



Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance

Information Sheet 2

Assessment criteria to assist in the identification of Historic Heritage Values

The following best practice criteria are promoted by the NZHPT for use by local authorities and communities to encourage a systematic and transparent approach to identification and assessment of historic heritage.

Physical values

Archaeological information: Does the place or area have the potential to contribute information about the human history of the region, or to current archaeological research questions, through investigation using archaeological methods?

Architecture: Is the place significant because of its design, form, scale, materials, style, ornamentation, period, craftsmanship or other architectural element?

Technology and Engineering: Does the place demonstrate innovative or important methods of construction or design, does it contain unusual construction materials, is it an early example of the use of a particular construction technique or does it have the potential to contribute information about technological or engineering history?

Scientific: Does the area or place have the potential to provide scientific information about the history of the region?

Rarity: Is the place or area, or are features within it, unique, unusual, uncommon or rare at a district, regional or national level or in relation to particular historical themes?

Representativeness: Is the place or area a good example of its class, for example, in terms of design, type, features, use, technology or time period?

Integrity: Does the place have integrity, retaining significant features from its time of construction, or later periods when important modifications or additions were carried out?

Vulnerability: Is the place vulnerable to deterioration or destruction or is threatened by land use activities.

Context or Group: Is the place or area part of a group of heritage places, a landscape, a townscape or setting which when considered as a whole amplify the heritage values of the place and group/ landscape or extend its significance?

Historic values

People: Is the place associated with the life or works of a well-known or important individual, group or organisation?

Events: Is the place associated with an important event in local, regional or national history?

Patterns: Is the place associated with important aspects, processes, themes or patterns of local, regional or national history?

Acknowledgements

This assessment criteria to assist in the identification of historic heritage values is based on Proposed Change No.1 to the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement (Heritage Criteria), Environment Bay of Plenty Regional Council, November 2005 and advice provided by Karen Greig and Lynda Walter, Insitu Heritage Ltd

Source: NZHPT, *Sustainable Management of Historic Heritage Guidance Series*, Discussion Paper No.1, Historic Heritage Principles and Issues, 3 August 2007

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

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

Cultural values

Identity: Is the place or area a focus of community, regional or national identity or sense of place, and does it have social value and provide evidence of cultural or historical continuity?

Public esteem: Is the place held in high public esteem for its heritage or aesthetic values or as a focus of spiritual, political, national or other cultural sentiment?

Commemorative: Does the place have symbolic or commemorative significance to people who use or have used it, or to the descendants of such people, as a result of its special interest, character, landmark, amenity or visual appeal?

Education: Could the place contribute, through public education, to people's awareness, understanding and appreciation of New Zealand's history and cultures?

Tangata whenua: Is the place important to tangata whenua for traditional, spiritual, cultural or historical reasons?

Statutory recognition: Does the place or area have recognition in New Zealand legislation or international law including: World Heritage Listing under the World Heritage Convention 1972; registration under the Historic Places Act 1993; is it an archaeological site as defined by the Historic Places Act 1993; is it a statutory acknowledgement under claim settlement legislation; or is it recognised by special legislation?