

Part One Introduction and Background

Summary

Olympic Park's principal purpose is to provide an integrated mix of organised sport and informal and passive recreation opportunities to attract local users, while enhancing the natural processes in the park in accordance with Waitakere City Council's Green Network Strategy.

This purpose recognises the historical sports and formal recreation uses of the park, while acknowledging the potential for the park to contribute to Waitakere City's Green Network Strategy. Currently the main issue for the park is the potential overdevelopment of the site and the need to maintain a balance between formal recreation and informal recreation activities, while encouraging ecological rehabilitation. Parts of the reserve currently have low amenity levels and personal safety issues.

This Management Plan offers an opportunity to outline a vision for the future of Olympic Park. The Concept Plan illustrates how this vision will enhance the park's amenity while allowing for continued recreation use.

Key objectives of the draft Reserve Management Plan are outlined below:

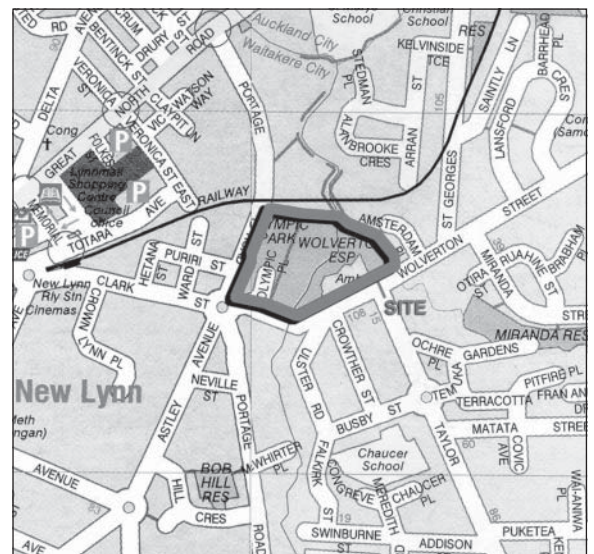
- To continue to allow use of the Park for organised and self-directed sport in a way that helps achieve the other objectives;
- To improve the amenity of the Park in order to make the reserve attractive and enhance its use for sports and informal recreation;
- To enhance the Park's environmental values through the establishment of Green Network corridors;
- To provide appropriate Council management for the Park to enable enjoyment of the City's asset by the local and regional community, both now and in the future;

- To ensure that the use and enhancement of the Park recognises and allows for the existing infrastructure and its unique environment.

1.0 Context

1.1 Olympic Park

Olympic Park is a seven hectare recreational reserve in New Lynn, Waitakere City. The park was established in 1918 as the New Lynn Domain, and was originally 2.8 ha in size.



Additional property lots have been progressively added to the park during the last 70 years, the most recent addition being the Wolverton Land, originally a landfill adjacent to the park.

The park has a strong sporting history and is currently the venue for a number of sports clubs, including athletics, soccer, gymnastics, indoor bowls and the Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass Band. Cycling and athletics have been a major focus at Olympic Park since the late thirties. The Lynndale Athletics Club which is based at the park has produced a number of Olympic athletes.

It is considered that the main issue for the park is the potential overdevelopment of the site. Maintaining a balance between formal recreation and informal recreation activities, while encouraging ecological rehabilitation, is desirable. Parts of the reserve currently have low amenity levels and personal safety issues.

Other specific issues include:

- Olympic Park's role as a gateway to the city because it is located on the boundary of Waitakere and Auckland Cities;
- Development of the Wolverton Land and the integration of this area with the original Olympic Park; and

- There is potential to increase the ecological and environmental values of the reserve;

This Management Plan offers an opportunity to outline a vision for the future of Olympic Park. The Concept Plan illustrates how this vision will enhance the park's amenity while allowing for continued recreational use.

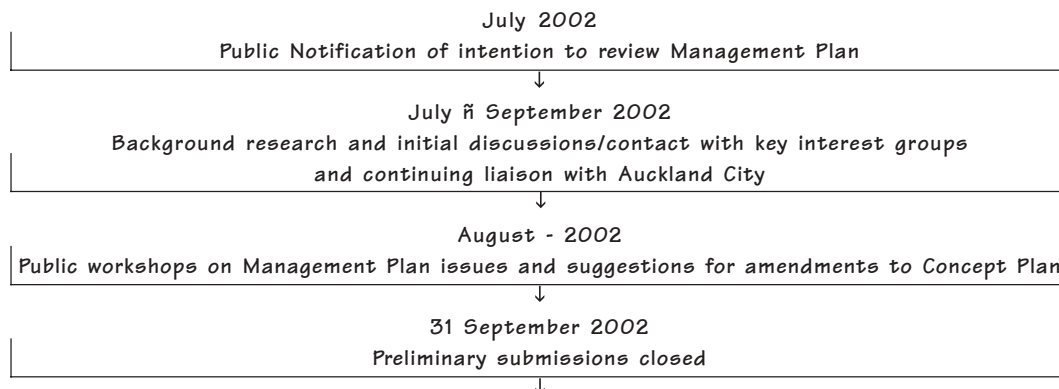
1.2 Purpose of the Reserve Management Plan

