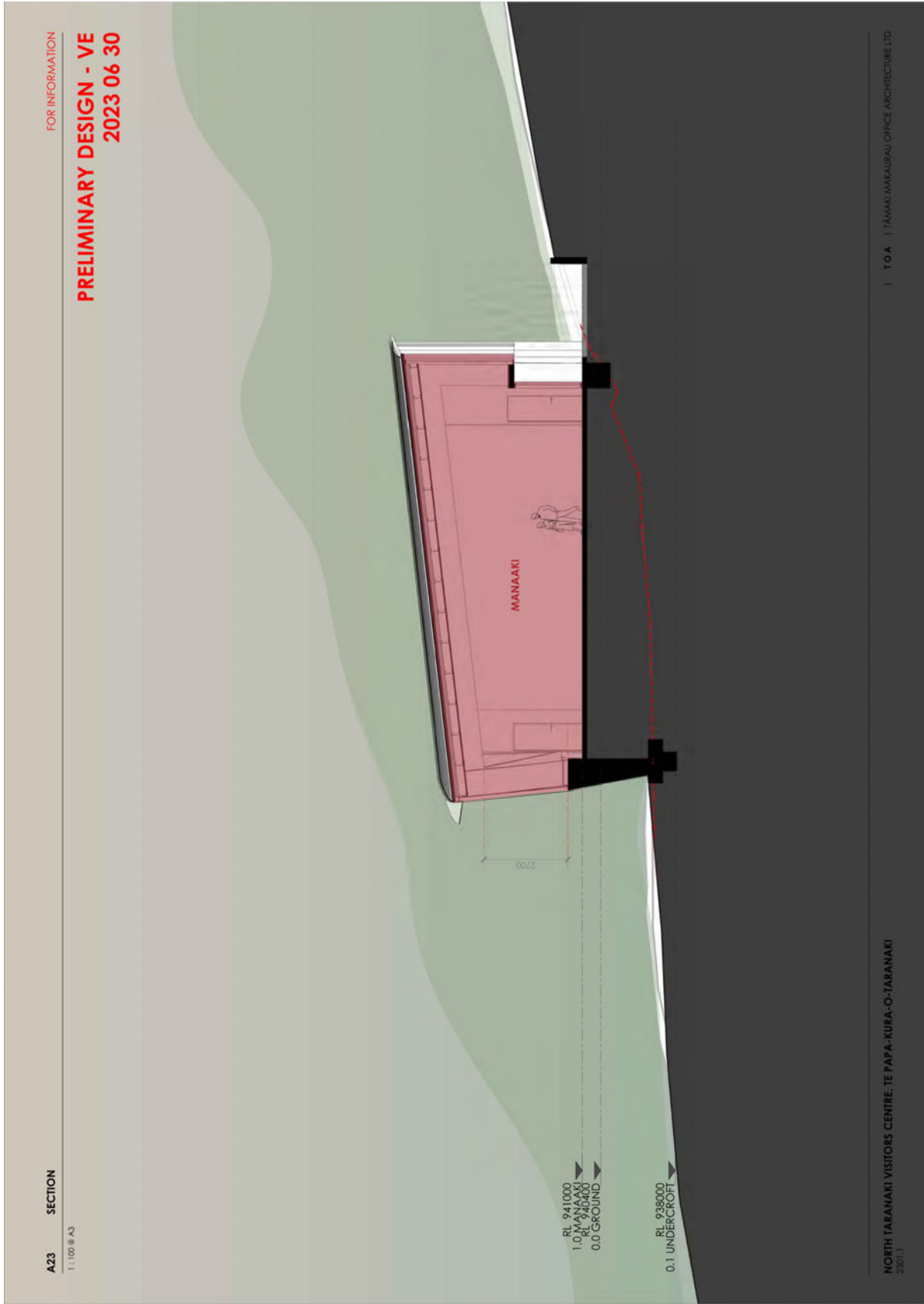


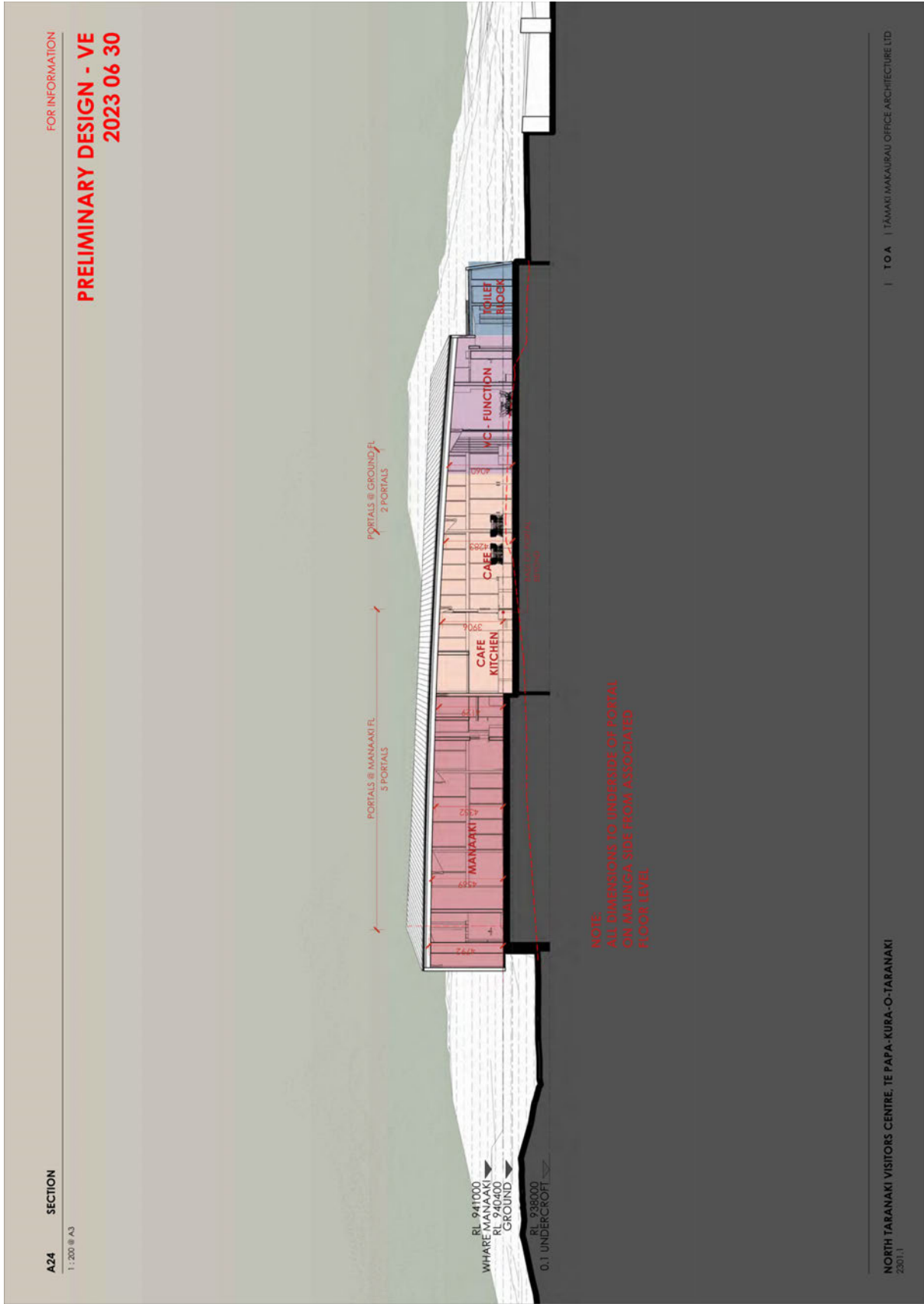


