



# CASTLEPOINT SCENIC RESERVE

## management plan

Prepared by  
Department of Lands and Survey staff

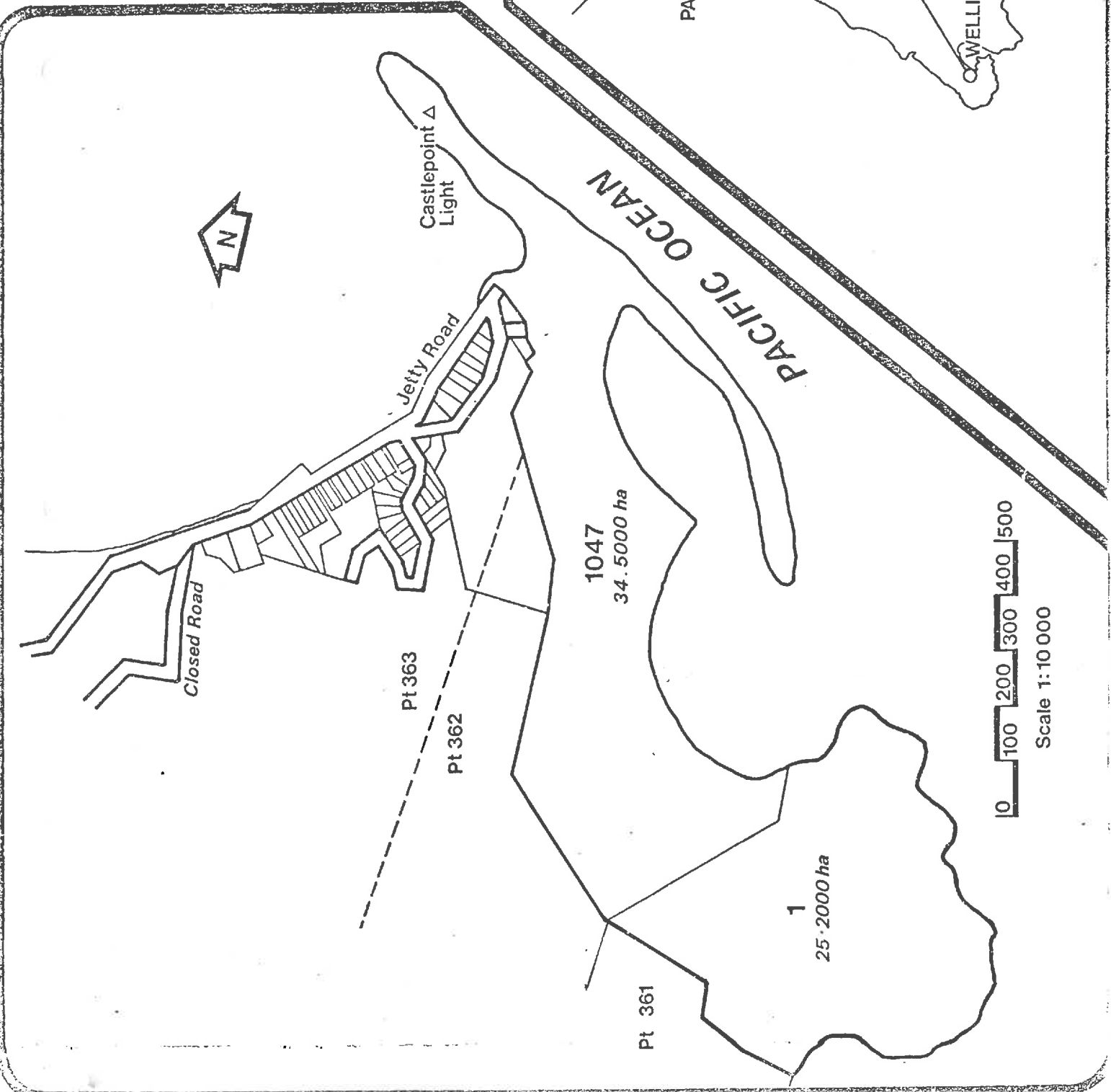
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# Castlepoint Scenic Reserve Locality & Cadastral Information



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## 1 PREFACE

The aim of this management plan is to facilitate the management of Castlepoint reserve by providing direction for its control, usage, maintenance, development and planning. This is done, not through an inflexible design solution, but through a written statement of the principal management aims and the provision of guidelines for this management in the form of objectives and policies.

The objectives and policies take into account the particular characteristics of the reserve and its classification under the Reserves Act 1977. They are developed from an analysis of background data which has isolated the problems and special features that will require particular management consideration.

Together the objectives and policies provide constraints and guidelines on all aspects of decision making, and all management proposals should be treated and reconciled within this framework prior to implementation.

This plan should enable the administering body to retain a certain degree of flexibility in dealing with changing circumstances, but should ensure that in the long term there is continuity through the management process even when the need for a review of objectives and policies arises.

## INTRODUCTION

### *locality*

Castlepoint is located on the Wairarapa Coast, 48 kilometres east of Masterton. The reserve is adjacent to the township and Whakataki is 5 kilometres by road to the north.

### *access*

Access is by road from Masterton and informal access can be gained by walking along the coast.

### *legal description*

The area is constituted from Crown land originally held for lighthouse purposes, and the area to the west of the lagoon acquired from private ownership, which includes the

### *vested interests*

Castlepoint promontory. The legal description is Section 1047 Whareama District situated in Block X Castlepoint Survey District and Lot 1 DP 51466. A small area around the existing lighthouse Part Section 852 (113 m<sup>2</sup>) is retained as Crown land for lighthouse purposes.

The Ministry of Transport has an agreement with the Department of Lands and Survey to maintain access to the lighthouse by way of a boardwalk over the beach and a path across the reef.

Masterton County Council controls the foreshore under the authority of the Harbours Act 1950.



features

There are existing problems of erosion, traffic congestion, and the destruction and removal of natural features. The reserve is valued for its scenic, recreational, educational and scientific qualities. A number of rare and endangered species of both fauna and flora are located in the reserve. Both the vegetation and the geological features have aroused national interest in their value for educational and scientific purposes.

