

27 February 2025

Official information request 8140015360
(Please quote this in any correspondence)

Marnie Brannigan

By email: fyi-request-29927-1c40a374@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Marnie

Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Re: Madills Farm

Thank you for your email dated 30 January 2025, in which you requested information about Madills Farm, Kohimarama Park. The specific details of your request and our response are below.

I will to obtain a copy of any and all documentation relating to the transition of the parcel of land, known as Madills farm from the St John's Trust to Auckland City. I am principally interested in any reference to its designation of use, as it was originally intended.

In order to clarify the ownership history of land which is now formed as Madills Farm Recreation Reserve, the response is outlined as follows.

The original Melanesian Mission Trust Board (MMTB) land holding in Kohimarama in 1936 was Allotments 28 and 29 of District of Tamaki, comprising more or less 75.75 hectares contained in Record of Title (RT) NA593/154 (attached).

With the MMTB subdividing its land holdings in Kohimarama in the late 1950's, the MMTB was required to vest reserves with the former Auckland City Council (ACC) in accordance with the Municipal Corporations Act 1933. At the same time the former ACC was also seeking additional land for reserves in Kohimarama beyond what the MMTB was required to vest as reserve.

As part of the negotiations between the two, the MMTB also claimed the former ACC was required to contribute towards the cost of construction of Baddeley Street and Allum Street, as the roads would provide access to and surround the additional reserve land ACC was seeking to acquire.

Eventually MMTB and the former ACC signed a Deed on 23 July 1959 (attachment ACC 502-3ax) settling the above and discharging each body from any further claims or charges associated with the property transfers, road construction and other costs incurred.

Subsequently with the subdivision, new land parcels fell out of the previous title NA593/154. This included a new title RT NA1663/92 (attached) created in 1959, which included parcel Lot 178 Deposited Plan 36462.

Lot 178 Deposited Plan 36462 was one the parcels transferred from the MMTB to the Mayor, Councillors and Citizens of the City of Auckland as a reserve for recreation purposes under the Reserves and Domains Act 1953 on 23 July 1959 (see attached Memorandum of Transfer 625024).

Madills Farm Recreation Reserve, located at 6 Baddeley Avenue Kohimarama, is currently described as Lot 1 Deposited Plan 204517 comprising 8.5929 hectares contained in part RT NA133C/247 (attached).

Lot 1 Deposited Plan 204517 is currently held in fee simple by the Auckland Council as a classified Recreation Reserve subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977.

Auckland Council's Archives holds a number of former ACC property files relating to the subdivision and transfer of MMTB land in Mission Bay and Kohimarama. A summary of files in storage is attached (refer Madills_Farm).

The Archives team have undertaken a quick review and advise the files stored off site do contain mention of negotiations with the MMTB and the former ACC from the time. However, the archived files number in excess of 300 pages and are in poor physical condition. As such, care must be taken when viewing and they are not able to be scanned and included as any attachments to this LGOIMA response. However, you are welcome to come in and view the files in person at the Central Archives reading room on 44-46 Lorne Street, Central City (below the Central Library – use the Academy Cinemas entrance). Opening times are Monday to Friday 2pm to 5pm, or by appointment.

Please contact the Archives prior if you wish to view these files. Contact details are as per the Council website page below.

<https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/arts-culture-heritage/heritage/archives/Pages/visit-archives-office.aspx>

The decision by Auckland Council to release the information contained in this response was made by **Taryn Crewe, General Manager - Parks and Community Facilities**.

You have the right to complain to the Ombudsman if you believe we have not responded appropriately to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you have any further queries, please contact me on 09 301 0101 quoting official information request number 8140015360.

Ngā mihi



Amanda Pillay
Privacy and Official Information Business Partner
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