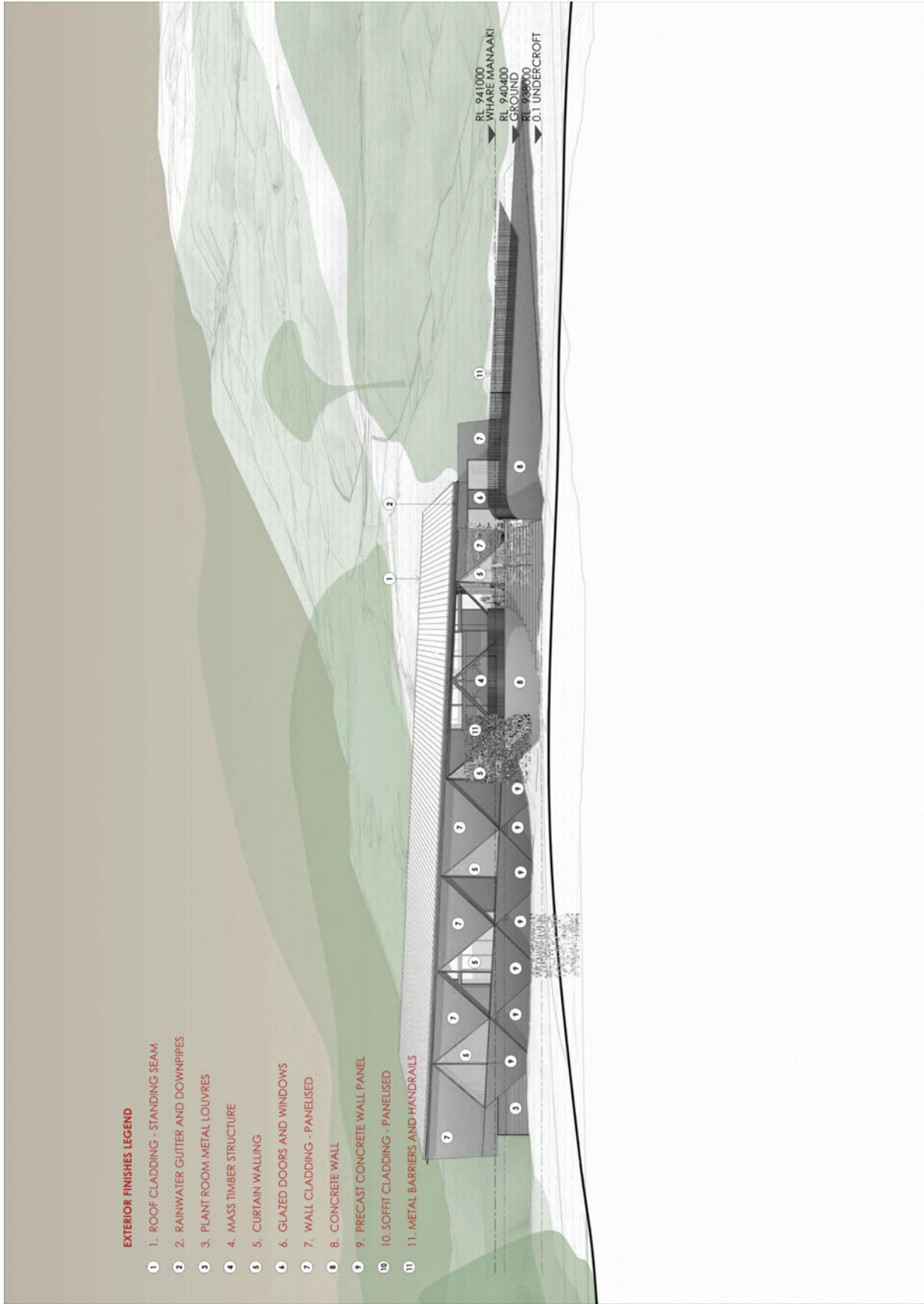