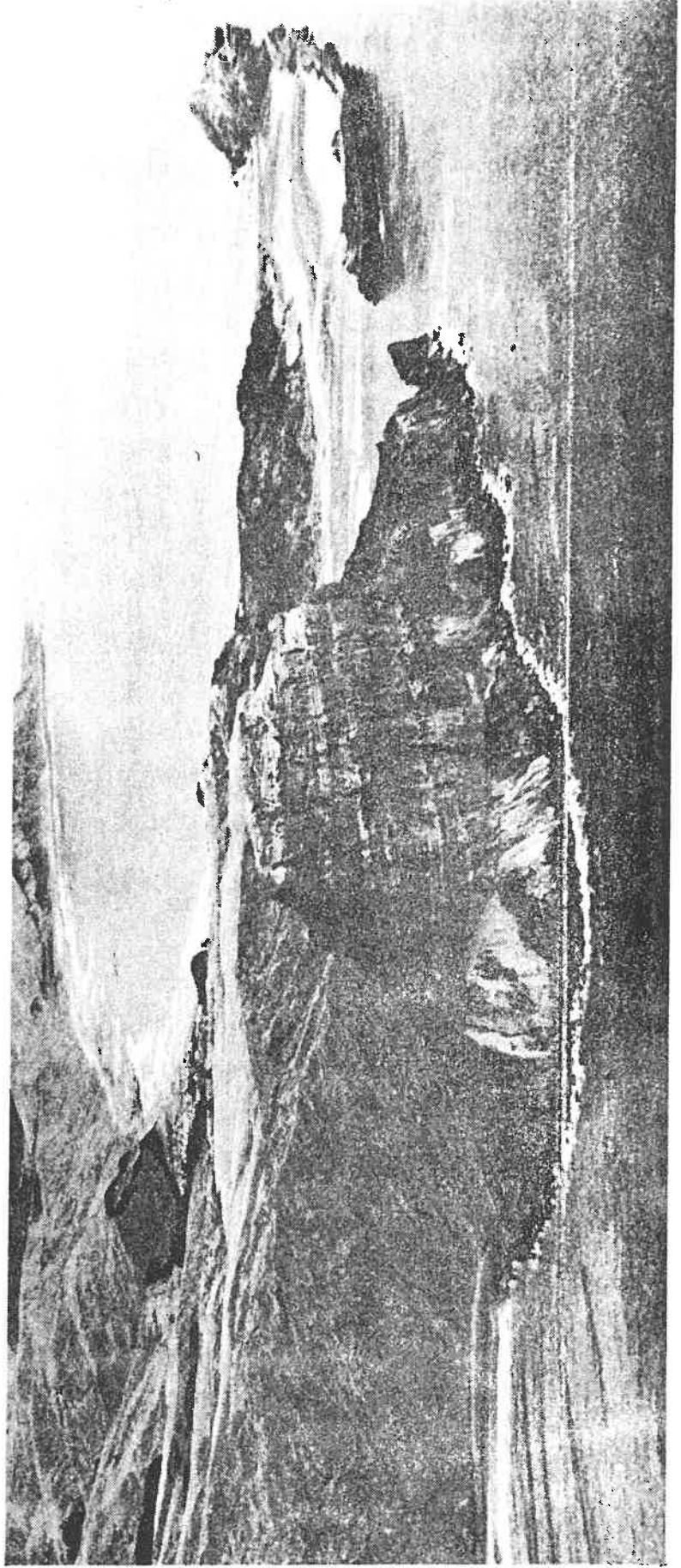
The Department of Lands and Survey recognised the value of this area in their Coastal Reserves Survey and recommended that it be protected as a reserve.

control

Control and management is at present vested in the Crown. As the reserve contains unique features of national significance its future control and management should be retained by the Crown.

administration

The reserve is subject to the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977, which requires the classification of the reserve to be assessed, pursuant to Section 16, having regard to its inherent qualities and optimum use. The use of the reserve for recreation and allied activities creates an apparent conflict which has been reconciled through the objectives and policies in Sections 6 and 7 of this Management Plan.



### 3 RESOURCE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

This section examines the natural resources and activities that occur in the reserve and emphasises those matters that will be a concern for future management. A description of the natural features is contained in the Appendices.

#### 3.1 GEOLOGY AND LANDFORM

1. Castlepoint contains a natural lagoon formed by the only exposed beds of limestone on the Wairarapa coast. The exposed formations and associated fossils attract a wide range of interest from both formal and informal study groups.

2. There are four distinctive physical features:

The Castle (162m high) which dominates the southern end of the reserve.

The reef which is a low linear feature (50m maximum height).

A sand tombolo which joins the reef to the mainland (both of these features are washed by high seas).

The lagoon which has a maximum depth of 7 metres and an entrance 165 metres wide between the reef and the Castle.

