Halswell Quarry Park Management Plan

Christchurch City Council
12 November 2009

Christchurch City Council

Foreword

This Management Plan is the third plan for the Halswell Quarry Park. The park was established in 1990 from the site of mid nineteenth century industrial quarry and farm land. A Management Plan was adopted in 1991 under the Local Government Act and reviewed in 1998. These management plans were development focused, converting the land from a working landscape to a recreational landscape.

This Management Plan reflects that the park has matured. Many of the original policies have been implemented, and are therefore no longer needed. Others have been made more specific to strengthen the structure of the park. Using the Council's new template for reserve management plans, this draft Plan incorporates the intention and direction of the Sister Cities Garden Park proposal and sets the framework for future management of the park in its role as a fundamental part of Christchurch's regional parks network.

Whilst this Management Plan has been prepared under the Local Government Act 2002, the previous Management Plan required that any review or modification be undertaken in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Reserves Act 1977.

This has been done. Public submissions on the draft reviewed plan were received in March and April 2009. A Special Committee of the Council then considered the submissions and approved the final plan under the delegation given to it by the full Council.

The new management plan was approved on 12 November 2009.

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Introduction

This Management Plan relates to the Council-owned land known as "Halswell Quarry Park" ("the park"). The park is located approximately 10.5 kilometres from Cathedral Square, at the base of the Port Hills near the city's south-west urban boundary. The park is an important open space for Christchurch, and particularly the new urban growth areas of the south-west, and is much supported by the local community. Halswell Quarry Park is managed within the regional park network, with characteristics that are unique and distinctive from other parks and reserves within the city.

The park has four distinct environments:

- Rural pasture and open space
- Halswell Quarry heritage area
- Gardens of each of Christchurch's six Sister Cities[1]
- Habitat restoration

Previous land uses, combined with the park's physical characteristics and resources (staff and funding) have determined, and continue to determine, the rate with which the park's environments mature and develop.

This plan provides a framework within which management of the park will be carried out. It sits within the Council's wider strategic directions and legislative responsibilities. The plan has been prepared in response to changes that have occurred within the park, the desires of the wider community and staff operational needs. Development of Halswell Quarry Park continues to be a medium to long term project undertaken as funding and other resources allow. An indicative development plan identifies key projects to be undertaken to achieve the objectives in this plan.

Section one of this plan introduces the park, its metropolitan significance within the regional park network and current landscape character. Section 2 sets out the Council's vision for the park, and the objectives and policies to achieve the vision. Section 3 discusses the main issues that this draft Management Plan seeks to resolve. Section 4 outlines an indicative development plan with key projects. The plan concludes with resource information, the wider policy framework within which this plan sits, and changes between this and earlier Halswell Quarry management plans.

Purpose of the Park

The Halswell Quarry Park has metropolitan significance and serves a recreation function within Christchurch's regional parks network. Regional Parks are large reserves, located near the City's current urban edge, with high conservation and scenic values. Located in the rural south-west, the Halswell Quarry Park is somewhat isolated from other open space areas. While a relatively small community currently live near it, the park is used by the greater Christchurch community for walking and running, walking dogs, cycling, horse riding, and picnics in the summer.

[1] Christchurch's six Sister Cities are Adelaide (Australia), Christchurch, (England), Gansu province (China), Kurashiki (Japan), Seattle (United States of America) and Songpa-Gu (Korea).

As Christchurch's south-west becomes more urbanised, the park will serve greater numbers of people and hold a key position within the south-west's developing open space network. Future connections are planned to link the park with the Halswell River, Halswell Domain and Council owned land known as Henderson's Basin. Stronger links are also envisaged between the park and the upper Port Hills. With these developments, awareness of the park and interest in its development will continue to broaden across the City.

Within the Regional Park framework, and acknowledging its significance to the local community, the purpose of Halswell Quarry Park is to:

- Conserve the heritage features and values of the historic Halswell Quarry, its heritage buildings and its setting as a unique heritage resource;
- Retain rural pasture and open space representative of Christchurch's rural south-west landscape;
- Provide a location for informal botanical collections and associated artwork and structures of Christchurch's Sister Cities;
- Promote biodiversity through habitat restoration and amenity planting;
- Provide a community gathering point and a special environment for recreation and learning;
- Provide for local community needs in the metropolitan context;
- Provide for adaptive re-use of heritage buildings

Landscape Character

The Halswell Quarry Park was established in 1990 from a mid nineteenth century industrial quarry and farm land. These intensive land uses and working landscapes form the basis of the parks character. With the landform and land cover virtually completely modified, the park's landscape character is predominantly one of social and cultural heritage.

The historic quarry is central to the landscape character, with the hollowed out canyon and exposed rock faces presenting an imposing image. The open pasture on either side of the quarry is grazed; a continued landscape management practice from the working period of the quarry. Historic buildings within the park provide an insight into the time period, the former

workings of the quarry and associated people. Quarry stone and other natural materials are used for structures throughout the park to reflect the geology and industrial activity on the site.

The rural pasture and open space areas are retained in recognition of Christchurch's rural cultural heritage. This expansive pastoral character is becoming less evident as land in the south-west becomes urbanised. Open fields of pasture grass and stands of exotic trees such as macrocarpa and poplar, planted by early farmers for shelter, are included as part of this rural cultural landscape. Historic references are made through grazed areas, hay making and stock fencing.

The rural setting and informal appearance of the park creates a quiet ambience and restful atmosphere. Most people enjoy the park on foot, taking the opportunity to escape the noise and pace of the city in a public 'countryside'. There are numerous places to take pleasure in picnicking safely away from vehicles and road noise. The quiet, peaceful, restful aspects of the park's character is be retained through the recreation opportunities and activities that are encouraged within the park. Concession is given, from time to time, for special events that benefit from the varied terrain and quarry 'amphitheatre'.

Sister City Gardens

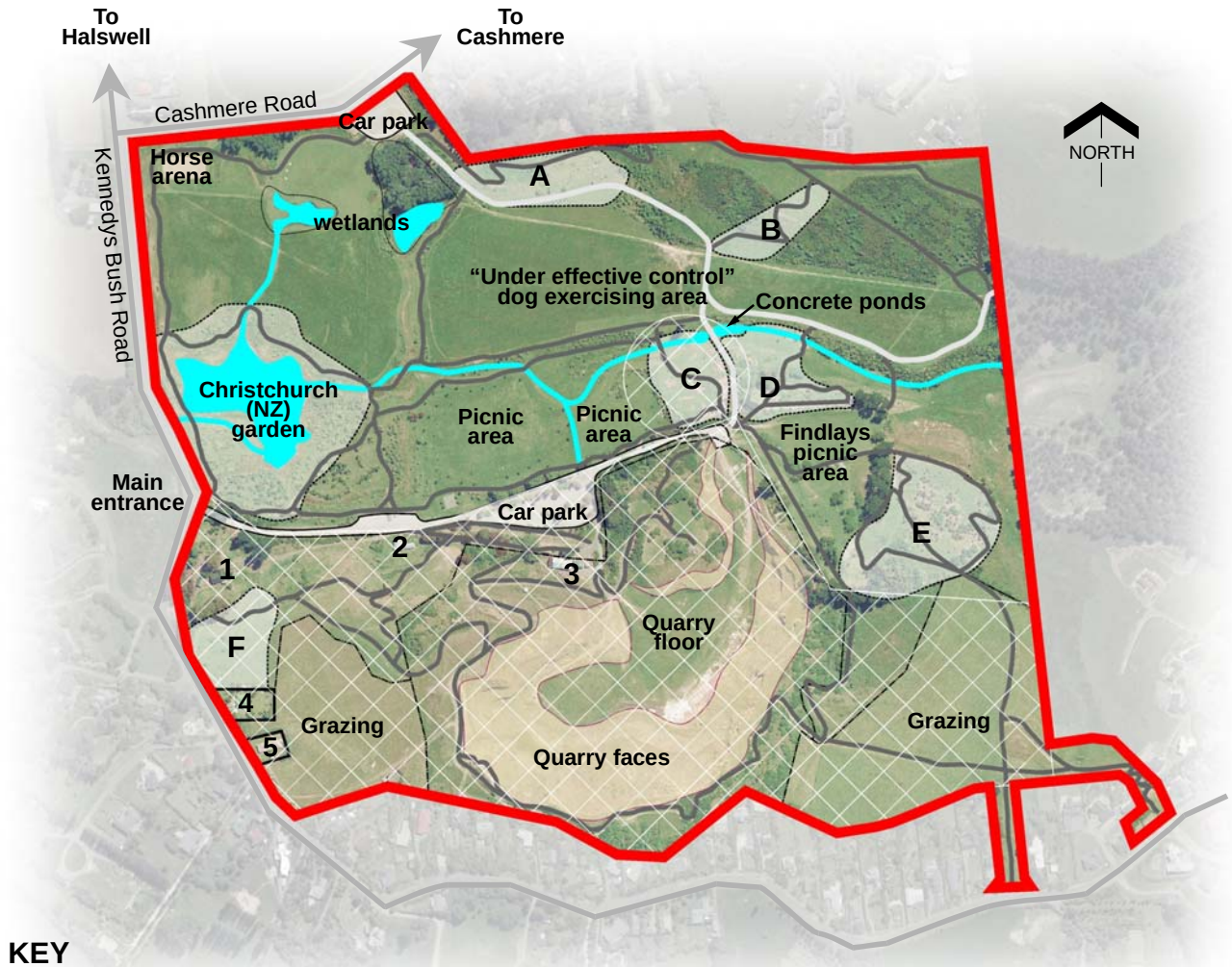
The concept of creating a Sister City botanical collection was a Millennium project from Turning Point 2000. Extensive investigation was undertaken to identify a suitable location for the collections from around the city.
Halswell Quarry Park was selected because of the park's special physical characteristics and micro-climates. At the time, the park was also relatively undeveloped and the proposed low maintenance collections were considered appropriate to the rural setting. The Sister City Garden Park concept became part of the Halswell Quarry Park Management Plan when it was reviewed in 1998.