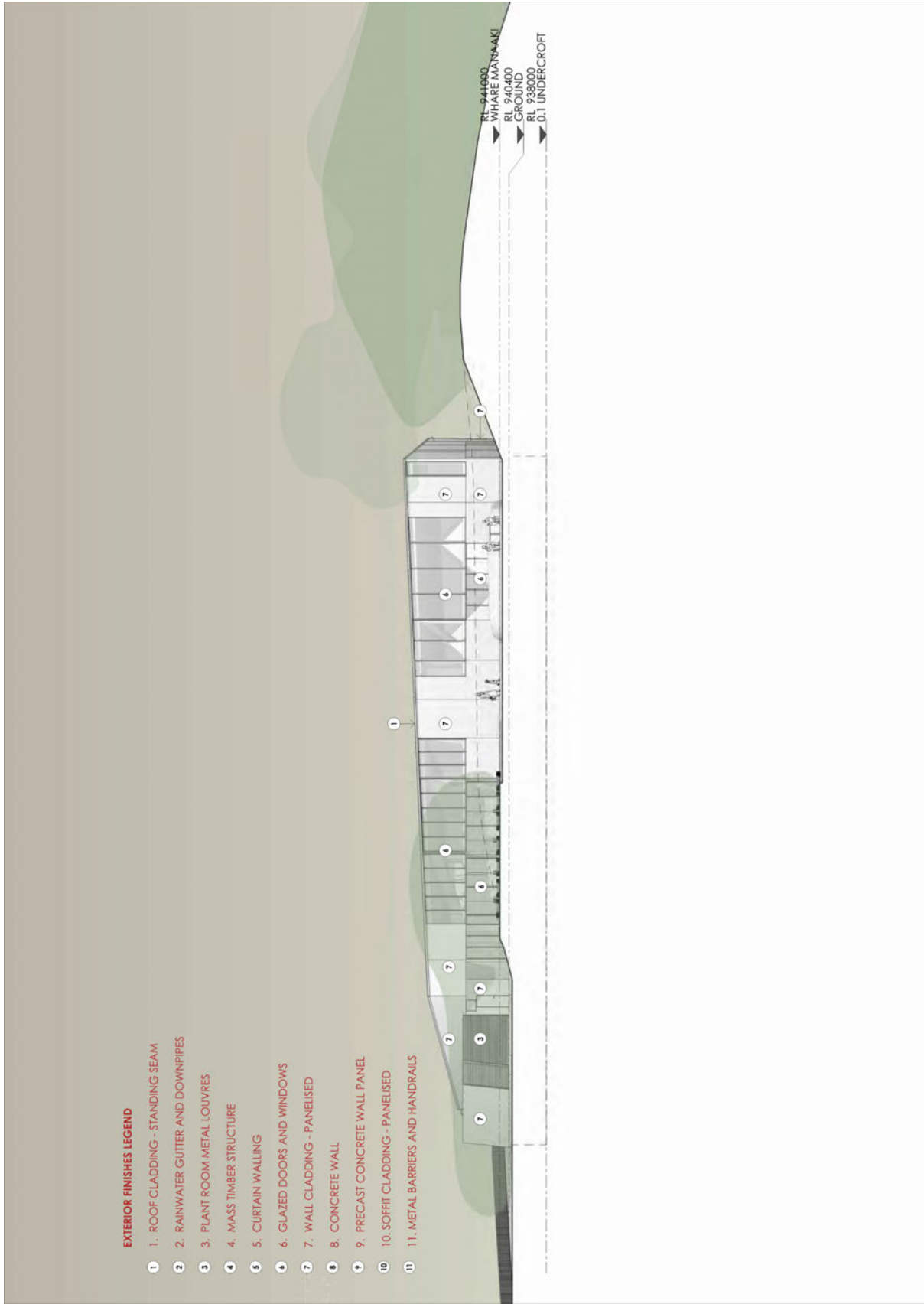


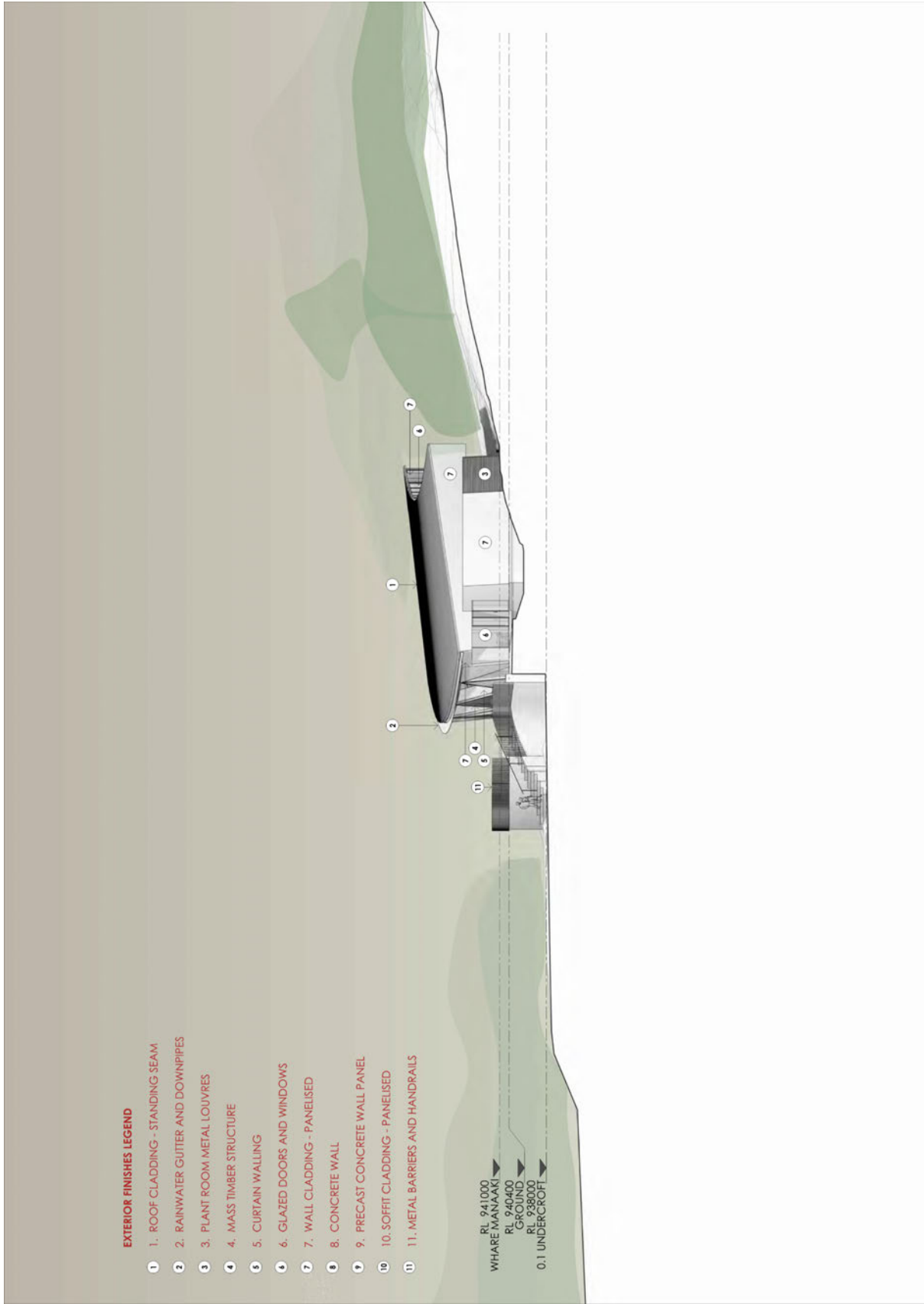