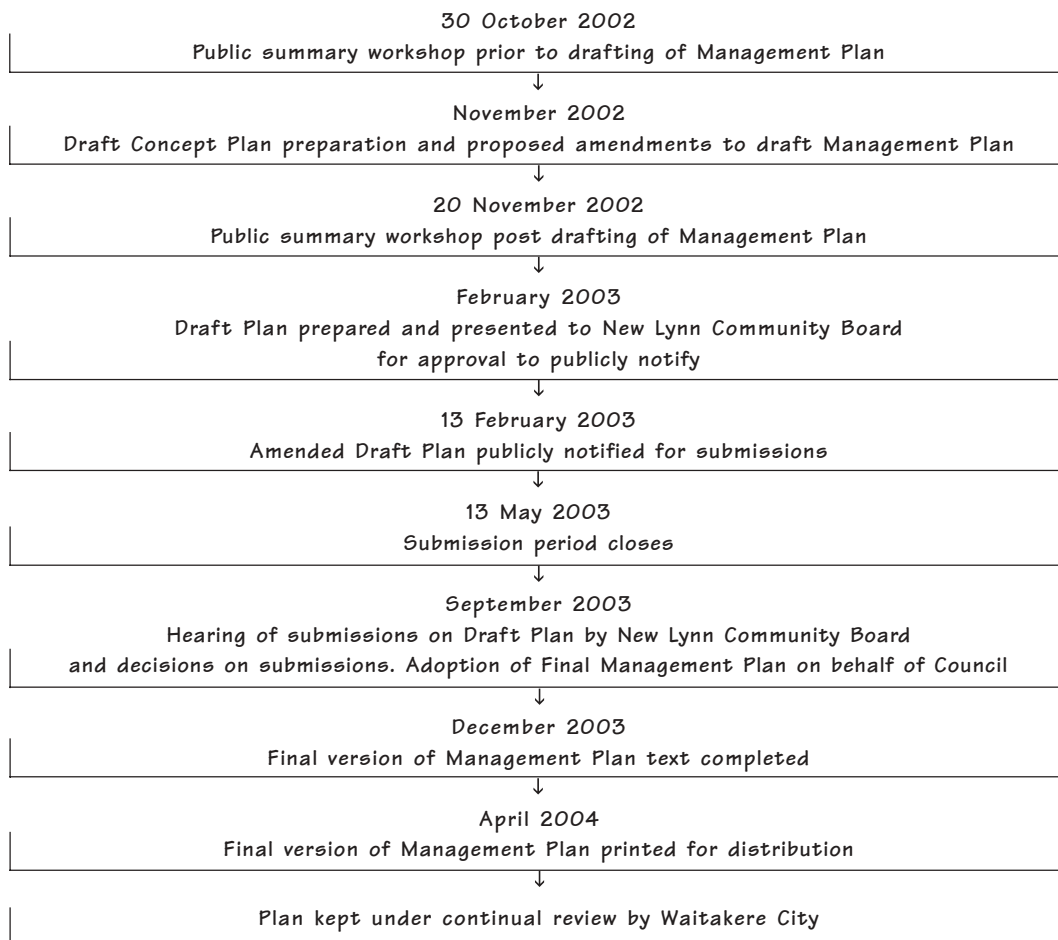
The aim of the Management Plan for Olympic Park is to provide for an integrated mix of organised sport and informal and passive recreation opportunities to attract local users, while enhancing the natural processes in the park in accordance with Waitakere City Council's Green Network Strategy.

This Reserve Management Plan provides a framework for carrying out the future management of the park in an integrated way. It sets out governing principles for management that can be readily understood by those whose actions or interests will be affected by the Plan. This Plan has also been created within the context of Council's Parks Strategy and Greenprint.

1.3 The Management Plan Process

The production of this Plan was in accordance with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977, and included public consultation. The steps involved in this process are shown below:





1.4 How to Use this Management Plan

This Management Plan (the Plan) is in three parts. Part One provides an introduction to the reserve, its context and an explanation of the statutory nature and process of the Management Plan.

Part Two provides a background to and an outline of the issues associated with particular policy categories within the Plan and then outlines policy and implementation for each.

