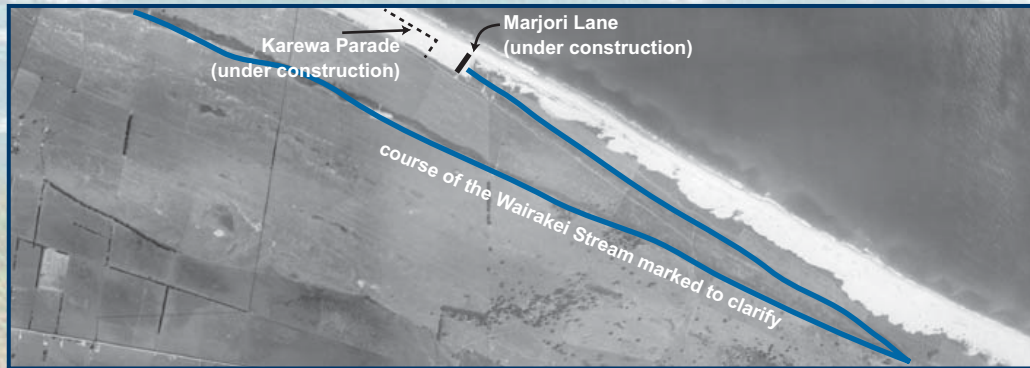


Papamoa East Coast Care

Impact of subdivision development in 1958



Wairakei Stream used to exit on the beach, but was blocked by developers at Marjori Lane. The front dune was destroyed by being bulldozed back into the stream to create more building sections. Karewa Parade is being formed by machinery in the white sand area to the left of Marjori Lane. Water from the stream system can now only reach the sea by flowing through the sand under the houses.



(low tide photo)
The heavily modified "dune" front is very unstable. The now dominant Kikuyu grass is not able to perform the accretion function of native dune plants. Water from the Wairakei Stream system is visible on the beach in this photo. This water saturates the sand, making it very prone to erosion.



(high tide photo)
The first year plantings did not succeed. Subsequent plantings of vigorous hardened-off plants in 1998 and 1999 have produced these results. Photo was taken after the impact of 10m waves from Cyclone Ivy in February. The restored front dune is now functioning reliably. Remnant Kikuyu will be replaced by native mid and back dune species.