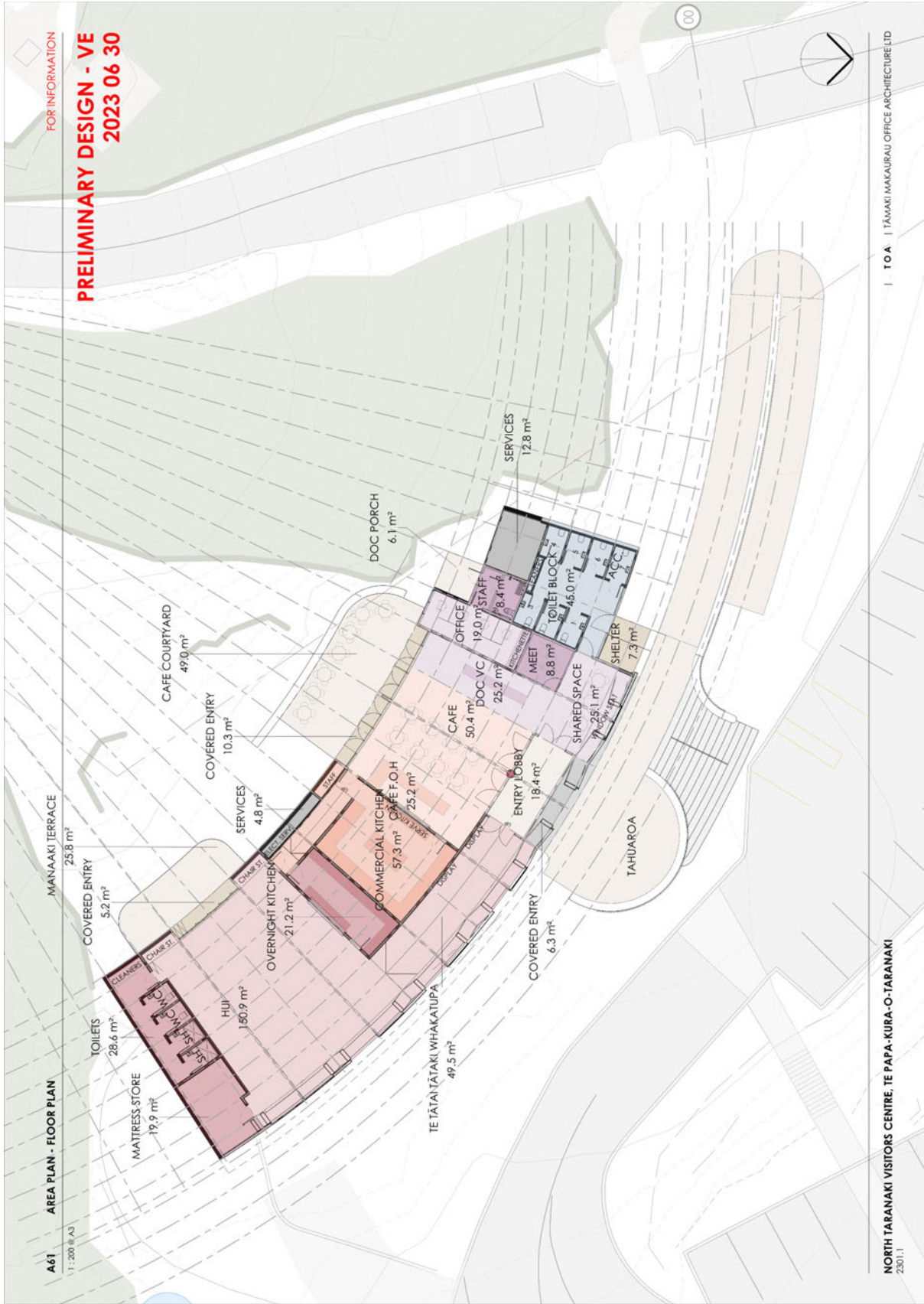