Part Three consists of the Concept Plan and design guidelines which have been developed for the Reserve.



2.0 Statutory Requirements

2.1 Reserves Act 1977

The Reserves Act 1977 requires that every public reserve has a Management Plan. Once adopted, the Plan is subject to continuous review to take account of changing circumstances or increased knowledge about the reserve. The review process is outlined in the Reserves Act and provides for public notification and submissions.

The intention of a Management Plan is to:

“provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, protection and preservation, as the case may require and to the extent that the administering body’s resources permit, the development, as appropriate, of the Reserve for the purposes for which it was classified.”

Olympic Park has been classified as a ‘Recreation Reserve’ under the provisions of the Reserves Act.

2.2 Resource Management Act 1991

The purpose of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) is to:

“Promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources...”

Issues which are considered to be of national importance in the RMA are:

- The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use and development;
- The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use and development;

- The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna;
- The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes and rivers;
- The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.

2.3 Historic Places Act 1993

Under Section 10 of the Historic Places Act 1993, all archaeological sites, whether recorded or not, are protected and may not be destroyed, damaged or modified without authority from the New Zealand Historic Places Trust. Considering the cultural history of the area it is likely that the site contains unknown cultural and archaeological sites, however, many of these could have been destroyed previously as a result of the Taylor Street Landfill.

2.4 Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal

Section 63(2) of the RMA states that the purpose of the preparation, implementation and administration of Regional Coastal Plans is to assist a Regional Council, in conjunction with the Minister of Conservation, to achieve the purpose of the RMA in relation to the Coastal Marine Area of the Auckland Region.

The Plan identifies areas of significant conservation value within the greater Auckland Region, which are classified as Coastal Protection areas (CPA). The Whau River that adjoins Olympic Park at the confluence of the Avondale Stream is identified as CPA54, containing

“substantial quantities of saline vegetation. There are around 40 ha of mangroves with the taller trees growing in the lower intertidal areas and mangroves of smaller stature growing in the firmer high intertidal regions. These in turn grade into fringe of saltmarsh lining the coast. The saline vegetation is an important habitat for



threatened secretive coastal fringe birds particularly where it abuts terrestrial vegetation which provides roosts for the birds at high tide and potential nesting sites “ (Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal, Schedule 3).

2.5 District Plans

Both the Operative Waitakere City District Plan and the Operative Auckland City District Plan: Isthmus Section apply to Olympic Park. The Avondale Stream that runs north-south in approximately the centre of the park, divides the jurisdiction of the two District Plans.

District Plan rules are used to manage effects of activities on surrounding areas, in particular, noise, lighting, traffic movements and the placement of structures at the boundary, together with effects on the natural environment with regard to earthworks, vegetation clearance and impermeable surfaces.

This Reserve Management Plan will be used to manage effects on Olympic Park. It also provides detailed management and planning for the placement of any buildings, paths and active play areas in relation to the specific qualities of the park.

2.5.1 Waitakere City

The Operative Waitakere City District Plan identifies Waitakere City’s parks as Open Space Environments, overlain by the Natural Area characteristics of those parklands. Areas of natural vegetation, wildlife habitat and potential habitat (Restoration Areas) are part of a ‘Green Network’ that are afforded special protection under the policies and rules of the District Plan. The western portion of Olympic Park is zoned Open Space Environment with acknowledgement of the two high voltage electricity lines (over 33 kV). In addition, the western margin of the Avondale Stream has been recognised as having ecological linkage opportunities.

2.5.2 Auckland City

The Operative Auckland City District Plan: Isthmus Section identifies parks as Open Space Zones. There are five Open Space Zones, conservation, informal recreational, organised recreation, community, and leisure complexes. Additional limitation zoning is also applied to properties to manage land use and environmental effects specific to each site.

Under the provisions of the Operative Auckland City District Plan: Isthmus Section, the eastern portion of Olympic Park (Wolverton Land) is zoned Open Space 2 – Informal Recreation. Additional limitations apply to the site: a designation for a proposed public reserve, Wolverton Street Estuary, applies to the eastern margin of the Avondale Stream; and a significant portion of the site is identified as a Coastal Management Area.

3.0 Titles and Administration

Olympic Park comprises 7.0561 ha owned in fee simple by Waitakere City Council. Titles are listed in **Appendix 2**.

Olympic Park encompasses three former reserves:

- New Lynn Domain;
- Olympic Park; and
- Wolverton Land.

Part of the Wolverton Land is owned by Auckland City Council. This comprises Lots 81, 82, 83, 84 Section 2 Town of Whau. In addition, Auckland City Council owns an area of unformed cul-de-sac shaped ‘paper road’.