Initial landscape concept designs included a mix of evergreen and deciduous species, indigenous to the respective Sister City regions, concentrated around six or seven small focal points of cultural significance. Each collection was allocated approximately one hectare, selected to suit the plant types from each region's natural environment. In addition to the six Sister City gardens, the Christchurch (New Zealand) collection, depicting wetland dwelling Kahikatea forest, was located around a stormwater basin.

Large specimen trees have been planted and focal points established in most collections. The Gansu collection had to be relocated from behind the historic Workmen's Quarters as that original site selection failed to consider the collections within the wider context of the park's layout and significant heritage features and values.

Natural Environment

Despite modification of the natural environment, opportunities do exist for the creation of habitats. The three distinctive habitat types at Halswell Quarry Park are wetland, forest and rock. It is likely that parts of the flat areas at the site once contained wetland and, around the stormwater basins at the main entrances, kahikatea forest with flax and cabbage tree is being restored. Many of the gullies have been planted in forest species and some of the older plantings have become well-established. The area surrounding Halswell Quarry contains many rock outcrops and quarrying has left vast areas of open rockface, crevices, talus slopes and shelves that provide ideal habitat for rock plants and fauna.



KEY

- Park boundary
- Stream and pond
- Shared use track
- Walking track
- Protected archaeological and heritage areas (approx) are marked with cross-hatching

Sister City Gardens

A Seattle
B Gansu
C Songpa-Gu
D Kurashiki
E Adelaide
F Christchurch (UK)

Buildings located in the heritage quarry setting

1 Heritage manager's house
2 Heritage workmen's quarters
3 Heritage crusher plant buildings
4 Residential dwelling (189 Kennedy's Bush Road)
5 Residential dwelling (201 Kennedy's Bush Road)

Locations of the six Sister City Gardens and the Christchurch (NZ) garden are shown on the site map above.

The general extent of protected archaeological and heritage areas is marked with cross-hatching.

The map also shows the picnic areas and the main car parks.

The extent of the 'under effective control' dog exercising area, the area prohibited to dogs, and where dogs are permitted on a leash are determined through the Dog Control bylaw and policy. Appendix 4 has a map of these areas as at 2008.

Figure 1

Halswell Quarry Park

Site map showing features

Not to scale

Vision

A regional park that promotes rural character and pastoral landscapes, celebrates special heritage, botanical and multicultural environments and where people enjoy recreation and learning experiences.

Objectives and Policies

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

Heritage Conservation

Objective 1. Conserve the heritage features and values of the historic Halswell Quarry, its heritage buildings and its setting as a unique heritage resource.

NOTE: The Halswell Quarry, and associated buildings, are a listed heritage place. Conservation and maintenance of heritage places and values must be undertaken in accordance with Heritage Conservation Plans and the ICOMOS Charter, to which Christchurch City Council is a signatory. In the absence of Heritage Conservation Plans, direction should be sought from Council's heritage and resource consent staff. The Council must also comply with the Historic Places Act 1993.

Policies

1.1. Protect the exposed rock of the quarry face. Remove woody and unwanted invasive plants.

1.2. Protect views from within the park to and from the quarry rim. Planting on the inside of the rim track and western flank of the quarry has largely been completed and existing trees and shrubs will be managed so that they continue to articulate and frame views to the quarry from the rim track. Areas of long pasture grass around the quarry rim will be managed as necessary.

1.3. Establish and maintain landscape treatments appropriate to the character and values of the heritage area. Retain the western flank of the quarry to the rim in open, grazed pasture. Restore the gardens around the former Manager's House.

1.4. The long-term use of all heritage buildings will be determined through a process of needs assessment and planning to provide facilities for the operation and enjoyment of the park in ways that enable the adaptive re-use of the buildings and public access to them, without compromising their heritage values.

1.5. Ensure any new structures or buildings within the heritage area are designed and constructed in a style (material, scale and form) that is sympathetic to the heritage values of the heritage area.

1.6. Reflect and reconstruct historic connections between heritage places that reflect the historic quarry activity, for example by constructing a trail along the historic tramway route to the quarry rim, and a path from Kennedys Bush Road at the park's main entrance to the former Manager's House.

1.7. Support, and be guided by, Heritage Conservation Plans for the quarry, associated heritage buildings and historic landscape through implementation projects and the development plan.

1.8. Before further modifying any of the recorded archaeological sites in the Park, commission an archaeological assessment to inform and assess the sites and their features, identify risks, and make recommendations to ensure compliance with the Historic Places Act 1993. Use this assessment to support any applications for authority to modify those sites, as required by s11 of the Historic Places Act.

1.9. During any programmes of work in Halswell Quarry Park, including excavation, fencing, planting, and building of walkways, if anything of an archaeological nature is encountered (for example, shells, charcoal-stained soil, fire-cracked stones, artefacts or human remains), implement the NZ Historic Places Trust's Accidental Discovery Protocol by immediately contacting the NZ Historic Places Trust and relevant Ngāi Tahu rūnanga.

Tangata Whenua

Objective 2. Acknowledge the manawhenua status of Ngāi Tahu

Policies

2.1. Protect and restore values significant to tangata whenua.

2.2. Consult with relevant Ngāi Tahu rūnanga about appropriate ways of recognising the manawhenua status and cultural heritage of Ngai Tahu in relation to the park, including use of appropriate Maori names.

Open Space

Objective 3. Retain rural pasture and open space representative of Christchurch's rural south-west landscape.

Policies

3.1. Retain extensive areas of open pasture on the valley floor and slopes, free from structures, formed paths and amenity planting. Restrict the inclusion of picnic tables and signs to around the perimeter of picnic areas and inner Quarry floor. Exclude all amenity plantings across the pasture on the valley floor and inner Quarry floor.

3.2. Manage the pasture on the valley floor through a programme of hay making and mowing.

3.3. Regularly mow high amenity areas, including the picnic areas, inner quarry floor and viewing areas.

3.4. Maintain sheep grazing on the slopes either side of the quarry. Public access through grazed areas is to be retained (excluding lambing season, if necessary).

Sister City Gardens

Objective 4. Provide a location for informal gardens of Christchurch's Sister Cities.

Policies

4.1. Develop gardens to represent the natural ecosystem and plant associations of Christchurch and its Sister City regions, using a mixture of tall, woody species and shrubs that are suitable to the site and require a minimum of maintenance.

4.2. Prepare a new landscape concept plan and planting plan for each of the Sister City gardens, in consultation with the Sister City Committees. Obtain formal endorsement of the plans by the Sister City Committees. Use the plans to guide and control the future planting and development of each garden. Planting programmes should give priority to the relocated Gansu collection.

4.3. Show on each landscape concept plan how existing and future Sister City structures might be incorporated into the garden (see Policy 7.3 below).

Habitat Restoration

Objective 5. Promote biodiversity through habitat restoration.

Policies

5.1. Develop a planting programme to progress the establishment of the wetland habitats. Include large semi-swamp forest species, including kahikatea, into the Christchurch (New Zealand) garden.

5.2. Establish a dense forest of native and exotic plant species along the northern slope. Exotic species on this slope will be limited to within the boundaries of the Seattle and Gansu gardens. Exotics will be removed from the remainder of the slope, and broom and gorse managed to enable native species to be planted into it. This may require an exemption from Environment Canterbury under the Regional Pest Management Strategy.

5.3. Support seasonal bird migration between the upper Port Hills and urban environment by retaining and planting a variety of plant species that provide nectar, seeds and/or fruit for birds throughout the year.

5.4. Investigate planting of low growing divaricate shrubs along selected quarry ledges and around the quarry rim where, due to soil depth, cocksfoot and tall oat grass have

established. Shrubs should only be planted if they assist with management of the grasses and do not grow to a height greater than the pasture grass (see Appendix 1).

Amenity Planting

Objective 6. Use amenity planting to give the park a logical form and layout, and to provide screening and shade.

Policies

6.1. Use native plant species appropriate to the site, giving preference to species indigenous to Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, to form the perimeter and inner structure of the park. Along the southern boundary of the park plant only to a height and depth necessary to create a visually attractive boundary and to mitigate the extent of residential development.

6.2. Manage vegetation, and a programme of trimming and thinning, to protect views and sight lines from within the park to the quarry, upper Port Hills and Southern Alps, and from the vehicle entrances to the former Manager's House.

6.3. Review, trim, remove and augment existing shrubs and ground cover vegetation, as necessary, to improve visibility along paths and improve definition of open spaces.

6.4. Maintain and develop stands of large trees, typical of rural landscapes and giving preference to species indigenous to Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, around the perimeter of the open pasture valley floor and picnic areas. Assess the pest potential of tree species prior to planting.

6.5. Enhance the entry points into the quarry and the botanical collections. Amenity planting at the main entrance to the quarry should not screen rock walls.

6.6. Accompany any significant change to the park's structures or buildings, parking areas, or facilities with a planting programme to integrate the changes into the park's landscape.

STRUCTURES

Sister City Structures

Objective 7. Ensure that new structures associated with the six Sister City gardens reflect the cultures of the Sister Cities without compromising the heritage values, rural character and restored habitats of the park.

Policies

7.1 Accommodate the existing Sister City structures and a limited number of additional Sister City structures within the six areas designated for the Sister City gardens.

