

Area: Papakura
 Address: 67 GSR & 2-8 Coles Cres Papakura

Sheet No: 52

Common

Botanical

Name: English Oak

Name: *Quercus robur*

Condition Evaluation

Points		3	9	15	21	27	Score
Form		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Specimen	15
Occurrence		Predominant	Common	Infrequent	Rare	Very Rare	9
Vigour / Vitality		Poor	Some	Good	Very Good	Excellent	15
Function		Minor	Useful	Important	Significant	Major	9
Age (yrs)		10yrs +	20yrs +	40yrs +	80yrs+	100yrs +	21
SUB TOTAL							69

Amenity Evaluation

Points		3	9	15	21	27	Score
Stature (9)		3 to 8	9 to 14	15 to 20	21 to 26	27+	9
Visibility (km)		0.5	1	2	4	8	9
Proximity		Forest	Parkland	Group 10+	Group 3+	Solitary	21
Role		Minor	Moderate	Important	Significant	Major	15
Climate		Minor	Moderate	Important	Significant	Major	9
SUB TOTAL							63

Notable Evaluation

Points		3	9	15	21	27	Score
Stature	Feature						
	Form						
Historic	Age 100+						
	Association						9
	Commemoration						
	Remnant						
	Relict						
Scientific	Source						
	Rarity						
	Endangered						
SUB TOTAL							9
GRAND TOTAL							141

Notes: Is likely to have been planted as part of the church grounds.

Location: 2 Coles Crescent, Papakura

Legal Description: "Lots 1 2 DP 22825 on CT NA527/46"

Tree Species: Oak

Currently scheduled: No

District Plan: Papakura District Plan

Heritage Values:

The Oak tree located at the back of the section at 2 Coles Avenue has been assessed by arborists as being over 100 years old and has strong historical links with the First Presbyterian Church of Papakura which occupied this site from 1859 and retains the property at present. The site of the church lies at the heart of the historic Papakura township. The land was initially purchased by George Loverson Cole, who was the first European settler in Papakura arriving in 1846 or 1847 and who is considered to be the "Father of Papakura".

Cole was born in Wales in 1813 and arrived in Auckland in 1842 aboard the *Ann of Arbroath*. It is likely he first visited and explored the Pahurehure swamp lands while working as a flax miller. He purchased 220 acres of land spanning from the Pahurehure foreshore to the Papakura flat (which now lies near the present centre of Papakura city) and proceeded to import cattle and foster cultivations of potatoes and other crops.ⁱ He named his properties "Papakura Farms". He built the first working mill in the area which was patronised by both Maori and Pakeha. Coles Crescent was one of the earliest thoroughfares in Papakura and was named after George Cole. The area surrounding Coles Crescent was the site of the first European settlement in Papakura and became the site of Papakura village.

Papakura Village was subdivided into town lots in 1853. This included some parts of Coles land, though a segment of land between Great South Road and Coles Crescent was reserved for a parish; the five sections surrounding this land commanded the highest prices at auction.ⁱⁱ Though Cole was a Methodist he was keen to encourage any religious order to establish itself in the burgeoning township and the Presbyterians were the first to arrive in the area. The first church on this site was built in 1859 and was "one of the oldest buildings in Papakura".ⁱⁱⁱ An undated photograph of the 1859 church building shows a stand of trees behind the building which may include the oak.^{iv}

The Church was notable historically, locally and nationally as it was used as a place of refuge by Papakura settlers when war broke out in 1863. The church "walls were lined up to 6 or 7 feet and filled with sand, to stop bullets" and settlers started to build a stockade around the property, but it was not completed as outright conflict never reached the area.^v In this period Reverend Thomas Norrie presided over the Church and became a well-known figure. Norrie acted as chaplain to the government forces during the land wars and held weekly services at Drury, Papakura and Clevedon.^{vi} After the hostilities the church was also used as the town school until 1876, when a dedicated building was created.^{vii}

The original 1859 church building was relocated in 1925 and a new church building was opened on Sunday 10 June 1926 on a site further up Coles Crescent.^{viii}

This Oak tree has strong associations with the First Presbyterian Church of Papakura and the early history of the Papakura township and district, as well as with a notable early settler.