Olympic Park is classified ‘Recreation Reserve’ in accordance with the Reserves Act 1977, and the classification is notified in the N.Z. Gazette. The classification dates are listed in **Appendix 2**.

The park is administered and maintained by the Waitakere City Council Parks Section.



4.0 Strategic Context

Waitakere City Council has a policy framework under which the Management Plan has been prepared.

4.1 Greenprint

This document contains the overall strategic framework within which Waitakere City operates. The Greenprint identifies key changes and actions required for Waitakere to become an Eco-city and targets a number of key focus areas to realise this vision. These are :-

- Communities;
- City form and design;
- Transport and communication;
- Economic development;
- Taonga;
- City well-being; and
- Energy, resources and waste.

4.2 Green Network

The objective of the Council's Green Network is to link existing open space, streams and bush remnants into an ecologically continuous, vegetated, green network extending from the ranges, along the stream and road networks and across open spaces to the sea. Within this corridor, which includes both private and public land, the full natural progression of coastal to mountain vegetation, habitats and processes is able to take place.

The Green Network will be used:

- To protect significant natural vegetation and wildlife habitats;
- To develop ecological corridors which will allow for the movement of wildlife, and the slow migration of plants;
- To protect significant landforms;

- To protect water quality in streams and waterways bordered by the network;
- To make the City a more attractive place visually;
- Potentially to service households and business needs;
- As a flood protection tool;
- To provide public access to and along the coast, streams, lakes and other waterways;
- To help integrate the City's natural and urban environments; and
- To help create a new city form that is separated by the Green Network but also linked by means of walkways and cycle ways.

The Wolverton Land including the Avondale Stream, has the potential to reinforce ecological linkages and the City's Green Network. This is particularly relevant in the context of Olympic Park's role in providing for the Historical Whau Portage Route Walkway.

4.3 Parks Strategy

The Council's Parks Strategy provides a framework for the management of parks within the City. Ten detailed objectives for open space in the City have been developed. The objectives set out a programme for the change and improvement of open space areas within the City. The objectives are:

1. Increase the use and enjoyment of parks;
2. Extend and improve the City's natural ecosystems;
3. Increase the opportunities for people to enjoy nature in parks;
4. Parks are managed sustainability as part of the wider landscape;
5. Improve the use, range and quality of sports facilities within the City;
6. Protect the heritage values within the parks and increase the awareness of the local area's heritage;



7. To provide quality local and neighbourhood parks that are within walking distance throughout the City;
8. To provide, in partnership with Iwi and where relevant, the wider Maori community, the protection of waahi tapu and sites of significance found on parks;
9. Involve communities in the design and management of parks; and
10. To improve the management and administration of parks.

City Wide Parks are seen as the key method of meeting the needs of Waitakere City in the future. Olympic Park is classed as a City Wide Park and is seen as providing a unique recreational and potential ecological function within the wider City Wide Parks network.

4.4 Weed Strategy

The goal of the WCC Weed Strategy is the “Protection of the quality, resilience, biodiversity and ecological integrity of Waitakere City’s natural habitat from the impacts of environmental weeds”.

The Strategy directs Council’s approach to the management of environmental weeds. It describes Council’s long-term goals and objectives, and provides a framework to guide the Council in carrying out its roles and responsibilities with regard to identifying, prioritising and managing weed impacts.

4.5 Leisure Strategy

This document outlines the Council’s goals for improving leisure opportunities in Waitakere in the future. The Council aims to improve the happiness and health of the City’s people and communities by promoting:

- The enjoyment of life and leisure time that comes from taking part in fun activities which build self-confidence, skills, physical health or fitness;
- Opportunities for outdoor recreation in our abundant green natural settings; and
- A sense of belonging, ‘community’ and City identity.

The Strategy offers the following guidelines as a way of achieving the goals:

- Diversify leisure services to focus and improve provision for different groups and communities;
- Improve natural amenity by building on the unique ‘green’ and ‘blue’ images of Waitakere City; and
- Develop community focal points near where people live and shop, with an atmosphere of enjoyment and availability of low-cost casual leisure activities.

4.6 Te Kawerau A Maki Trust Resource Management Statement

This Resource Management Statement outlines the concerns and goals of Te Kawerau A Maki Trust with regard to the sustainable management of the Taonga within the tribal area of Te Kawerau A Maki. Resource management issues are addressed by Te Kawerau A Maki Trust within the context of achieving a balance between:

- The maintenance of spiritual and cultural values;
- Environmental and heritage protection and enhancement; and
- Social and economic development.