7.2 For the purpose of this Objective, 'Sister City structures' (structures) include anything constructed that has a distinct character which is associated with the culture of the sister city more than the historic character or general recreational use of the Halswell Quarry Park. Such structures include artworks, as well as buildings, shelters, gateways, viewing platforms, culturally significant focal points, bridges, courtyards, fences, walls, signs, formed paths, and seats.

7.3 All proposals for new structures and alterations to existing structures must be consistent with the landscape concept plan for the garden, and must be accompanied by detailed plans that demonstrate how the structures would sit in their landscape context.

7.4 The Christchurch City Council officer responsible for the park's management (currently the Transport and Greenspace Manager) will assess all proposals for the alteration, repair, and/or replacement of Sister City structures, including temporary installations such as flags and banners, on a case-by-case basis, by applying the criteria outlined in Appendix 2 (Criteria for new and altered Sister City structures) in a consistent manner. Structures which do not comply with the criteria will not be accepted.

7.5 Any irreconcilable disagreement about the suitability of a structure shall be mediated by an independent arbiter to be appointed by agreement between the Council officer and the relevant Sister City committee. The recommendations of the arbiter shall be final.

7.6 All structures must comply with the Building Act 2004.

7.7 All artworks are subject to the Council's Artworks in Public Places Policy 2002, including its Appendix 8: Gifts Policy.

Structures other than Sister City Structures

Objective 8. Limit the visual impact of structures other than Sister City Structures.

Policies

8.1. Coordinate the provision of all other structures throughout the park to ensure they conform with the park's landscape character through the principal use of:
- natural materials, for example Halswell Quarry stone, grit, gravel or timber;
- neutral colours and low reflective surfaces that visually recede into the landscape; and
- robust construction that is low maintenance.

8.2. Design and locate new structures so they do not visually detract from heritage values within the park and they are not silhouetted against the skyline in any view from elsewhere within the park.

8.3. Take care with the positioning of hillside tracks to ensure that they do not form lines or patterns that contrast with the natural lines of the landform, and design them so that they have no prominent cut or fill batters.

8.4. Erect signs and information boards in a style and manner that complies with the Halswell Quarry Interpretation Strategy and Council standards.

8.5. When considering installation of any fences, walls and gates, give preference to alternative approaches that do not require them. Those that are needed must complement the park's existing landscape character. Remove gates and fences that are obsolete, particularly around the operational area of the quarry buildings. Use rock bollards, rather than timber rails, to prevent unauthorised vehicle entry to areas within the park.

8.6. For the Christchurch (New Zealand) garden, seek the help of mana whenua Ngāi Tahu to establish a programme to install artwork and structures that reflect the varied cultural heritage of the Halswell area and greater Christchurch.

PUBLIC USE

Recreation

Objective 9. Provide for recreation experiences that are compatible and sympathetic to the park's rural character.

Policies

9.1. Encourage passive recreation, such as picnicking, and physical activity that benefits from the varied terrain including mountain biking, cross country running, horse riding and orienteering events. Events are permitted where it is considered they do not conflict with or contradict existing uses of the park.

9.2. Develop and maintain single and shared use tracks and areas that provide a range of recreational experiences.

9.3. Avoid activities that require the permanent, semi-permanent or exclusive allocation of land, except for the horse arena and petanque surface which will be retained.

Temporary activities, requiring the exclusive use of any part of the park, must have prior approval of an authorised officer of the Christchurch City Council.

9.4. Allow for the future establishment of mountain bike tracks and horse trails along the northern slope to the eastern boundary of the park.

9.5. Investigate siting old farm machines in several locations around the perimeter of the picnic areas to complement the natural play of children, for example a tractor, wagon.

Access

Objective 10. Maintain and facilitate access to the park for a range of recreation users.

Policies

10.1. Provide public access to all parts of the park, except in areas where or when:
- restrictions are necessary for public safety;
- the flora and fauna require conservation and protection;
- the fire risk is high; and/or
- bookings require restricted access.

10.2. Dogs will be allowed in the park in accordance with the Dog Control Bylaw 2008 or later amendments (see Appendix 4 – Dog Exercise Area).

10.3. Design access points into the park, particularly along the eastern boundary, in consideration of a range of recreation opportunities and future connections to the upper Port Hills and greater Halswell area.

10.4. Develop external access points into the park from Kennedys Bush Road to enable visitors to readily identify the park.

10.5. Investigate opportunities for land acquisition to improve recreation, ecological and heritage connections across the open space network of Christchurch, and particularly the Halswell district.

Transport

Objective 11. Create a pedestrian friendly environment with limited motor vehicle access within the park.

Policies

11.1. Encourage visitors to choose sustainable transport to and from the park. Provide bicycle stands within parking areas. Support installation of bus stops outside the main entrance on Kennedys Bush Road (any shelters should be constructed from Quarry stone).

11.2. Design and develop a parking area around 201 Kennedys Bush Road to a standard consistent with existing parking areas. Support pedestrian movement from this parking area with a well formed track to the former Manager's House and along the historic tramway route to the quarry rim.

11.3. Re-design the parking area near Findlays picnic area to improve vehicle circulation and use, having particular regard to the main entrance to the floor of the historic quarry, to a standard consistent with the main vehicle area.

11.4. Investigate the addition of informal parking bays along the park side of public roads between the main entrance on Kennedys Bush Road and parking area on Cashmere Road. Any parking bays to be supported by convenient pedestrian access to encourage people to enter the park on foot.

11.5. Manage vehicle access onto grassed areas.

11.6. Emergency and maintenance vehicle access will be permitted throughout the park.

Information

Objective 12. Increase knowledge and understanding of the values and uses of the park.

Policies

12.1. Inform and educate visitors on the appropriate uses, and the historic, botanical and multicultural significance of the park. Review the Halswell Quarry Park Interpretation Strategy. Strategy to include an interpretation plan for the historic Quarry, landscape and heritage buildings, and acknowledge any significance of the site to tangata whenua.

12.2. Use a variety of media to promote and encourage use of the park.

12.3. Support education programmes that encourage an appreciation of the park's rural character, pastoral landscapes and special historic, botanical and multicultural environments.

PARK OPERATIONS

Environmental Monitoring and Maintenance

Objective 13. Improve the quality of the environment and ecosystem function.

Policies

13.1. Develop a weed removal programme, particularly for each habitat type. The programme should provide for the removal and eradication of grey willow (*Salix cinerea*), white poplar (*Populus alba),* karo (*Pittosporum crassifolium*) and wilding pines (*Pinus radiata*). Monitor and manage the growth of the Marlborough rock daisy that has self established on the quarry face.

13.2. Manage surface water through a naturalised stormwater management system. Replace concrete ponds with a more natural-looking feature designed to limit downstream scouring of the streambed during storms.

13.3. Monitor the health and safety of large trees. Where, in the Council's opinion, any tree is in a condition that poses an immediate safety risk, the Council will exercise its right to have the tree removed as soon as possible. This may include dead, dying or diseased trees. The historic, scientific or aesthetic contribution of the tree shall be assessed prior to any decision being made to remove it.

13.4. Monitor and manage areas prone to surface erosion.

13.5. Manage vertebrate pest species in accordance with Environment Canterbury's Regional Pest Management Strategy.

Management

Objective 14. Ensure the smooth, efficient and safe operation of the park.

Polices

14.1. Declare the land to be a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. Identify those parts of the park which will continue to be used primarily for recreation and those where other uses will predominate. Classify those areas used primarily for recreation as recreation reserve. Classify those parts of the park which are not to be used primarily for recreation as local purpose and/or historic reserves, as appropriate.

14.2. Regulate and manage the park in accordance with Council by-laws and Council policy.

14.3. Ensure the Council has full control over the use and appearance of all parts of the park at all times.

14.4. Continue to seek community input on the operational management of the park. Encourage the voluntary assistance of individuals and community groups that align with maintenance and planting programmes. Any work is to be undertaken under the supervision of the ranger.

14.5. Assess the current uses of all existing buildings and their ability to cater for future needs, including the provision of adequate staff and operational facilities on-site. Prepare and implement a comprehensive plan for adaptation of the buildings to the needed future uses, within the constraints of Objective 1 (Heritage Conservation).

14.6. Make provision for relocating maintenance material from the base of the quarry. Use vegetation for screening.

14.7. Manage park boundaries to ensure the safety of stock and to maintain the reasonable privacy, sunlight and views of existing adjoining residential properties.

14.8. Provide adequate space between planted areas and adjoining land uses to lessen the risk of fire spread and provide access for fire fighting.

14.9. Monitor use of the park, and particularly the shared use environments, and manage areas accordingly.

Issues

Many of the objectives and policies have been written to deal with particular issues. Others are simply tools to guide good management of the park.

Issues arise from the need to refine distinct environments within the park, from increases in the use of the park and associated operational needs of staff. This section discusses the main issues that the draft Management Plan seeks to resolve.

Heritage Areas

Almost half of the park is listed in the Christchurch City Plan as a protected heritage place, and the Workmen's quarters and former Manager's House are listed heritage buildings. The Halswell Quarry is unique and one of the few industrial heritage landscapes in Christchurch. Its preservation is essential for future generations, along with the associated heritage buildings and historic landscape. Heritage Conservation Plans guide the preservation of heritage places, however many of the heritage places in the park do not have an operative Conservation Plan.

While the heritage places must be conserved, they must also function as an integrated part of the recreational reserve. It is important that heritage places are available and accessible for the enjoyment and education of visitors. In the absence of Heritage Conservation Plans, the draft management plan must manage the balance between integration and preservation.