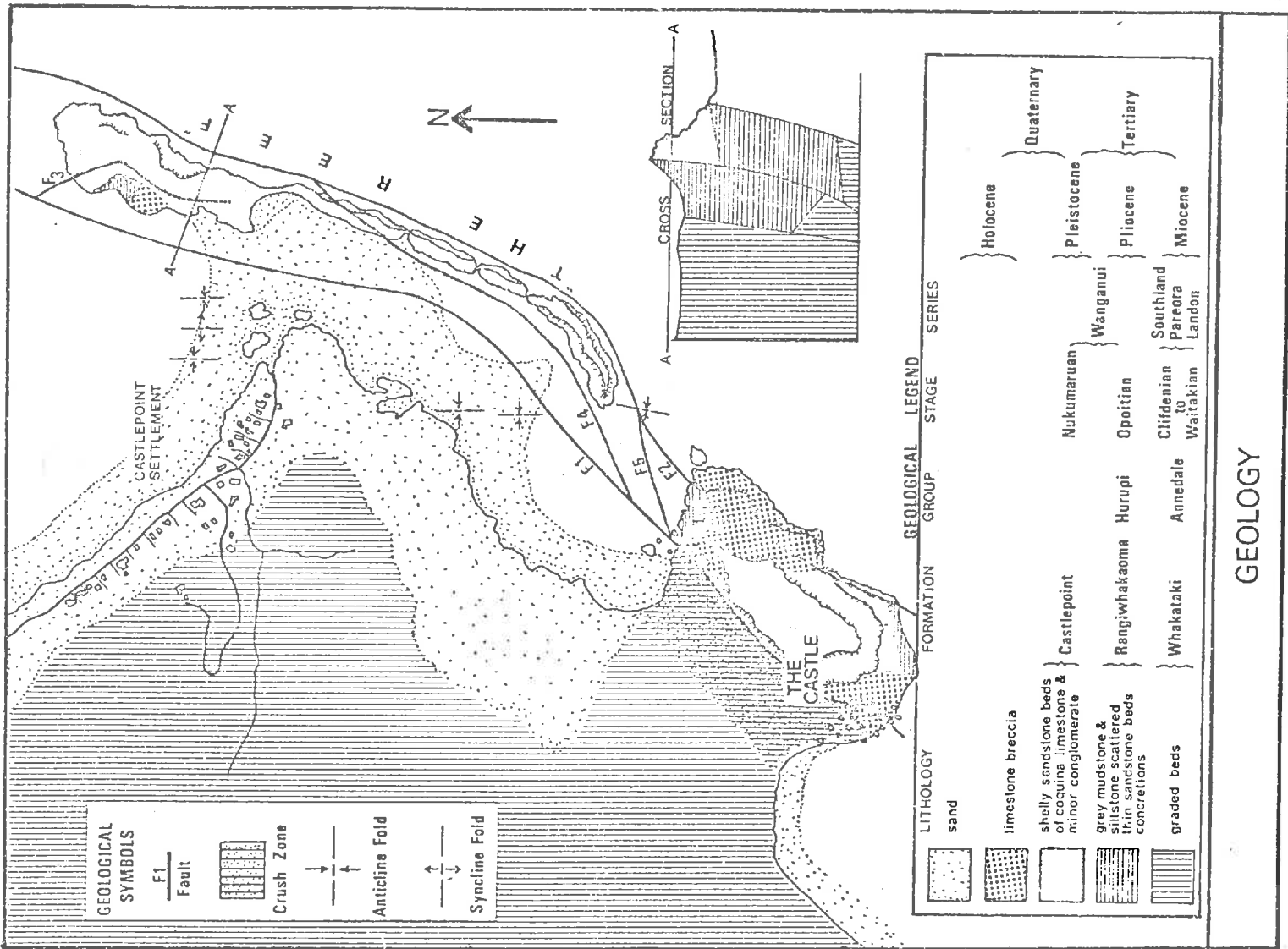
3. These features provide the only sheltered harbour along the Wairarapa coast, but access to the lagoon is severely limited in a southerly wind.

4. Extensive areas of dune sand have accumulated on the western slopes of the reserve. The lower slopes are unconsolidated and varying depths of sand overlie the older rock to form the tombolo.

5. The relatively stable beds of sandstone and mudstone have been crushed and folded especially in the area adjacent to the Castle which is subject to severe erosion.

6. The geological features provide the major scenic attraction of the reserve, and have inherent qualities which are important for their scientific and educational value. Those areas of particular note include the northern part of the reef where fossilised shells and limestone are easily accessible, and the Castle where exceptional bedding patterns are exposed. These features also provide important habitats for rare and endangered species of fauna and flora. Maximum protection should be given to these areas and the sand dunes to avoid damage by erosion and excessive or indiscriminate use.





**GEOLOGICAL SYMBOLS**

- F1 Fault
- Crush Zone
- Anticline Fold
- Syncline Fold

**GEOLOGICAL LEGEND**

LITHOLOGY	FORMATION	GROUP	STAGE	SERIES
sand				Holocene
limestone breccia				Quaternary
shelly sandstone beds of corals, limestone & minor conglomerate	Castlepoint			Pleistocene
grey mudstone & siltstone scattered thin sandstone beds concretions	Rangihakaoma			Pliocene
graded beds	Whakataki			Miocene
				Tertiary
				Miocene
				Southland Pareora Landon
				Cliffdenian to Waitakian
				Opoitian
				Mukumaruan
				Wanganui

**GEOLOGY**

### 3.2 SOILS AND EROSION

1. Three soil types have been identified within the Reserve area. Two of these are classified as secondary podzolic soils derived from sedimentary rocks (25H, 25aH) and the third (113) is classed as a skeletal soil of the steep hillsides.

#### (i) 25H Mangatea Clay Loam

Derived from mudstone with bentonitic clay, this soil is characteristically moderately to highly fertile, acidic and subject to seasonal water deficiencies. It occurs in the northern part of the reserve near the township.

#### (ii) 25aH Wonstead Clay Loam, hillsoil

This soil is also derived from bentonitic mudstone, has a high to medium natural fertility, and is slightly acidic. It occurs on moderately steep, slumped topography and is the dominant type within the reserve.

#### (iii) 113 Bluff Loam

The rest of the reserve is occupied by this soil and bedrock. The parent material is limestone or banded sandstone and it has a high to medium natural fertility.