4.7 Ngati Whatua o Orakei Maori Trust

Ngati Whatua exercises kaitiakitanga over the material and non-material resources of their tribal area through their relationship with Council (see section 6 RMA). Ngati Whatua customary rights are sourced in the continued occupation and use of resources within this area. Implicit in the Maori resource management principle (kaitiakitanga) is reciprocity. Tangata Whenua are therefore obligated to protect and restore the natural and cultural resources of the area. These ancestral resources since 1840, the time of European settlement, have declined dramatically. Ngati Whatua through their relationship with Council therefore seeks:



- The restoration of the mauri and ecological values of Te Wai Taurangi;
- The restoration and protection of bio-diversity;
- The restoration and provision of resources for cultural use e.g. for arts, food and medicine; and
- The restoration and protection of customary practices such as food gathering, and traditions associated with Te Wai Taurangi and Te Whau Portage.”

5.0 Reserve Value Descriptions

5.1 History of Reserve

5.1.1 Pre-European History of New Lynn¹

The history of the Auckland isthmus, and the Waitakere area in particular, is characterised by interaction between many



The Whau Portage Route

tribes. This is due to the area’s function as an important crossroad, with routes linking the Auckland isthmus with the West Coast and the Kaipara district. Well-used tracks linked the West Coast to the isthmus and to the Kaipara. Several portages provided connections between Waitemata, Manukau and Kaipara Harbours.

The New Lynn area was of particular importance due to the presence of the Whau Portage, linking Waitemata and Manukau Harbours. Canoes were dragged along a track from the head of the Whau River. This route appears to have followed the Avondale Stream to the head of the Whau River, along the route of the present Portage Road. The Portage therefore passes through Olympic Park.

The Portage is significant to both Te Kawerau a Maki and Ngati Whatua who have historic links to this area of Waitakere City.

5.1.2 European History of New Lynn

New Lynn was named by Frederick Utting who carried out a comprehensive survey of the area in 1863. Utting chose the name in honour of his hometown of Kings in Norfolk, England. At this time the area was seen as ‘sterile and desolate’ and unworthy of settling, until the commercial value of the clay soils was realised.



Crums Workers New Lynn Brick and Pipe Works 1914
Waitakere Library and Information Services
Photograph Collection



¹ Source: Olympic Park Management Plan, June 1997

By the 1890s New Lynn had been recognised for its quality clay soils and numerous brick and tile industries were established. These were clustered near the newly completed Auckland-Helensville railway line. There were a number of clay-works in the vicinity of the Olympic Park site.

As the Depression began the companies of the West Auckland clay industries joined to form the Amalgamated Brick and Pipe Co. Ltd, the parent company of Crown Lynn Pottery.

New Lynn's industrial base was further strengthened after World War II with diversification into secondary and service industries. This expansion created a rapid increase in population. Much of this industrial activity was concentrated around Portage Road, adjacent to Olympic Park.

5.1.3 Reserve History

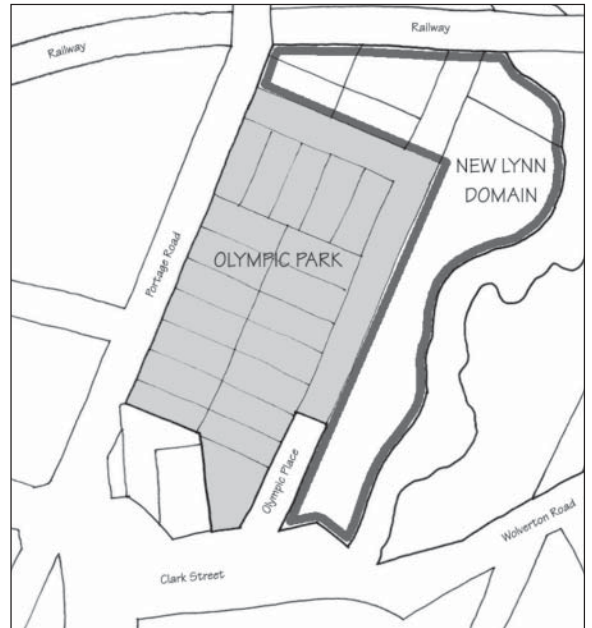
The strong industrial heritage of New Lynn has shaped the suburb in terms of its character and population. Rapid growth coupled with a lack of resources in the past has led to an area with few parks and reserves.

However community use and pride in this area has been high. Olympic Park in particular has been important to the community as a focus for sporting activities, and the training ground for a number of Olympic athletes.

Originally established as New Lynn Domain in 1918 the reserve was cleared of rough grass, and planted with ornamental shrubs in the mid 1930's. The reserve at this time had an area of approximately 2.8ha.