The quarry is recorded by the NZ Archaeological Association (NZAA) as an archaeological site. The NZAA also records a Maori archaeological site, where discovery of an oven and a basalt adze (toki) were recorded in 1965, in the general location of the Songpa-Gu garden. While the site was recorded as "practically destroyed by cultivation", the presence of Maori cultural/archaeological material indicates occupation and there is therefore potential for further, not yet identified, archaeological remains to be disturbed during any earthworks in that vicinity.

Section 11 of the Historic Places Act requires that the Council must obtain an authority from the NZ Historic Places Trust before modifying any part of these archaeological sites. The application must include an assessment, prepared by an archaeologist, of any archaeological, Maori, or other relevant values and the effect of the proposal on those values.

Open Space

One of the defining landscape features of the park is the expanse of open space. The different environments, managed through various mowing regimes and grazing arrangements, are fundamental to the park's landscape character. Sometimes open space is considered "empty" and, therefore, available for alternative uses. Open space is a 'use' to be valued in its own right. The ongoing preservation of large areas of open space is necessary to maintain the rural farm character of the park. Open space also provides an important contrast to vegetated areas.

The 1998 landscape concept plan showed extensive areas of native bush over, more or less, the entire park. There is a risk, however, that more plantings could compromise the open space experiences within the park. Native plantings to date give a strong framework to the park and provide a closed canopy for the establishment of larger trees.

Sister City Gardens

The six Sister City gardens have been developed by the respective Sister City Committees to varying degrees. Original designs involved, predominantly, large trees with feature artwork and supporting structures such as viewing platforms and shade houses. Over time the designs have incorporated more substantial structures.

The 1998 Management Plan included the Sister City Garden Park as a Park Development Priority. The concept's initial timeline estimated that construction and planting would be completed by 2001. Without additional staff resources, this raised an unrealistic expectation on a site as undeveloped and exposed to the elements as Halswell Quarry Park. It also did not take account of incorporating design aspirations for focal points and structures of cultural significance into the park.

Aspirations for the areas allocated for the Sister City botanical collections have gone beyond those originally anticipated by the 1998 Management Plan. That Plan does not provide for or contemplate the types of structures proposed in plans recently put forward. Reconciliation of the Sister City Committee aspirations with the park's objectives is essential, and assessment of designs against current Council policy and existing designs within the park necessary, to progress the Sister City Garden Park to completion.

Habitats

Attempts to regenerate areas of habitat have achieved varying success. Habitat plantings are designed to eventually be self-sustaining, and vegetation allowed to develop as a functioning ecosystem driven by environmental factors. Habitat planting can involve a mix of non-local natives and exotic species provided they do not become a nuisance. Getting the right match between plant species and habitat is essential. There are some species that have the potential to deflect ecosystem processes, and getting this wrong has costly consequences.

A weed management plan is essential for each habitat type, and for the various amenity areas that interact with habitats.

Ranger and Staff Operational Area

Development of the park has not included adequate provision for staff operational needs. Staff are currently using the historic Quarry buildings to store equipment, and storing construction material at the base of the quarry. These areas are not suitable, given their historic nature, and provide insufficient room for the operational activities of staff.

Ideally, the rangers office would be in a prominent position and easily accessible. The rangers office is currently located amongst the operational area near the historic Quarry buildings. Mixed with operational activities, the office is not easy to get to so Park users do not have ready access to a ranger office for Park information.

A new workshop is needed on-site in a location that does not compromise values, existing uses and landscapes of the park.

Use of existing buildings

There are a number of buildings within the park that are empty or becoming rundown. The historic former Manager's House holds a commanding position at the entrance of the park, but is currently predominantly used for storage. Two residential dwellings, located within the boundary of the park along Kennedys Bush Road, are subject to rental agreements (but not Council's social housing).

The Halswell Quarry Station, Manager's residence and Workmans Quarters together are a Group 2 listed heritage place under the City Plan and subject to the rules in its Part 10 (Heritage and Amenities). Any alteration or removal of a Group 1 or Group 2 building, place or object, or the erection of any additional building (temporary or permanent, movable or immovable) on a site containing a Group 1 or Group 2 building, place or object, is a discretionary activity.

The Workmen's Quarters has a conservation plan. Two other conservation plans are in preparation. One is a revised plan for the former Manager's House, including recommendations for future use of the building. The other is a new plan for the crusher plant area and associated buildings.

The Council considers the best use for the former Manager's House in the short to medium term would be for display purposes and ranger offices. This use would only require minor works to be done (a disabled access and upgrade to bathrooms). It would solve the immediate issue of the location of the ranger without precluding any future commercial use of the former Managers House. However, the options should be kept open for a wider range of uses to be considered for the longer term. One such is for a commercial café or restaurant. At present such an operation is unlikely to be financially viable, but the Council does not wish to rule out any opportunity such as this in the future. To that end it is recommended that this building and its grounds become a historic reserve, which would give them protection under the Reserves Act 1977, while allowing a greater variety of uses and lease arrangements than if they were in a recreation reserve.

The two residential dwellings on Kennedys Bush Road contribute to the understanding of the history of the quarry, but they have lesser significance than other features. This management plan has policies for the site of one be used for the new park workshop and the other be turned into a new public carpark. Existing structures and landscaping should be recorded in the records of the quarry's history before they are removed or significantly altered. It may be possible to retain some landscape features that would give a visual clue to their history, such as boundary hedges.

Motor Vehicle Circulation

There have been some issues with motor vehicles and pedestrian safety beyond the main parking area and more are anticipated as park use increases. The internal road beyond the main parking area is very narrow and unable to be sufficiently widened. It leads to a small parking area, at the entrance to the quarry, that is insufficient to construct a turning circle. While a path provides pedestrian access through native bush alongside the road, groups of pedestrians use this internal road to make their way to the botanical collections, Findlay picnic area and main entrance to the quarry. The internal road also provides a good surface for the mobility impaired, children's bikes/scooters and push-chairs.

Restricting motor vehicles beyond the main parking area will improve safety for pedestrians. It will also enable the main entrance to the quarry to be enhanced with landscaping. The loss of parking will be compensated for by a new parking area off Kennedys Bush Road. Motor vehicle access to the southern edge of the main picnic area will continue.

Shared Use Areas

Most recreational uses of the park are currently managed on shared tracks or in a shared use area. The major use of the shared use area is walking dogs and requests have been made for a fenced "Dog Park". Mountain bikes pass through the shared use area generally from the eastern boundary after completing a downhill section through the adjoining pine plantation on private land. A model aircraft club land and takeoff their craft from the southern boundary of the dog exercise area. A horse-riding arena is provided in the north-western corner. Opportunities for passive recreation and picnicking are available throughout the park.

The boundary of the shared use area could be better defined to avoid activities straying into parts of the park set aside for passive recreation and picnicking. However, extensive fencing and exclusive use areas are not desirable in an environment preserved for its open space character. Opportunities for horse riding and more extensive mountain biking within the park are limited until land or access between the eastern boundary of the park and Kennedys Bush Track is secured.

Use of the park is expected to dramatically increase as the south-west area continues to urbanise. It will be necessary to monitor the shared use environments within the park and manage areas accordingly.

Reserve Status

The 1998 management plan had a policy that the park be classified "Passive Recreation Reserve". This has not been done.

The Council considers that the park should become a recreation reserve, as are most of the city's parks. Recreation reserves must be managed for "recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside".

However, this classification can restrict the ability of the Council to make best use of those parts of the park where outdoor recreation is not the priority. It could prevent the leasing of the two rental properties on Kennedys Bush Road. It could also make it difficult to introduce a new use to the former Manager's House, for which a historic reserve classification would be more appropriate, as discussed above. The water supply reservoir in the south-west corner of the park would best sit within its own local purpose (utility) reserve.

By declaring the whole park to be a reserve and classifying the various parts as recreation, local purpose and/or historic reserves, the protection of the Reserves Act would be achieved without undue restrictions on the existing and future uses.

Implementation

This section outlines how the objectives and policies for on-going management and future development of the reserve will be implemented.

The indicative development plan shows the types of projects that would achieve the objectives and policies. The indicative development plan will be used to identify the significant expenditure items for which Council may choose to make provision in future Long Term Council Community Plans.

Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) disclaimer

No project recommended on the indicative development plan will be implemented unless the expenditure is provided for through the Long Tem Council Community Plan. Some of the recommendations may be funded through bulk sums allocated for generic park operational and capital expenditure items within the LTCCP.

INDICATIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
KEY PROJECTS – CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Project	**Description**	**Total Estimate** (*Oct 2009 prices*)
Staff and Operational Facilities	Renovate the interior of the Manager's House to accommodate a rangers' office, park information and community rooms, within the constraints of the Conservation Plan. Alterations should include an accessibility ramp and toilets. Keep the option open for possible future use of part of the building for a commercial cafe.	$400,000.00 *part funded see below*
	Remove the existing house and garden at 189 Kennedys Bush Road, but keep some hedges for screening. Build a new workshop and secure storage yard in this locality, or on the site of the former workshop near the manager's house. Relocate stored maintenance material from the base of the quarry to the new yard. Form a new service vehicle access track between the yard and the rangers' office, on the west side of the Christchurch (UK) garden and the manager's house.	$500,000.00
Quarry Buildings	Restore the crusher buildings and machinery within the constraints of the Conservation Plan, and display them to park visitors. Prepare and implement a landscape plan to improve	$150,000.00

	the quality of the setting for the buildings and the walking linkages to the car park and the quarry floor.	
Sister City gardens	Prepare a detailed Landscape Concept Plan for the Gansu Sister City garden and update the landscape plans for the five other Sister City gardens. Relocate the Chinese plants from the old Gansu Sister City garden site to the new site. The respective Sister City Committees fund the design and installation of artwork and structures within the botanical collections, with Council assuming the ongoing costs of maintenance	$120,000.00
	Planting programme and tree management, including planting the northern slope, tree planting around the valley floor, second-stage planting in the Christchurch NZ garden, and low growing divaricate shrubs on quarry ledges.	$30,000.00
Tracks	Construct a path from Kennedys Bush Road at the park's main entrance to the manager's house, following the historic path, and restore the historic garden fence. Construct walking tracks through the pasture to link 201 Kennedys Bush Road to the manager's house and to the quarry rim. Form the track to the rim as an accessible heritage trail along the historic tramway route, based on documentary and physical evidence of the original track, and using such historic tramway material as may be available.	$15,000.00
Transport	Should the existing and proposed car parks elsewhere in the park regularly become overcrowded, remove the house at 201 Kennedys Bush Road, and form an overflow public car park in this locality. .	$70,000.00
	Investigate the addition of informal parking bays along the park side of public roads between the main entrance on Kennedys Bush Road and parking area on Cashmere Road. Form new pedestrian access points into the park from these parking bays and roadways	$10,000.00
	Provide bicycle stands at the car parks.	$5,000.00

Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) disclaimer

No project recommended on the indicative development plan will be implemented unless the expenditure is provided for through the Long Tem Council Community Plan. Some of the recommendations may be funded through bulk sums allocated for generic park operational and capital expenditure items within the LTCCP.

Amenity	Establish a dense band of native plant species along the southern and eastern boundary of the grazing land. Take care not to plant species or in locations that could block views across the plains from the surrounding residential housing.	$30,000.00
	Prepare and implement a landscape plan to reorganise the space between Findlays picnic area, the Sister City gardens and the quarry floor. Include a sealed parking area for about 50 cars, plus a grassed overflow parking area, in the northern part of the quarry floor. Include design considerations to discourage anti-social use by 'boy racers' and to emphasise the entrances to the various recreation areasand views into the inner quarry pit area.	$120,000.00
Waterways	Replace the concrete ponds with a more natural-looking feature designed to limit downstream scouring of the streambed during storms.	$40,000.00

KEY PROJECTS – NEW OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE

Resources	Additional resources (staff and operational costs) to manage Sister City gardens and associated artwork and structures.	$150,000.00
Tree replacement	Removal and eradication of grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) and white poplar (*Populus alba)* for restoration of wetland environment.	$40,000.00
Information	Review the Halswell Quarry Park Interpretation Strategy.	$10,000.00
Former Manager's House	Commission and implement a conservation plan for the Manager's House garden.	$150,000.00
Workmen's quarters	Revise the Workmen's quarters conservation plan.	$5,000.00

There is currently $45,000.00 available, per year to the 2012 financial year, for minor development. This is insufficient for major development works or an increase in maintenance standards. The sum of $150,000.00 will be carried over from the 2010 financial year for the former Manager's House and new workshop. At present, no other specific funding is identified for major development works.

This indicative Development Plan constitutes part of the Management Plan. Review will coincide with review of the Management Plan.

Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) disclaimer

No project recommended on the indicative development plan will be implemented unless the expenditure is provided for through the Long Tem Council Community Plan. Some of the recommendations may be funded through bulk sums allocated for generic park operational and capital expenditure items within the LTCCP.

Maintain and develop stands of large trees, typical of rural landscapes and giving preference to species indigenous to Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, around the perimeter of the open pasture valley floor and picnic areas, but keeping viewshafts into the park from Cashmere Road and Kennedys Bush Road

Investigate the addition of informal parking bays along the park side of public roads between the main entrance on Kennedys Bush Road and parking area on Cashmere Road. Form new pedestrian access points into the park from these parking bays and roadways

Undertake a second-stage planting programme to progress the establishment of wetland bush habitats in the Christchurch NZ garden, by interplanting with species such as kahikatea which will grow to form tall mature forest stands.

Construct a path from Kennedys Bush Road at the park's main entrance to the manager's house, following the historic path, and restore the historic garden fence.

Commission and implement a conservation plan and restoration programme for the garden of the manager's house

Renovate the interior of the Manager's House to accommodate a rangers' office, park information and community rooms, within the constraints of the Conservation Plan. Alterations should include an accessibility ramp and toilets. Keep the option open for possible future use of part of the building for a commercial cafe.

Remove the existing house and garden, but keep some hedges for screening. Build a new workshop and secure storage yard in this locality, or on the site of the former workshop near the manager's house. Form a new service vehicle access track between the yard and the rangers' office, on the west side of the Christchurch (UK) garden and the manager's house

Should the existing and proposed car parks elsewhere in the park regularly become overcrowded, remove the house at 201 Kennedys Bush Road, and form an overflow public car park in this locality. Construct walking tracks through the pasture to link it to the manager's house and to the quarry rim. Form the track to the rim as a heritage trail along the historic tramway route, based on documentary and physical evidence of the original track, and using such historic tramway material as may be available

Protected archaeological and heritage areas are marked with cross-hatching. Ensure that all necessary authorities and consents are obtained before disturbing existing ground and heritage features in these areas.

Remove grey willow (Salix cinerea) and white poplar (Populus alba) and replace them with indigenous wetland plants

Provide bicycle stands at the car parks

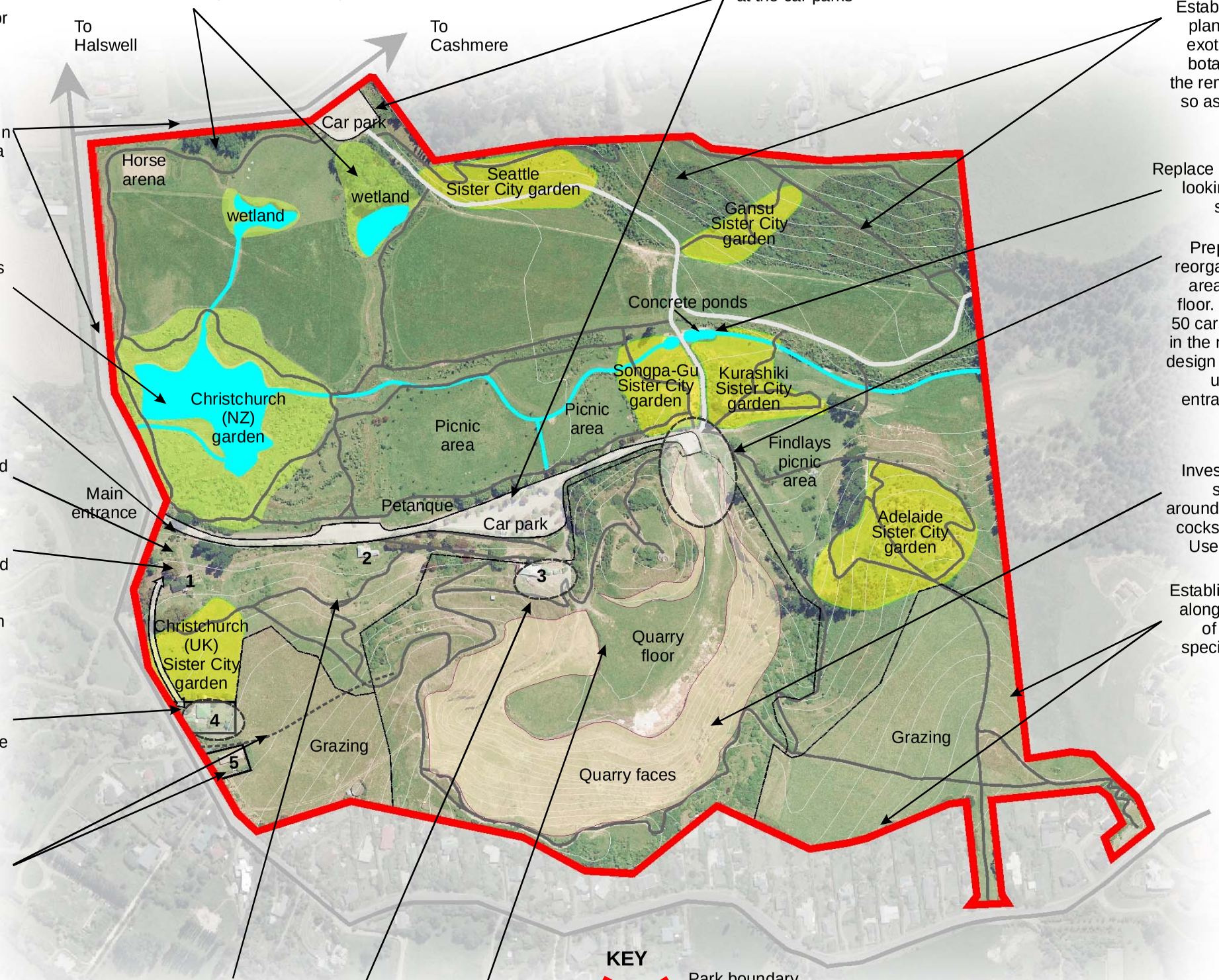
Establish a dense stands of native and exotic plants along the northern slope. Locate the exotic species within the Seattle and Gansu botanical collections and remove them from the remainder of the slope. Locate the stands so as to keep viewshafts from walking tracks to the rest of the quarry

Replace the concrete ponds with a more natural-looking feature designed to limit downstream scouring of the streambed during storms

Prepare and implement a landscape plan to reorganise the space between Findlays picnic area, the Sister City gardens and the quarry floor. Include a sealed parking area for about 50 cars, plus a grassed overflow parking area, in the northern part of the quarry floor. Include design considerations to discourage anti-social use by 'boy racers' and to emphasise the entrances to the various recreation areasand views into the inner quarry pit area.