Research completed by: Elinor Harris



Sources of Information:

Campbell A.J, *First Presbyterian Church 1855 -2005: 150 Years of First Church*, Commemorative Booklet held at Papakura Museum.

Clarke Ernest, *Town Growing Up*, Papakura and Districts Historical Society Inc., Papakura 1984, second edition, 1993, .

Craig Elsdon, *Breakwater Against the Tide: A History of Papakura City and Districts*, Papakura and Districts Historical Society, Papakura, 1982.

'First Presbyterian Church, Papakura, 1983', photograph and associated clippings, Manukau Research Library, Courier collection, box 19/6, South Auckland Research Centre.

Papakura Town District Valuation Assessments, 1905-1912; 1912-1918; Papakura Road District Valuation Assessment 1914-1921; Archives New Zealand, Auckland.

Survey Files, Papakura Town 1882-1904, BAAZ 1009 Box 1666d 1120, Archives New Zealand, Auckland.

Tonson, A.E., *Old Manukau*, Tonson Publishing House, Auckland, 1966.

Walker Lloyd, 'Papakura Churches', in Robyn Yousef ed., *Papakura: The Years of Progress 1938-1996*, Papakura and Districts Historical Society, 1997.

Willis A., *Early Papakura*, 1932, monograph compiled by P. Holt, held at Sir Edmund Hillary Library, Papakura.

Unproductive Sources Consulted:

Brock Gwen, *Planted and Forty Years Growing: The First 40 Years of the Papakura East, Hunua and Paparimu Presbyterian Parish 1958-1998*, Papakura, 2001.

Footprints (Auckland Libraries): <http://manukau.infospes.co.nz/footprints/home.htm>

New Zealand Card Index website: <http://www.aucklandcity.govt.nz/dbtw-wpd/nzcardindex/>

Property Files, 2 Coles Crescent, Lots 1 2 DP22825, 3490/158, Papakura Local Board Service Centre

Timeframes: <http://www.natlib.govt.nz/collections/digital-collections/timeframes>

ⁱ Clarke Ernest, *Town Growing Up*, Papakura and Districts Historical Society Inc., Papakura 1984, second edition, 1993, .

ⁱⁱ Craig Elsdon, *Breakwater Against the Tide: A History of Papakura City and Districts*, Papakura and Districts Historical Society, Papakura, 1982.

ⁱⁱⁱ 'First Presbyterian Church, Papakura, 1983', photograph and associated clippings, Manukau Research Library, Courier collection, box 19/6, South Auckland Research Centre.

^{iv} A.J. Campbell, *First Presbyterian Church 1855 -2005: 150 Years of First Church*, Commemorative Booklet held at Papakura Museum.