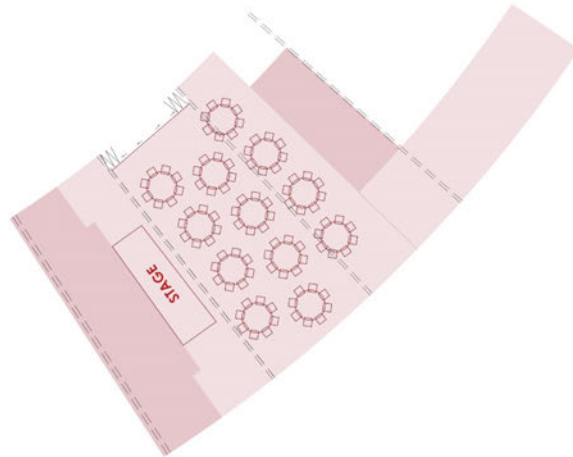


A63 WHARE MANAAKI - SEATING LAYOUT STUDIES

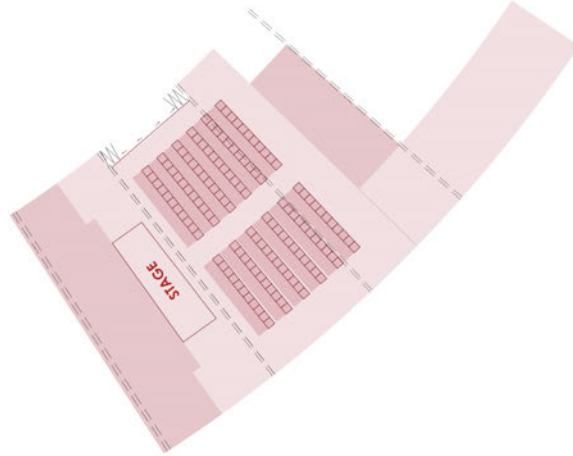
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FOR INFORMATION