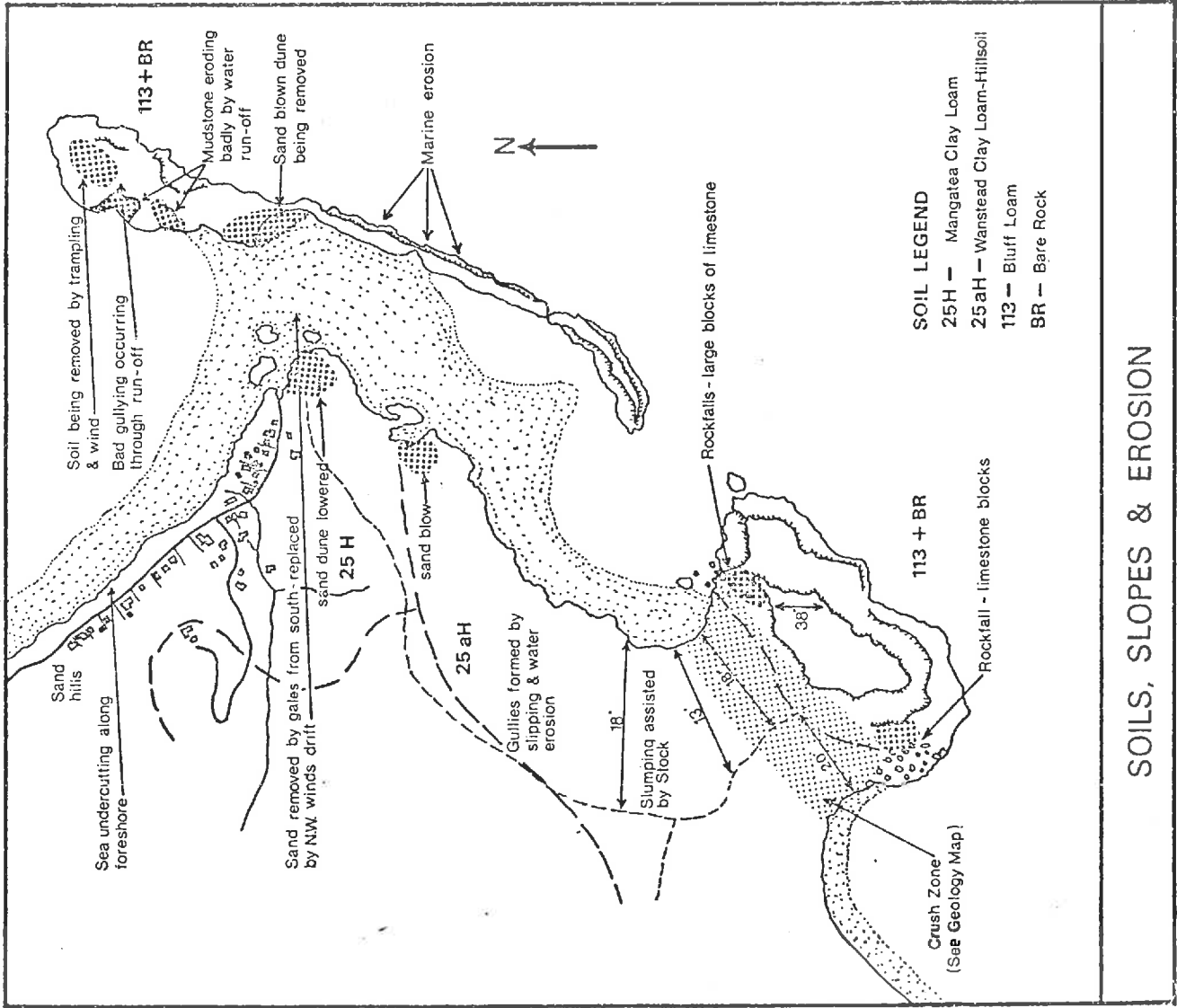
2. The soil cover on the limestone is very stable (except where vegetation is removed) compared to that of the hill soil and the sand dunes.

3. Major erosion problems occur on the hill soils adjacent to the Castle (the crush zone) and on the reef. The primary causes are the removal of vegetation, the concentrated use and trampling from the visitors to the area and the movements of stock. Soil type 25aH is prone to severe earthflows, soil slip and gully erosion which in fact have occurred on the slopes of the crush zone. There is an extreme problem of earthflow here. This area which has been used for grazing, should be destocked fenced out and left to regenerate with the assistance of appropriate planting.

4. Where the vegetation has been removed on top of the reef, mainly through excessive use, severe gully erosion has occurred. The top of the reef has been lowered 50cm by erosion processes. Accelerated water runoff is causing increased gully erosion of the mudstone outcrops also.

5. The unconsolidated sand is prone to accelerated erosion if disturbed or the vegetation is removed. This area has been used by trail bikes.