Investigate planting of low growing divaricate shrubs along selected quarry ledges and around the quarry rim where, due to soil depth, cocksfoot and tall oat grass have established. Use species indigenous to Banks Peninsula

Establish a dense band of native plant species along the the southern and eastern boundary of the grazing land. Take care not to plant species or in locations that could block views across the plains from the surrounding residential housing



Relocate the Chinese plants from the old Gansu Sister City garden site to the new site

Restore the crusher buildings and machinery within the constraints of the Conservation Plan, and display them to park visitors. Prepare and implement a landscape plan to improve the quality of the setting for the buildings and the walking linkages to the car park and the quarry floor

Relocate stored maintenance material to a new yard located away from the base of the quarry

KEY

- Park boundary
- Shared use walking/cycling track
- Pond and stream
- Walking track
- Contours (5m intervals)

Buildings located in the heritage quarry setting

1 Heritage manager's house
2 Heritage workmen's quarters
3 Heritage crusher plant buildings
4 Residential dwelling (189 Kennedys Bush Road)
5 Residential dwelling (201 Kennedys Bush Road)

NORTH

0 40 80 120 160 200 metres

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Figure 2

Halswell Quarry Park

Indicative Development Plan

12 November 2009

Christchurch City Council

Resource Information

Land Tenure

The area known as "Halswell Quarry Park" is owned by the Christchurch City Council. Responsibility for the management of the park currently rests with the Transport & Greenspace Unit Manager.

Location

The park is located approximately 10.5 kilometres from Cathedral Square, on the corner of Kennedys Bush and Cashmere Roads in Halswell, at the base of the Port Hills and near the city's south-west urban boundary.

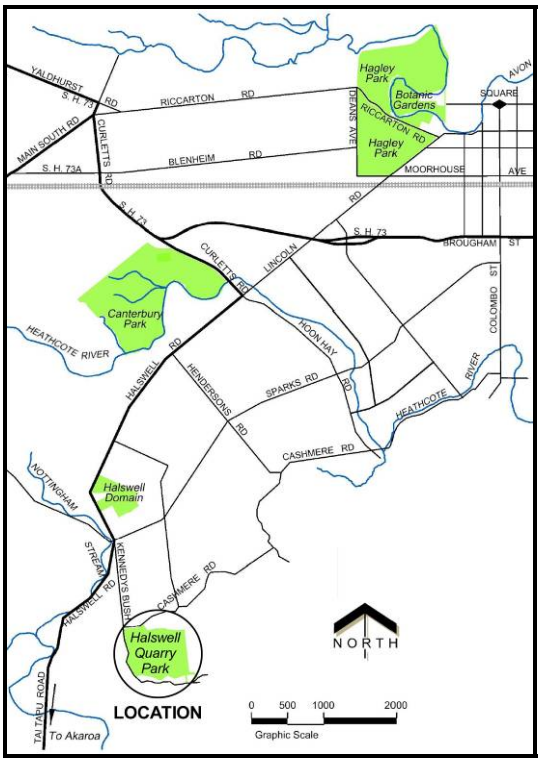

Figure 3: Park Location

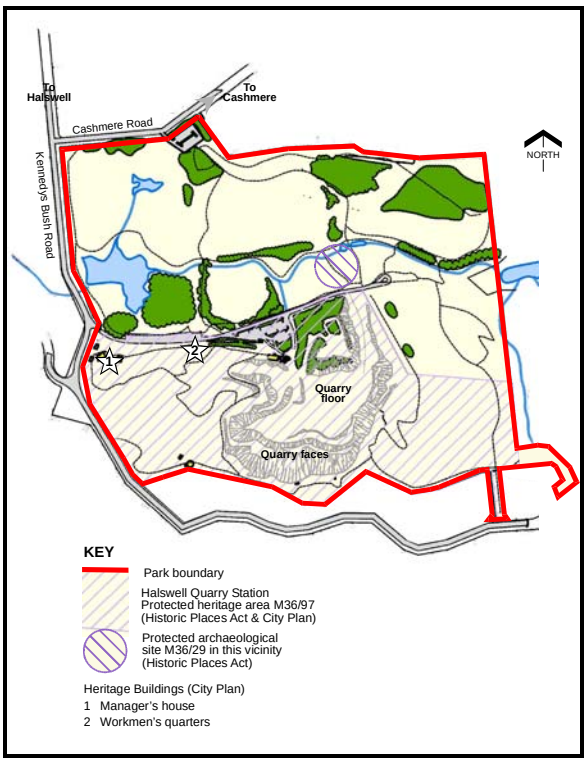

Figure 4: Heritage Area and archaeological sites

Legal Status

The park is comprised in three Certificates of Title and described as:

1. An estate in fee simple being 31.1423 hectares more or less described as Part Rural Section 37434 on Certificate of Title CB10A/1207

2. An estate in fee simple being 24.0851 hectares more or less described as Part Rural Section 297C, Part Rural Section 4543, Part Rural Section 14330 and Part Rural Section 19208 on Certificate of Title CB27A/168

3. An estate in fee simple for the purpose of recreation reserve being 3942 square metres more or less described as Lot 23 Deposited Plan 81667 on Certificate of Title CB46C/977

Council zoning of the park is Conservation 2 (historic and garden city parks) and Living HA (Hills - Boundary).

The quarry, and a number of important heritage buildings, are listed under the Christchurch City Plan (Volume 3, Part 10 Heritage and Amenities, Appendix 1 - List of Protected Buildings, Places and Objects).

Two recorded archaeological sites/features are present within the boundaries of Halswell Quarry Park to which the archaeological provisions of the Historic Places Act 1993 apply. The quarry itself is one of the sites, and the other is a pre-European site where an oven and a basalt adze were recorded in 1965. The adze is held at the Canterbury Museum.

Quarrying has ceased and stone is no longer available to the public. Stone may be used within, and in relation to, the park by Christchurch City Council staff and only removed from the park by an authorised officer of the Christchurch City Council.

Classification

It is Council's intention to classify, at a future date, all the land parcels that comprise the park as reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. Under Section 16, the Minister of Conservation, in consultation with the administering body, classifies all reserves held pursuant to the Act. Reserves are classified into one or more of seven categories; recreation, historic, scenic, nature, scientific, government purpose, and local purpose.

The appropriate reserve classification for the bulk of Halswell Quarry Park is 'recreation reserve' as "*it is generally considered the broadest, most flexible reserve category that typically provides for the widest range of activities and, consequently, would appear likely to be the 'best fit' for the wide range of existing and potential future uses and values of the park*" (Opus, 2008).

A recreation reserve provides *"areas for the recreation and sporting activities and the physical welfare and enjoyment of the public, and for the protection of the natural environment and beauty of the countryside, with emphasis on the retention of open spaces and on outdoor recreational activities, including recreational tracks in the countryside."* (S.41 Reserves Act 1977).

Physical Description

The Port Hills are part of the western side of the extinct volcano that formed Banks Peninsula. The park takes in an isolated area of dark grey lavas that, when quarried, provided a decorative facing stone. The basalts of the ridge and spurs are particularly hard. The valley floor, like most of the Canterbury Plains, is underlain by uncemented river gravels. The quarry's geological exposures show a wide variety of volcanic material, and offers an excellent opportunity for illustrating volcanism.

The park is centred on an east-west valley of the Port Hills. The park has an amphitheatre-type shape, contained by spurs running west from the Port Hills and gradually dropping from approximately 100m above sea level to 20 m. There is a triangle of flatter land in the valley

floor. Quarrying activity has removed the central third of this area leaving a series of near vertical faces and terracing.

The five soil types vary across the park. The deep sandy loam soils that cover the floor of the valley are prone to waterlogging in winter. Silt loam found on the slopes of the upper valley are free draining and liable to tunnel gully erosion.

There are many micro-climates within the park. The site faces north to north-west and is open to prevailing hot, dry winds in late spring and summer, and prone to drought. Some areas of the site are exposed to easterlies which funnel down the valley. Most of the site is sheltered from southerly winds and that sheltering leads to high surface temperatures inside the quarry itself during summer. In addition, the reflective nature of the rocks leads to a warmer, drier micro-climate than other parts of the Port Hills. Rainfall levels vary by season and elevation, with most rain falling in winter and on the highest parts of the site due to the influence of mists and low cloud.

Water is sourced from runoff and seepage to the quarry floor. In wet weather, a surface stream forms through the centre of the valley floor and creates extensive surface ponding. A number of retention and detention basins have been developed within Halswell Quarry Park to contain and control the speed of water flowing off the upper slopes, through the site and into the Heathcote River catchment and to improve water quality. Land has been set aside to develop additional retention and detention basins as required due to increased residential development.

Surrounding Area

Halswell Quarry Park is situated at the base of the Port Hills, below the native vegetation reserve of Kennedys Bush. The park is connected to the upper Port Hills by Kennedys Bush Track, a 4 km paper road (approximately) which travels from the urban edge through grazing and farmland to the Summit Road. This track is a very important recreation link, providing access for a range of uses. Land acquisition above the original Quarry park has, and will continue to, improve these links. Recreation and heritage links are also planned between the park and Halswell River, Halswell Domain and Council owned land known as Henderson's Basin.

Much of the land immediately surrounding the park is rural. The principal use is grazing for sheep, cattle and horses. This rural setting is special and gives the park a distinctive isolation and peacefulness. The parks visual similarity to the surrounding farm land provides users with the opportunity to access a public 'countryside'. From within the park there are extensive views to the Southern Alps and undeveloped spurs leading to the upper Port Hills.