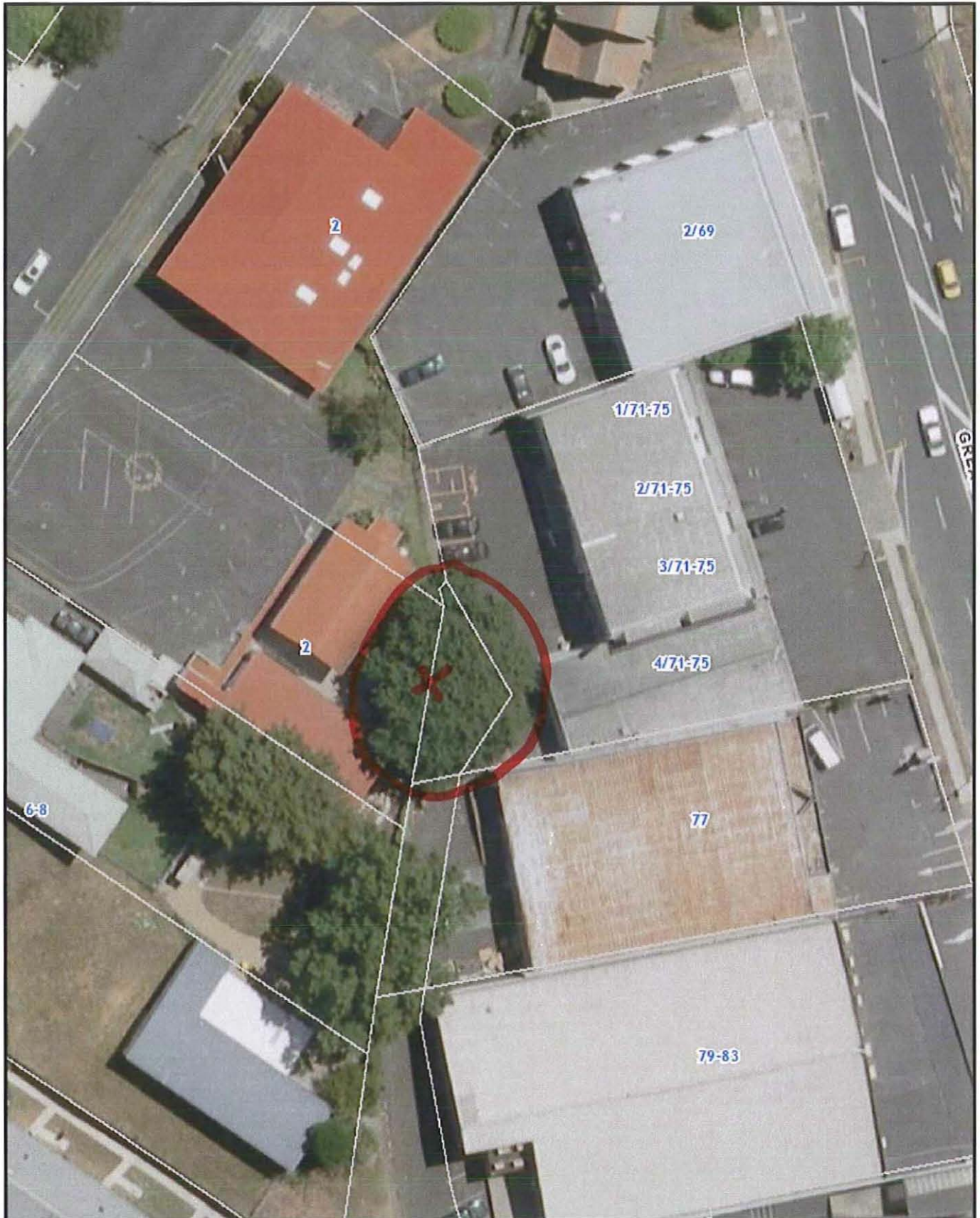
^v Tonson, A.E., *Old Manukau*, Tonson Publishing House, Auckland, 1966. Willis A., *Early Papakura*, 1932, compiled by P. Holt, held at Sir Edmund Hillary Library, Papakura

^{vi} Craig Elsdon, *Breakwater Against the Tide: A History of Papakura City and Districts*, Papakura and Districts Historical Society, Papakura, 1982, p.88

^{vii} Willis A., *Early Papakura*, 1932, compiled by P. Holt, held at Sir Edmund Hillary Library, Papakura.

^{viii} 'First Presbyterian Church, Papakura, 1983', photograph and associated clippings, Manukau Research Library, Courier collection, box 19/6, South Auckland Research Centre.





This map/plan is illustrative only and all information should be independently verified on site before taking any action. Copyright Auckland Council. Boundary information from LINZ (Crown Copyright Reserved). Whilst due care has been taken, Auckland Council gives no warranty as to the accuracy and completeness of any information on this map/plan and accepts no liability for any error, omission or use of the information. Height datum: Auckland 1946.

Oak- 2 Coles Cres

52



Auckland Council
Te Kaunhera o Tāmaki Makaurau

Created: Tuesday, 25 October 2011,10:50:34 a.m.

Scale @ A4 1:500