6. These areas will require remedial measures and future monitoring to ensure the erosion is controlled.



**SOILS, SLOPES & EROSION**

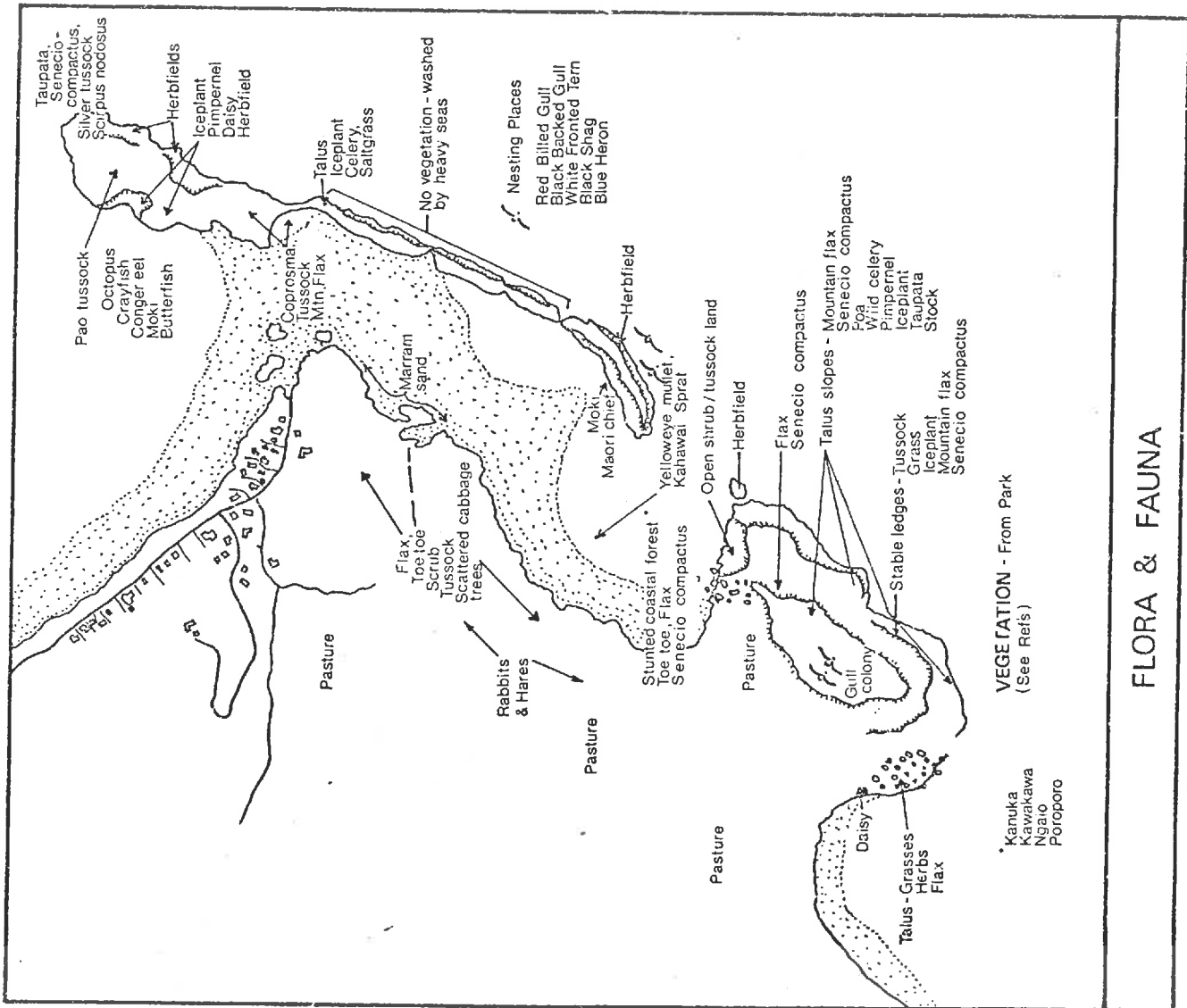
### 3.3 FLORA

1. There are eight recognised vegetation communities in the reserve and these are closely related to the different parent rock areas. Plant growth is also conditioned by other dominant factors such as salt spray and exposure to strong winds
2. The natural growth pattern has been modified, and now only predominates in the inaccessible areas of the cliffs and the reef.
3. Altogether there are at least 78 species of native higher plants in the Reserve (Appendix II) and among these some which are of particular interest are the tawny sprawling sand coprosma (Coprosma acerosa), which though not rare, is less abundant than formerly owing to modification of sandy habitats, and the coastal New Zealand spinach (Tetragonia trigyna) which is now eaten out over wide areas. The rare native carrot Daucus glochidiatus has also been recorded recently. The most distinguished native plant present is without doubt the shrub-daisy Senecio compactus which is scattered over the limestone and is particularly abundant on the south slopes of Castlepoint. It has never been found anywhere else; thus the whole population will be contained within the Reserve, see Appendix I.
4. The seaward slopes of the Castle are the most important botanically for they have remained virtually untouched due to the steep terrain. Together with areas of the reef, these slopes also contain most of the rare or endangered species, and therefore warrant special protection.

5. A small plantation of exotic trees is located around the car park at the entrance to the reserve. A potential problem exists with these trees spreading into adjacent reserve areas by natural seeding.

### 3.4 FAUNA

1. The seaward face of the Castle and the southern end of the reef are recognised as traditional nesting areas for several species of native and introduced birds. In all 38 species have been recorded in and around Castlepoint, 20 of these being native sea birds and 6 native land birds.
2. The rugged terrain of the cliff and reef provide natural protection from human interference. Colonies found on this reef include the Red-billed Gull and the White-fronted Terns, and on the cliffs Black-backed Gulls, Black Shag and the Blue Heron.
3. The sandy coastline of the lagoon has been identified as the likely habitat of two possibly new species of bristleworm.
4. Various shellfish and fish common to this coast are found in the waters off Castlepoint, Kahawai, yellow-eye mullet, hagfish, tope, snapper and groper are the most often caught. The coast is also noted for its paua and crayfish.
5. Hares and rabbits are locally abundant and are present in most of the accessible areas of the reserve.



VEGETATION - From Park  
(See Refs)

- \* Kanuka
- Kawakawa
- Ngaio
- Poroporo

FLORA & FAUNA

### 3.5 CLIMATE

1. The maritime location significantly modifies the climate of Castlepoint. Mean temperature in January is 17.8°C and in July 9.4°C.
2. The area experiences a relatively dry summer and wet winter characteristic of the rest of the Wairarapa. Mean annual rainfall varies throughout the region with Castlepoint (903mm), Cape Palliser (1023mm), Masterton (967mm).
3. Strong northwesterly winds prevail. Southerly winds occur more frequently in winter. Gales can occur throughout the year but are more likely in late autumn and spring. Wind gusts over 33 knots occur 200 days a year, or every second day on average.
4. The wind is a major constraint on vegetation growth and the use of the reserve and the harbour. High winds can make the reserve areas with no shelter particularly unattractive to visitors and can restrict boating activities. A planned programme of planting will be necessary to provide additional shelter and stabilise the exposed sand dunes.