In 1937 a local businessman Mr Brooke-Taylor donated additional land to the Council. This land provided most of the area that is now utilised as a velodrome and sports field.

A velodrome and running track were constructed in the park in 1938 under a Government subsidised labour scheme. In the winter of that year a large slip occurred and remedial works were carried out until the end of 1939. The velodrome began to suffer further subsidence in mid 1940 and was



New Lynn Domain



Opening of New Lynn Domain (present day Olympic Park) - 1st April 1929 Waitakere Library and Information Services Photograph Collection

then abandoned until 1967.

The Lynndale Athletics and Cycling Club moved to the park from its dirt track at the back of the New Zealand Pipe and Brickworks following construction of the velodrome. The Club shared the stadium sports field with the New Lynn Association Football Club at this time.



A large rose garden was established in 1939 at the entrance to the reserve. This area is now the site of the Western Bowling Association.

The grounds were upgraded in the 1940s to allow for sports meetings. Toilets and changing rooms were constructed and the sportsfield improved.

New Lynn Domain was renamed Olympic Park in the late forties. It is likely that the name was given to honour the local athletes who competed at the Olympic Games in 1948.

During the fifties a number of clubs became established at the park including the New Lynn Citizens Band (now known as Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass), and the Lynrey Gymnastics Club (now known as Waitakere Gymnastics).

In 1967 the cycle track was patched and was able to be used again. Periodic maintenance of the track was carried out until 1994 when the cycle track was closed for safety reasons. The deterioration of the track can be attributed to ground instability and poor construction.

In the seventies the Council purchased a number of properties along Portage Road and Olympic Place, greatly increasing the size of the park. Olympic Park was gazetted as a recreational reserve in 1979.



Wolverton Land

An indoor bowling hall was built on the reserve in 1977 on the site of the rose gardens. The hall is used by the Western Indoor Bowling Association and the Lynndale Ladies Badminton Club.

The Lynrey Gymnasium was constructed in 1988.

A Reserve Management Plan was written for the park in the late 1980s. It was adopted on July 14th 1988.

In 1996 the Green Bay – Titirangi Football Club proposed relocating to Olympic Park from Crum Park. Steps were taken to prepare another Reserve Management Plan and Concept Plan for the park. This Reserve Management Plan was adopted in 1997.

5.1.4 History of the Wolverton Land

Wolverton Land comprises the area of Olympic Park to the east of the Avondale Stream. This area was previously the Taylor Street landfill, operating as a cleanfill site until 1951. Remedial earthworks were carried out at a later date. It is not known whether the land was gazetted as a reserve. Part of the landfill is now the site of the St Johns Ambulance station.

In 1987 the New Lynn Borough Council bought this land from Landcorp to add to Olympic Park. The property was originally Crown Land, which passed to Landcorp. The site was subdivided and a paper road created in the 1970s. The land was never developed, however a paper road remains on the site.

The legal status of parts of the Wolverton Land is currently unresolved, with the Auckland City Council owning four lots in the middle of the reserve. Also complicating matters is the fact that the Wolverton Land is in Auckland City, with Avondale Stream forming the boundary with Waitakere City.

A Concept Plan was prepared for the land in the Waitakere City Council's 1994/95 Annual Plan.



The Plan was deferred when the Auckland City Council advised that it was preparing a landfill management strategy. The strategy recommended that the aftercare work be carried out in 2001. This work has not yet started and development of this part of the reserve cannot proceed until these works have been completed.

In 1995 the New Lynn Community Board requested that Auckland City Council reconsider its priority listing for remedial earthworks. These earthworks would involve re-contouring the area and stabilising the bank. This would reduce the presence of rubble and steel which have been identified as a public health risk. The Board requested that a high priority be given to allow Waitakere City Council to proceed with development of the land. Discussions are now underway for progressing these works.

In 1996 steps were taken to prepare a Management Plan and Concept Plan for the land as part of Olympic Park, including integrating the Wolverton Land with the rest of the reserve.

5.2 Natural Environment

5.2.1 Topography and Landform

Olympic Park consists of two distinct areas divided by the Avondale Stream. These are:

1. 'Old Olympic Park'. This area is to the west of the stream, adjacent to Portage Road;



Old Olympic Park

2. The Wolverton Land. The land is situated to the east of Avondale Stream, adjacent to Wolverton Road.



The Wolverton Land



Clubrooms and Velodrome

Old Olympic Park

Olympic Park' is focused on sporting activities. It contains a number of clubrooms and a velodrome enclosing a grassed field.

The Portage Road frontage is generally flat, sloping down towards Olympic Place in the vicinity of the gymnasium. Behind the velodrome a steep bank follows the line of the Avondale Stream. There is a lower river terrace between the bank and stream.