Housing development has started to increase around the park, and particularly on the hill above. A number of large residential dwellings are now highly visible from within the park. The south-west of Christchurch is a key growth area for the city, set to accommodate an additional 12,000 households over the next 35 years. Future urban development will continue to significantly alter the landscape surrounding the park and place pressure on its form and development.

Flora and Fauna

The park's character is maintained with a predominance of open space and diverse, informally presented vegetation. The original land cover has long since gone, but indigenous revegetation, carried out over the past ten years, has begun to create a framework for the site.

Blocks of native plants have established and prospered despite the harsh growing conditions. Mature rows of pines and eucalyptus, as well as deciduous trees such as poplar and large walnut trees, are scattered around the park and make a valuable contribution to the park's diverse character.

Vegetation provides screening, shelter, shade and habitat. A number of bird species, lizards and frogs inhabit the variety of open pasture, rock crevices, boulders and scree, mature trees and gardens, regenerating bush and wetland habitats. There are also a number of pest species, including feral cats, hedgehogs, rabbits and possums.

Social History

Prior to European settlement, Ngāi Tahu, and before them Ngāti Mamoe and Waitaha, maintained both permanent and temporary habitation sites across south-west Christchurch, gathering natural resources from the network of springs, waterways, swamps, grasslands and lowland podocarp forests that made up the wider Christchurch area, including the upper Heathcote/Ōpāwaho and Halswell/Huritini rivers. The south-west provided a significant link between the Ngai Tahu settlements of Kaiapoi, Rapaki, Wairewa and Taumutu and the resources of Te Ihutai (Avon-Heathcote Estuary), Te Waihora (Lake Ellesmere), Wairewa (lake Forsyth) and Te Whakaraupo (Lyttelton Harbour).

In the vicinity of Halswell Quarry Park are sites of Maori occupation and use, including remanant ovens, pits and artifacts. Sites of significance also include Ō-Tū-matua, a prominent hillock that sits upon the spur running from Cass Peak down to the Halswell Quarry area, and dividing the Hoon Hay Valley from Kennedys Bush. The site provided a clear outlook north to Kaiapoi Pa and south to Taumutu village. Ōtūmatua features often in oral traditions as wāhi tapu and as a boundary marker.

Rapid changes commenced with the arrival of European settlers. Timber from the area helped to build and fuel much of Christchurch. Situated at the junction of hill and swamp, the area of the quarry was close to the favoured transport route south from Christchurch.

The quarry was opened in the late 1850s. The significance of Halswell Quarry's finely shaped basalt stone is evident in the number of early buildings that used the fine blue-grey stone, including the Provincial Chambers, Durham Street Methodist Church, Sign of the Takahe and the Canterbury Museum. The quarry also supplied rubble and roading material for the rapidly expanding Canterbury community and in 1925 the Christchurch City Council purchased the quarry company to secure a supply of high quality roading material and large stones for river protection work. The historic tramway was used to transport stone from the quarry to the city.

The hills above the quarry were first privately subdivided during the First World War, and the Council made quarry land available for housing in 1954. Residents of Kennedys Bush Road started objecting to quarry operations as early as 1959. A 1987 report confirmed that the rock resource was almost worked out and the following year the Kennedys Bush Road Residents Association made proposals to the Council that the quarry become a reserve once crushing ceased. The Council adopted this concept and widened it to include surrounding Council-owned land. The quarry, believed to have been the oldest continuously operated quarry in Australasia, finally closed in December 1990.

Policy Framework

Management of the park is determined by Council's responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002. If classified as recreation reserve, the park will then be managed under the Reserves Act 1977.

Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977 states:

> "The Management Plan shall provide for and ensure the use, enjoyment, maintenance, 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 which it is classified …".

The Council's responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991 and Building Act 2004 also play a key role in the management and development of the park.

In addition, consideration must be given to the Council's strategic directions, articulated in key strategic and policy documents including:

- Artworks in Public Places Policy
- Biodiversity Strategy 2008
- Christchurch City Council Constructions Standards Specifications 2002
- Christchurch City Council Bylaws 2008 (specifically the Parks and Reserves Bylaw and Dog Control Bylaw)
- Christchurch City Council International Relations policy statement 2005
- Christchurch City Plan
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Heritage Conservation Policy (ICOMOS), and respective Heritage Conservation Plans
- Open Space Strategy (in development)
- Operational Procedures for Artworks in Public Places, 2003, McCormick, D (Christchurch City Council)
- Parks and Waterways Access Policy 2002
- Physical Recreation and Sport Strategy 2002
- Port Hills Recreation Strategy 2003
- Regional Pest Management Strategy (Environment Canterbury's)
- Rubbish Free Parks Policy
- Stream-side planting guide (CCC)
- South West Area Plan (draft)
- Technical specification for the commissioning, design, installation, maintenance and decommissioning of plaques (draft)
- Technical guidelines on the commissioning, design, installation, maintenance and decommissioning of plaques (draft)
- Waterways, Wetlands and Drainage Guide

Management Plan History

This draft Management Plan is the third for the Halswell Quarry Park prepared under the Local Government Act. The first Management Plan was adopted in 1991 and reviewed in 1998.

This review reflects that the park has matured. Many of the original policies have been implemented, making some redundant, and others need to be reinforced to give strength to the structure of the park. This section should be read in conjunction with the Issues section to help clarify any policy changes.

This Draft has been produced using the Christchurch City Council's new template for reserve management plans. The objectives and policies have been reordered and reorganised within the new document structure, and a number of the policies amalgamated. The below table sets out the degree to which relevant sections[2] of the 1998 Plan has been amalgamated into the new draft plan.

1998 Policy Sections		2009 Policy Sections and/or Explanation
Administration and Development	4.1.1	Resource Information – land tenure
	4.1.2	Implementation; Resource Information – classification
	4.1.3	Resource information – land tenure
	4.1.4	*Implementation*
	4.1.5	*Consultation with key stakeholders such as local residents and voluntary groups and organisations, is covered by the legislative requirements the Local Government Act 2002, under which this plan is prepared.*
	4.1.6	*It is no longer Council's policy to have a ranger or similar Council employee living on or adjacent to the site*
	4.1.7	Implementation
	4.1.8	Policy 4.1; 6.1; 14.8
	4.1.9	Policy 10.1
	4.1.10	Resource information – legal status
	4.1.11	*The Workmen's Quarters display interpretation information. Further archiving, storing and collecting of historical material is managed by Council's archivist.*
Farm Development and Quarry Restoration	4.2.1	Implementation; Policy 4.1
	4.2.2	Implementation
	4.2.3	*It is no longer Council's policy to locate a new rangers house near the entranceway*
	4.2.4	Policy 3.1; 3.3; Objective 1; Policy 5.4
	4.2.5	Objective 3
	4.2.6	Policy 3.4
Landscape Character	4.3.1	Introduction – landscape character; Vision; Objective 3
	4.3.2	Objective 3; Policy 3.1; 3.3; 5.4
	4.3.3	Objective 3; 4.1
	4.3.4	Objective 5; Policy 6.1
	4.3.5	Policy 1.3; 6.4; 6.5; 6.6
	4.3.6	*Viewpoints around the quarry to the quarry and surrounding*

[2] The 1998 Plan contained a detailed history that was beyond that needed to understand the significance of the quarry and creation of the Quarry Park. For a detailed history of the quarry see Halswell Management Plan 1998.

		landscape have been developed. Policy 1.2; 6.2
	4.3.7	Policies 1.3, 1.5
	4.3.8	Policy 8.1
Public Use	4.4.1	Policy 9.1
	4.4.2	Policy 9.1
	4.4.3	Policy 9.1; 12.2
	4.4.4	Policy 10.1; 10.2; 14.9
	4.4.5	Policy 13.4; 14.9
	4.4.6	Policy 10.1
	4.4.7	Policy 10.5
	4.4.8	Policy 11.5
	4.4.9	Objective 11
	4.4.10	Policy 9.3
	4.4.11	Policy 10.2
Vehicle Access and Parking	4.5.1	*CCC Parks and Reserves Bylaw 2008*
	4.5.2	Policy 6.6; 11.2
	4.5.3	Policy 11.2; 11.4
	4.5.4	Policy 11.6
Paths and Tracks	4.6.1	Policy 9.2; 9.4; 10.3; 10.5
	4.6.2	Policy 9.2
	4.6.3	Policy 10.3; 10.5
	4.6.4	Policy 8.3
	4.6.5	*Major tracks have been formed* Policy 9.2; 11.2; 11.3
	4.6.6	Policy 6.1; 13.5
	4.6.7	*Major tracks have been formed* Policy 9.2
	4.6.8	*See CCC Parks & Waterways Access Policy 2002*
	4.6.9	*Major tracks have been formed*
	4.6.10	*Viewpoints around the quarry to the quarry and surrounding landscape have been developed.*
	4.6.11	Policy 6.1; 13.5
	4.6.12	Policy 6.1; 6.3; 13.5; 13.6
	4.6.13	Policy 8.5, 9.2 & 12.1
	4.6.14	Policy 10.5
	4.6.15	*Major tracks have been formed*
Recreation	4.7.1	Policy 9.1
	4.7.2	*Consultation with key stakeholders such as local residents and voluntary groups and organisations, is covered by the legislative requirements the Local Government Act 2002, under which this plan is prepared.*
	4.7.3	Policy 10.1
	4.7.4	Objective 9; Policy 3.1; 12.1
	4.7.5	Policy 12.2
	4.7.6	Policy 9.3; 9.4; 10.5
	4.7.7	Policy 9.2, 9.4, 10.3 & 10.5
	4.7.8	Policy 9.1, 9.2, 13.7
	4.7.9	Policy 9.5
Commercial	4.8.1	*Commercial activities are managed through an alternative Council process*
	4.8.2	*Commercial activities are managed through an alternative Council process*
	4.8.3	*Grazing licenses are managed through an alternative Council process*