### 3.6 HARBOUR AND TIDES

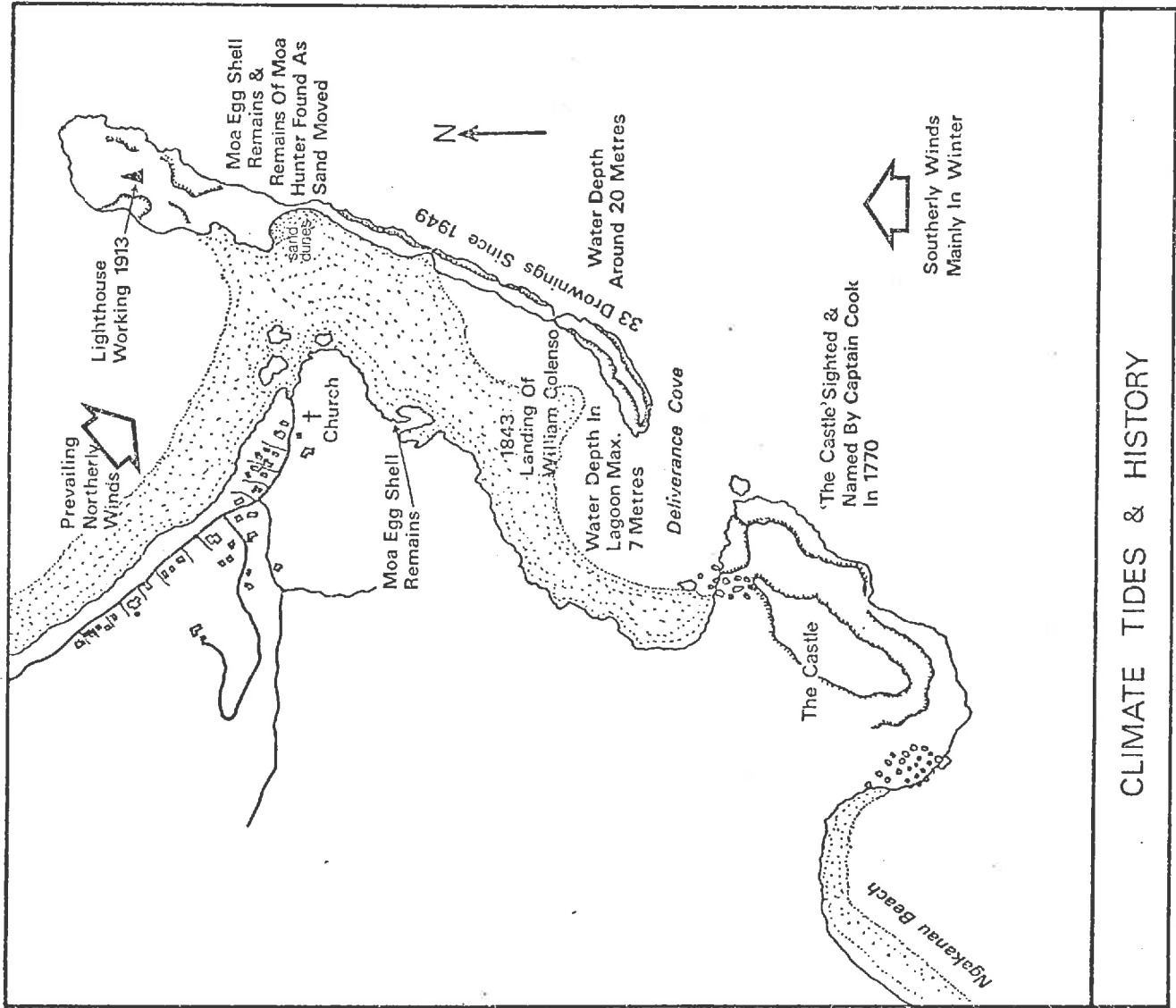
1. The tides at Castlepoint are semi diurnal and have a range from 0.6m (2 ft) neap to 1.2m (4 ft) during spring tides.
2. The lagoon provides anchorage for small vessels during times of the prevailing wind. Access is severely limited in a southerly wind.
3. In the adverse southerly conditions the

reef provides shelter to the beach at the northern end of the reserve. Anchorage is limited by the available depth of around 2 metres.

4. The natural waters of the area are subject to the Water and Soil Conservation Act 1967 and the quality of that water, particularly the coastal water, is controlled through its classification pursuant to Section 26C. These coastal waters are noted for their shellfish beds and are regularly used for water-based recreation. The water quality should be maintained at a level consistent with this use and the waters classified accordingly.

### 3.7 HISTORY

1. This area was used by Maori foraging parties, but no permanent settlements were established within the immediate locality of the reserve.
2. The Castle was first seen and named by Captain Cook on 11 February 1770 and described in his log as a "remarkable hilllock which stands close to the sea".
3. In 1843 William Colenso named the lagoon 'Deliverance Cove' after landing there in a storm. The reserve was a focus for wool trading during the early European occupation. From the 1920's on, the settlement developed its present function as a holiday-back centre, although the farming traditions are still an important influence. Its function as a harbour is now concentrated on commercial and recreational fishing and pleasure boating.
4. The cultural history was recognised by the erection of a commemorative church on adjoining land.



CLIMATE TIDES & HISTORY

### 3.8 DEVELOPMENT AND USE

1. Recreational use of the reserve is informal and passive in nature with an emphasis on appreciation of the scenic qualities of the natural features and coastal setting.
2. Castlepoint is the most heavily visited holiday settlement on the Wairarapa coast. Accommodation is provided by holiday baches, the caravan park and camping ground. Visitor numbers are greatest over the Christmas - New Year period.
3. The largest sector of visitors are young family groups who enjoy the less strenuous recreational activities, the most popular being fishing and swimming. However, water based recreation is constrained by the prevailing strong winds. Coastal walks to the lighthouse, the cave, along the reef and to the top of the Castle are also popular. Public attention should be drawn to the dangers from high seas on the reef. Since 1949 there have been 33 drownings recorded at Castlepoint.
4. Apart from their scenic and recreational value, the unique natural features also have value for educational purposes from the primary to the tertiary level. Study groups from local schools and local and overseas universities (a party from Sydney University visits the reef almost every year) explore a range of subjects (geology, biology, history, archaeology). The different features also provide an incidental educational value to casual visitors.

5. There is an existing use of the reserve for commercial fishing, and 10 boats operate from the beach or lagoon. However, this conflicts in many ways with the scenic, recreational and educational values of the reserve (especially with respect to the amount of debris left in the reserve, the restriction of public access to the reserve and the use of machinery within the reserve).

Future monitoring and control of this activity is needed to ensure this conflict does not escalate.