Grassed Field



River Terrace between Velodrome and Stream

Wolverton Land

To the east of the Avondale Stream, the Wolverton Land



Remnants of old Access Road

area is undulating with a steep bank falling to the stream. Part of this area was originally a landfill site and as a consequence there are significant quantities of rubble, old lumps of concrete and metal exposed in the central part of the site. There are also remnants of an old access road and dog pound in this area.

5.2.2 Soils

The underlying geology of the area is stiff silt and clays of a Pleistocene-holocene origin. The presence of this clay soil resulted in the foundation of a strong ceramics industry earlier this century. Drainage is generally poor due to these clay soils underlying the site.

5.2.3 Vegetation

Pre-European vegetation of the New Lynn area consisted of a cover of stunted manuka scrub. Much of this scrub was removed to create farmland.

The area comprising Olympic Park was likely to have been cleared of scrub in the early 1900s when New Lynn township was established. Certainly, it was documented as having a cover of 'rough grass' in the 1920s.



The Avondale Stream





The Avondale Stream

The site was cleared of 'rough grass' later in the twenties, and planting of ornamental shrubs began in the thirties. A number of native trees were planted at this time. Much of this planting was removed for the subsequent development of the sporting area and establishment of a cleanfill site.

Today much of Olympic Park consists of 'parkland' style amenity planting, with groups of exotic trees over lawned areas. There are no significant specimens on site. Exotic tree species include eucalypts, pine, and various deciduous species.

There is an avenue of relatively young trees along Portage Road. This is made up of a number of species and does not have a strong street presence due to gaps in the planting age and variety of species.

Shrub planting has been carried out on the banks at the north and south of the velodrome. Shrubs are a mixture of native species including Hebe, Pittosporum, and Manuka.

Pinus palustris have been mass planted on the steep bank to the east of the velodrome. The trees may have been planted to help stabilise the bank. The roots of these trees are causing damage to the surface of the cycle track.

Vegetation in the Wolverton Land consists of short-lived exotic species such as wattle and eucalypts. Many of these

trees are nearing the end of their lifespan.

The Avondale Stream has become degraded over the years and is lined with various weed species such as gorse, pampas, stinging nettle, onion weed and blackberry.

5.3 Offsite Relationships and Views

Olympic Park is situated within an industrial zone. It is enclosed on two sides by the 'Portage Industrial Estate' incorporating a large number of industrial and commercial



Main North Railway line along northern boundary of reserve



Wolverton Land is bordered by a residential zone





Wolverton Road boundary

activities. The Main North railway line runs along the northern border of the reserve.

There are no keys views out of the site as the park is inward looking given its topography.

The Wolverton Land area is bordered by a residential zone along Wolverton Road and Amsterdam Place. This residential area is within Auckland City. The Wolverton Land acts as a buffer between these residents and the sporting area. Houses along Wolverton Road are built on a hillside facing Wolverton Land and have elevated views into this area of the park.

5.4 Site Use

5.4.1 Sports Clubs

Olympic Park has a strong sporting history with a number of clubs being based at the park. These include:

- Lynndale Amateur Athletics and Harrier Club;
- Waitakere Gymnasium Club;
- Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass Inc. (formerly known as The New Lynn Citizens Brass Band);
- Western Indoor Bowling Association; and
- Bay Olympic Soccer and Sports Club.



*Lynndale Amateur Athletic Club race, February 1932
Waitakere Library and Information Services
Photograph Collection*

The Manukau Amateur Cycling Club previously used the cycling track for training and competition. The cycle track has been closed since 1994 as structural damage to the track raised concerns regarding user safety. Recently the track was resurfaced but is not currently used by the Cycling Club.

Lynndale Amateur Athletics and Harrier Club

The Athletics Club was established in 1928 as the Lynndale Athletic and Cycling Club. The harrier division was formed in 1932. In 1935 the Club became established at Olympic Park. Clubrooms were built in 1959 and the hall/gymnasium completed in 1964. It is now used by various community and sporting groups in addition to the Athletics Club.

Members of the club have won numerous national championships, and have been represented at the Commonwealth and Olympic Games. The Harriers Division was for many years the dominant club in Auckland, and is currently one of the top clubs in Auckland.

Waitakere Gymnastics Club

The Gymnastics Club has been established since 1957. In the late 1960s the club began to use the Lynndale Athletic Hall. In 1982 the Council purchased a property on Portage Road which was used by the Gym Club for storage until 1989 when the existing gymnasium was built.



Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass Inc.

Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass was established in 1923, going to recess during wartime, and reforming in 1951. The Brass Band has been based at Olympic Park since 1953.

Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass (previously New Lynn Citizens Band) was formed in 1951 as a village band in the "D Grade". In 1953 the existing Band-room was built and that was extended in 1973. Over the years the Brass Band has evolved into playing more of an orchestral form of music and has moved through the grades to the top of the "A Grade" and is the driving force behind the Auckland Brass Academy which is currently training 77 young students in schools and 45 in the after-school modules at New Lynn and Takapuna.

The Western Indoor Bowling Association

The Western Indoor Bowling Association was established in 1958 when the Auckland Indoor Bowling Centre decided to decentralise. The Association first made use of the New Lynn Hall, and then the Lynndale Athletic Hall until clubrooms were constructed at Olympic Park in 1977.

The association is made up of 24 clubs with 900 members. Two clubs are based at Olympic Park; the Olympic Club and the Portage Club. Championships are held every year between April and November.

The hall is also regularly used by the Lynndale Ladies Day Badminton Club.

Bay Olympic Soccer and Sports Club

Olympic Park is Bay Olympic Soccer's base and number one field. The Club was established on the park in 1998, and their purpose-built clubrooms were officially opened in 2002.

The football club has 1200 members, ranging in age from 5 to over 40. The Club has a strong junior membership of 900 players (700 males and 200 females) and 300 seniors (200 males and 100 females). The training academy is based at Crum Park, with the fields at Parrs Park, Kerry Rd, Racklin Road and Green Bay Domain used for team practice and games.

5.4.2 Informal Recreation

As well as formal sports events there is considerable use of the park for informal recreational training.

There are existing dirt tracks throughout the Wolverton Land and Olympic Park which show evidence of fairly high foot traffic through the reserve. The Concept Plan which forms part of the Management Plan outlines how personal safety could be improved for pedestrians within the reserve.

There are opportunities to increase the use of Olympic Park for informal and passive recreation through:

- Creating an open parkland landscape in high-use areas;
- Upgrading the picnic area adjacent to Olympic Place;
- Providing additional car parking in Olympic Place;
- Building a network of paths that provide a range of landscape experiences and are useable in all weather;
- Applying 'safe design principles' to improve safety in the reserve;
- Undertaking an ecological restoration project for the margins of the Avondale Stream and the Wolverton Land; and
- Upgrading the overall amenity of the park.

5.5 Community Buildings and Leases

The present Olympic Park has been created from a large number of lots progressively purchased by the Council over the years. The park is subdivided into 29 lots, including Wolverton Land.

Since Olympic Park was created in 1918 a number of leases have been provided for community and sport clubrooms in the reserve.

Lynndale Amateur Athletics and Harrier Club Inc.

Permission was given by Council to construct a gym/hall on



land at Olympic Park in 1959. This building has been substantially added to over the years.

In 1959 a lease was drawn up for a period of 21 years, with a right of renewal for land around the building. In 1983 a draft lease was drawn up but not signed. The Club currently has a formal lease agreement with the Council which was signed in February 2002. This lease expires on 31.1.2022. The previous lease applied to:

- Lots 1, 7 & 8 DP36352

Waitakere Gymnastics Club Inc.

The Waitakere Gymnastics Club Inc. are based in a gymnasium adjacent to Olympic Place. The gymnasium was constructed in 1989.

The Gymnastics Club has a formal lease agreement with the Council which was given ministerial approval in 1988. The lease has a term of 20 years from 18.11.88. The lease expires on 18.11.2008. The lease applies to:

- Lot 7, DP36352
- Section 21 Town of Wolseley
- Section 16 and 19 Town of Wolseley
- Lot 18 Town of Wolseley

Waitakere City 'Trusts' Brass Inc.

The original band clubrooms were constructed in 1953 and

consent was given for additions to the building in 1970. Additions were completed in 1973.

The current lease expired on 6.10.2002. The lease applies to Lot 1 DP36352. The Club has applied for a new lease. Their application has been referred to Council's Leisure Services for recommendation as to whether renewal is in the interests of the park. All leases are assessed in the interests of the park.

Western Indoor Bowling Association

The lease for the Western Indoor Bowling Association expired on 1.6.2002 and is currently on a statutory month by month basis.

Bay Olympic Soccer and Sports Club

Bay Olympic Soccer and Sports Club signed a lease with Council for their clubrooms in February 2002. This lease expires on 31.1.2020.

Tag Out Trust

The Tag Out Trust holds the lease for the Ecomatters Building, the Old Stationmaster's House, Olympic Place. The lease is for the period from 1.12.2001 to 30.11.2006.

Iranian Community Trust

The Iranian Community Trust occupies the house at 4 Olympic Place. No lease is in place at present.