Vegetation and Fauna	4.9.1	Objective 4; 5; Policy 3.1; 1.3
	4.9.2	Objective 4; 5; 6; Indicative Development Plan
	4.9.3	Policy 13.3
	4.9.4	Policy 13.3
	4.9.5	Objective 5, Policy 13.1; Indicative Development Plan
	4.9.6	Policy 5.1; Indicative Development Plan
	4.9.7	Objective 4; Policy 5.2; 5.3; 5.4; 6.4
	4.9.8	Policy 6.1; 13.6
	4.9.9	Policy 4.1; 6.1
	4.9.10	Implementation
	4.9.11	Policy 13.4
	4.9.12	Policy 67.1; 6.3; 13.1; 13.3
	4.9.13	Objective 4
	4.9.14	Policy 4.2; 132.1
Buildings and Historic Features	4.10.1	Policy 1.4
	4.10.2	Objective 1; Policy 1.4
	4.10.3	*Council has a system of assessment for heritage buildings. Historic Places Trust are consulted regarding works which require resource consent. Council shares information with HPT, and HPT have the opportunity to comment on conservation plans.*
	4.10.4	Policy 1.4
	4.10.5	*At present, there is insufficient budget for quarry machinery to be kept in safe working order*
	4.10.6	*Archiving, storing and collecting of historical material is managed by Council's archivist.*
	4.10.7	Policy 1.5; 8.1; 8.2
Fencing, Furniture and Signs	4.11.1	Policy 13.5
	4.11.2	Policy 8.5
	4.11.3	Policy 3.1
	4.11.4	Policy 3.1
	4.11.5	Policy 8.1; 8.2
	4.11.6	Policy 8.4
	4.11.7	Policy 8.4; 10.1 *A number of interpretation panels have been established along the rim track.*
Adjacent Land Areas	4.12.1	Policy 10.5
	4.12.2	*Consultation with key stakeholders such as local residents and voluntary groups and organisations, is covered by the legislative requirements the Local Government Act 2002, under which this plan is prepared.*
	4.12.3	Policy 9.2; 12.1 *Major tracks have been formed*
	4.12.4	Policy 14.7
Education and Interpretation	4.13.1	Policy 8.4; 12.1; Implementation
	4.13.2	Policy 12.3
	4.13.3	Policy 12.1
	4.13.4	Policy 8.4; 12.1; Implementation
	4.13.5	Policy 12.1
Environmental Controls	4.14.1	Policy 13.5

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Appendix 1: RECOMMENDED PLANT LISTS

A. Refer Policy 7.3 - Large trees indicative of rural landscape:-

Lawson's cypress	*(Chamaecyparis lawsoniana)*
macrocarpa	*(Cupressus macrocarpa)*
oak	*(Quercus robur)*
horse chestnut	*(Aesculus hippocastanum)*
necklace poplar	*(Populus deltoids)*
Lombardy poplar	(*Populus nigra* cv 'Italica')

B. Refer Policy 6.4 - Low growing divaricate shrubs suitable to replace areas of cocksfoot and tall oat grass along selected quarry ledges and around the quarry rim:-

prostrate kowhai	(*Sophora prostrata*)
porcupine shrub	(*Melicytus alpinus*)
Banks Peninsula sun hebe	(*Heliohebe lavaudiana*)

C. Refer Policy 7.1 - Native plant species appropriate to the site, with preference to species indigenous to Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, to form the perimeter and inner structure of the park:-

Note: This list contains a range of species for different conditions and those conditions need to be taken into account when planting. It also contains frost-sensitive species that will need shelter before they are planted. Therefore, good planting practices need to be used to establish such species. The list does not contain low-growing margin species that can be planted around the margins of the taller trees and shrubs.

totara	*(Podocarpus totara*)
matai	*(Prumnopitys taxifolia*)
fivefinger	*(Pseudopanax arboreus*)
lancewood	(*Pseudopanax crassifolius*)
fierce lancewood	*(Pseudopanax ferox*)
mangrove-leaved olearia	*(Olearia avicenniifolia*)
mountain holly, hakeke	*(Olearia ilicifolia)*
golden akeake, akiraho	(*Olearia paniculata*)
tauhinu	*(Ozothamnus leptophyllus*)
korokio	*(Corokia cotoneaster*)
broadleaf	*(Griselinia littoralis*)
makomako, wineberry	(*Aristotelia serrata)*
hinau	*(Elaeocarpus dentatus*)
pokaka	*(Elaeocarpus hookerianus*
marbleleaf, putaputaweta	*(Carpodetus serratus)*
kowhai	*(Sophora microphylla*)
red beech	*(Nothofagus fusca)*
kaikomako	*(Pennantia corymbosa)*

narrow-leaved houhere	*(Hoheria angustifolia*)
manatu	*(Plagianthus regius*)
pigeonwood	*(Hedycarya arborea)*
mapou	*(Myrsine australis*)
kanuka	*(Kunzea ericoides*)
rohutu	*(Lophomyrtus obcordata*)
tarata, lemonwood	*(Pittosporum eugenioides*)
kohuhu	*(Pittosporum tenuifolium*)
mikimiki	*(Coprosma propinqua*)
akeake	*(Dodonaea viscose*)
koromiko	*(Hebe salicifolia*)
Banks Peninsula koromiko	*(Hebe strictissima*)
mahoe	*(Melicytus ramiflorus)*
ti kouka	*(Cordyline australis*)
harakeke	*(Phormium tenax*)
matagouri	*Discaria toumatou*
NZ linen flax	*(Linum monogynum)*
Banks peninsula fescue	*(Festuca actae)*
Selected coprosma species	*(Coprosma spp)*
Hot rock ferns	

Appendix 2: CRITERIA FOR NEW AND ALTERED SISTER CITY STRUCTURES

A. All new and altered structures must be located within the vegetated boundaries of the individual Sister City gardens, to ensure that the built elements as seen from the rest of the park are subservient to and enclosed by their vegetation framework. They will not be permitted in locations assessed as being prominent in comparison to the surrounding vegetation. If the vegetation is assessed to be insufficient to enclose the proposed structure at the time of assessment, then the application will be put on hold until the vegetation has grown to sufficient height and bulk.

B. All new and altered structures must be integrated into the overall layout and character of the garden so that they are seen to contribute seamlessly to the whole composition.

C. The need to comply with the City Plan rules places controls on the size of structures. Any proposal that would require a resource consent will be assessed as being unsuitable. The park is in the Conservation 2 zone, and a resource consent would be required if the structure was more than 5m tall or had more than 40 sq m gross floor area.

D. Each garden may have one main feature. This may comprise one structure or a group of associated structures. Only one of these structures may have a roof. The roof shall have a plan area of no more than 25 sq m.

E. All other structures in the garden, including existing structures, must be designed and located to be minor features that complement the main feature without dominating or competing with it for visitors' attention.

F. The bulk of the main feature must be softened by associated vegetation, such as climbing plants or tree branches. There must be at least two plants that are either more than 1.5 times the height of the main feature and growing healthily within 4 metres of it, or more than 3 times the height of the main feature and growing healthily within 8 metres of it. The height of the feature is to be measured as the vertical distance from the lowest point of the group to the highest point of the group.

G. Care is to be taken not to create risks to personal safety – such as half-hidden loitering areas and potential entrapment spots. Good lines of sight shall be maintained through the gardens, by careful placement of features, see-through design of all features higher than 1.2m, and vegetation maintenance so that there is a network of eye-level views through and between trees and shrubs.

H. Structures should be arranged to entice visitors through and around each garden, but no features may be fenced, walled or designed in a way that obstructs visitors' movement around the garden, and there shall be no doors (solid gates) capable of being closed.

I. Structures must be finished in neutral colours and low reflective surfaces that visually recede into the landscape, to ensure that the form of the structures, not the colour, is what draws the eye, including in cases where there might be cultural reasons for choosing bright colours.

J. The selection of visible materials shall be limited to stone, timber, concrete, copper/bronze/iron/steel, fired and unfired clay (bricks and tiles), and thatch. All materials used in permanent structures must have a design life of at least 60 years.

K. The design, materials and workmanship must be such that there is little need for regular maintenance (cleaning, repainting, etc).

L. Expanses of plain surfacing that might be attractive canvasses for taggers must be avoided.

M. In order to protect the rural character, the ground surface shall be predominantly mown grass. While the lawns may be broken up by paths, there must be no paved courtyards or other areas of paving greater than 2.5 metres across, except under roofed structures.

N. Plaques and signs explaining artworks or other installations, or commemorating people or events, must be avoided. Relevant information may be grouped on one information panel in the garden or on a central register in the Quarry office.

Appendix 3: EXISTING ARTWORK AND STRUCTURES – SISTER CITY GARDENS

Songpa-Gu (Korea)

Kurashiki (Japan)

Adelaide (Australia)

Seattle (United States)

Christchurch (England)

Appendix 4: **DOG EXERCISE AREA** in 2008 - *(Map 18 – Halswell Quarry, Dog Control By-law and Policy 2008)*

Dogs prohibited in wetland area and must be on a leash in rest of park. Dogs may be exercised in the 'under effective control' area. Refer Map 18
(Page 32 of Dog Control Policy
http://www.ccc.govt.nz/policy/dogcontrolpolicy/DogControlPolicy2008.pdf)

Map 18