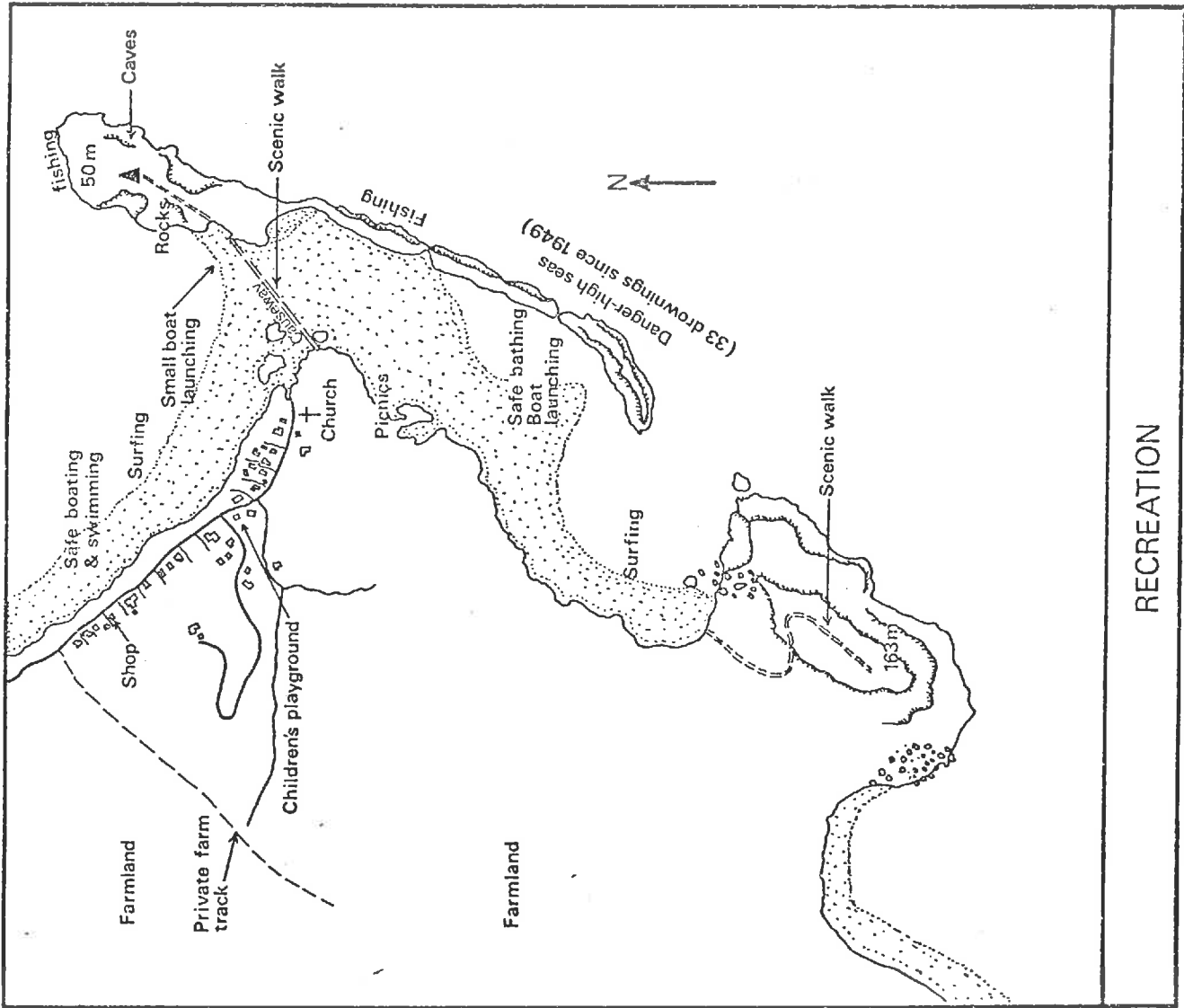
6. At present there are only minimal facilities in the reserve in keeping with the existing patterns of use. These include a toilet block and a path across the beach to the reef. The provision of any future facilities should preserve the natural character of the reserve as a primary consideration. Criteria for their control include scale, aesthetics materials, location, necessity and associated side effects e.g. erosion, health risk etc.

7. Control of vehicle movement within the reserve will be necessary to protect both the natural features and the public using the area. Parking at the entrance should not be encouraged so as to avoid any traffic congestion or conflict.

Pedestrian movement within the reserve is naturally constrained by the landscape. Areas sensitive to interference are generally inaccessible to the public although they would be better protected if the public was informally educated as to their inherent value.

8. All boundaries are fenced with the exception of the southern boundary between Castlepoint Station and the reserve.





RECREATION

#### 4 MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

From the preceding analysis of the natural features and activities at Castlepoint, those matters that require particular consideration have been summarised and illustrated conceptually on the accompanying map.

## 5 EVALUATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE RESERVE

In the Introduction, the background to the administration of the reserve noted the requirement to identify a classification for the reserve pursuant to Section 16 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The pervading concern for management as outlined in the previous section, is the reconciliation of public use with the conservation of the natural features which gave the area its scenic, scientific and historical values. Public use is naturally constrained by the landscape, and the existing patterns of use are likely to continue. The scenic qualities and natural features are the major attraction of the area and therefore should be given primary consideration for management.

It is the combination and relationships of the distinctive environments in a coastal setting which provides the primary value of Castlepoint. Consequently management of the entire area as a unit is desirable to provide maximum protection and long term benefit to the community.

With this criteria in mind, Section 19 (parts (1) (a) and (2)) of the Reserves Act 1977 provides the most relevant classification for Castlepoint Reserve as a scenic reserve:

(1) (a) For the purposes of protecting and preserving in perpetuity for their intrinsic worth and for the benefit, enjoyment and use of the public suitable areas possessing such qualities of scenic interest, beauty, or natural features or landscape that their protection and preservation are desirable in the public interest.

(2) It is hereby further declared that every scenic reserve classified for the purposes specified in subsection (1) (a) of this section shall be so administered and maintained under the appropriate provisions of this Act that -

- (a) Except where the Minister otherwise determines, the indigenous flora and fauna, ecological associations, and natural environment and beauty shall as far as possible be preserved, and for this purpose except where the Minister otherwise determines, exotic flora and fauna shall as far as possible be exterminated;
  - (b) The public shall have freedom of entry and access to the reserve, subject to the specific powers conferred on administering bodies by Sections 55 and 56 of this Act, to any bylaws under this Act applying to the reserve, and restrictions as the administering body considers to be necessary for the protection and control of the public using it;
  - (c) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purposes of the retention and preservation of the natural or scenic values, open portions of the reserve may be developed for amenities and facilities where these are necessary to enable the public to obtain benefit and enjoyment from the reserve;
  - (d) Where historic, archaeological, biological, or other scientific features are present in the reserve, those features shall be managed and protected to the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve.
- Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall

authorise the doing of anything with respect to fauna that would contravene any provision of the Wildlife Act 1953 or any provision of the Historic Places Act 1954:

(e) To the extent compatible with the principal or primary purpose of the reserve, its value as a soil, water, and forest conservation area shall be maintained.

## 6 MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

The management objectives provide the basic long term aims for the future management of Castlepoint Reserve as a scenic reserve.

1. To preserve in perpetuity and to enhance the natural scenic quality of the Reserve.
2. To protect and preserve the native flora and fauna, the ecological associations, and other natural features and unique values.
3. To allow and provide public access to facilitate the use and enjoyment of the Reserve and associated resources to the extent compatible with the preceding objectives.