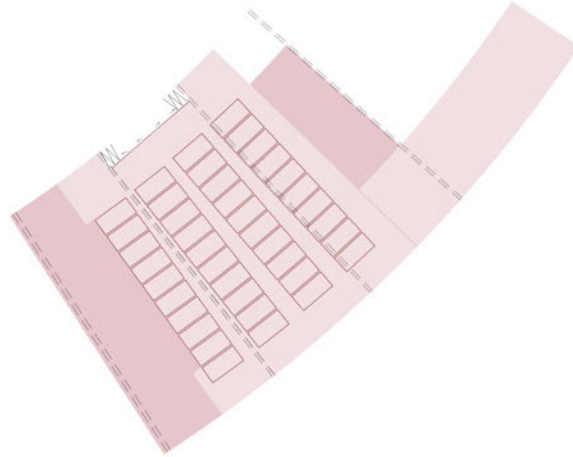
PRELIMINARY DESIGN - VE
2023 06 30



WHARE MANAAKI - MODE 01
BANQUET SEATING - 96 PEOPLE
12 x TABLES OF 8 PEOPLE
1520mmØ TABLE

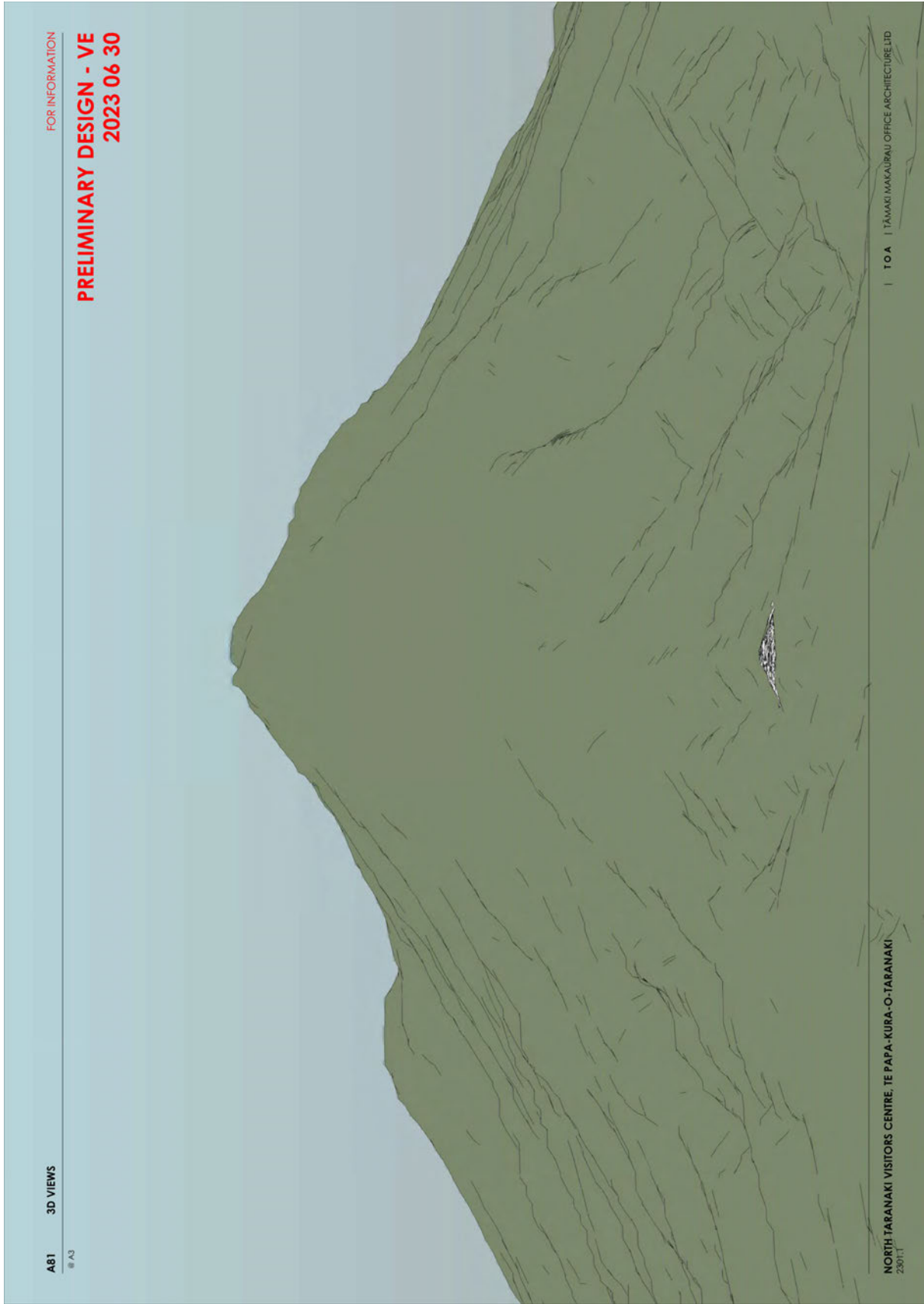


WHARE MANAAKI - MODE 02
CONFERENCE SEATING
132 PEOPLE (TOILETS BASED ON 190)
6 ROWS OF 22 (CENTRE AISLE - 1200mm)
400x400 CHAIR 600 AISLE



WHARE MANAAKI - MODE 03
NOHO - 40 PEOPLE MAX
40 x SINGLE MATTRESSES
910x1880mm





FOR INFORMATION

PRELIMINARY DESIGN - VE
2023 06 30

A81 3D VIEWS
A3

TOA | TAMAKI MAKAURAU OFFICE ARCHITECTURE LTD

NORTH TARANAKI VISITORS CENTRE, TE PAPA-KURA-O-TARANAKI
230111