## 7 MANAGEMENT POLICIES

The management policies form a framework of constraints which regulate individual management decisions so that they are compatible with the long term aims of management (that is, the management objectives). These policies therefore relate to specific management problems and

issues and reflect the intent of the management objectives.

Any problems which arise will be evaluated with reference to the policy statements. Where problems arise for which there are no relevant policies, new policies will need to be formulated on the same basis as present policies. It will also be necessary to review the management policies (and perhaps the objectives) from time to time, to ensure the management plan remains relevant to contemporary conditions and issues.

POLICIES

7.1

Scenic Value

**Policy:** *To protect and preserve the integrity of the natural features and landscape that give the reserve its unique scenic character.*

**Explanation:**

Castlepoint provides a number of views of particular scenic interest and beauty that constitute the major attraction of the area to the public. These views are gained both from outside the reserve and from within and focus on individual features such as the castle and the reef and upon the reserve as a whole. Future use and development should be of a scale and type that will harmonize with this scenery.

Facilities (see policy 7.17)  
Use (see policy 7.3)

7.2

Sensitive Areas or Natural Features

**Policy:** *To protect and preserve scientifically valuable or sensitive areas which contain rare or endangered species of flora and fauna and to discourage public use of these areas.*

**Explanation:**

These are mostly areas with different access where use is minimal.

However, where ready access is available, public attention should be diverted elsewhere.

- 7.1 Scenic Value
- 7.2 Sensitive Areas or Natural Features
- 7.3 Recreational Activities
- 7.4 Protection of Flora or Fauna
- 7.5 Planting
- 7.6 Erosion
- 7.7 Tracks
- 7.8 Wildlife
- 7.9 Coastal Access
- 7.10 Fencing
- 7.11 Use of Coastal Margins
- 7.12 Water Classification
- 7.13 Noxious Plants
- 7.14 Noxious Animals
- 7.15 Exotic Flora
- 7.16 Animals
- 7.17 Provision of Facilities
- 7.18 Signs
- 7.19 Information and Education
- 7.20 Parking
- 7.21 Traffic Control
- 7.22 Fishing
- 7.23 Historical Sites
- 7.24 Vandalism
- 7.25 Litter
- 7.26 Fires and Fire Control
- 7.27 Research Programmes
- 7.28 Adjacent Land Use
- 7.29 Overnight Staying

7.3

Recreational Activities

**Policy:** To allow only low intensity, passive recreational activities in those areas best able to sustain public use, and to discourage activities in those areas which are sensitive and require protection.

**Explanation:**

The types of recreational activities which can be encouraged on the Reserve include: swimming, canoeing, walking, fishing, picnicking and associated games.

Development of Tracks (see policy 7.7)  
Signposting Tracks (see policy 7.18)  
Information and Education (see policy 7.19)

7.4

Protection of Flora or Fauna

**Policy:** To prohibit the removal, damage or destruction of indigenous flora or fauna from the Reserve, except for the purposes of public safety, or for authorised scientific research projects (see policy 7.27).

7.5

Planting

**Policy:** To carry out planting programmes using indigenous species of flora where necessary for the purposes of: providing shelter; protecting any sensitive or erosion prone areas; promoting the survival of rare or endangered species or to enhance the scenic qualities of particular areas.

**Explanation:**

Planting should only be undertaken with the aid of professional advice. Future planting in the reserve must be compatible with the preservation of existing species.

7.6

Erosion

**Policy:**

To prohibit all stock from the reserve and to stabilise and restore those areas prone to accelerated erosion with appropriate planting and development.

**Explanation:**

There is a growing problem from accelerated erosion on the area of exposed mudstone on the reef, and sand dunes, and the southern slopes of the reserve.

Natural erosion is a necessary element for the continued survival of *Senecio compactus* and any controls and developments should not interfere with their natural habitats.

Planting (see policy 7.5)  
Use (see policy 7.3)  
Tracks and Paths (see policy 7.7)

7.7

Tracks

**Policy:** To provide and maintain walking tracks and paths through the Reserve where necessary.

**Explanation:**

Existing tracks should be maintained and where desirable, new ones can be created using the following criteria:

- (1) To direct use to specific routes
- (2) To increase the visitor's appreciation and enjoyment of the Reserve by allowing access to parts of the Reserve which have scenic quality or display an interesting variety of habitats, vegetation or natural features.
- (3) To discourage use of environmentally sensitive areas.
- Use (see policy 7.3)  
Information and Education (see policy 7.19),  
Sensitive Areas or Natural Features (see policy 7.2)

7.8

Wildlife

**Policy:**

To protect indigenous fauna, in the reserve and to prohibit any interference to their habitats that could be detrimental to the maintenance of viable populations.

**Explanation:**

This is consistent with the provisions of the Wildlife Act 1953.

7.9

Coastal Access

**Policy:**

To allow public access to and along the coastal margins within and adjoining the reserve.

**Explanation:**

The reserve serves as a terminus for coastal walks and boating, and is an important link with balance of the Wairarapa Coast (see Lands and Survey's coastal reserve survey).

Preservation (see policies 7.1, 7.2)  
Use (see policy 7.3)

7.10

Fencing

**Policy:**

To erect and maintain a stockproof fence along the landward boundary of the reserve.

**Explanation:**

The adjoining land is used for pastoral farming. To enable the restoration of those areas of the reserve previously grazed and in need of erosion control, a secure fence will need to be maintained along the common boundary.

Erosion (see policy 7.6)

Sensitive Areas (see policy 7.3)

7.11

Use of Coastal Margins

**Policy:**

To ensure compatible use and management of the foreshore and adjacent waters of the Reserve.

**Explanation:**

The Masterton County Council at present controls the foreshore under the Harbours Act 1950. The coastal margins are a vital element in the natural character of the Reserve, and in the interests of preserving this character, the foreshore should be controlled and managed in conjunction with the Reserve.

7.12

Water Classification

**Policy:**

To liaise with the local Catchment Board to establish and maintain an appropriate water quality classification for the area (pursuant

to Water and Soil Conservation Act 1967).

*Explanation:* Given the available classifications, the most relevant classification would be SA which protects the recreational users and the habits of the marinelife. Future use and development should not detract from the inherent water quality.

7.13

Noxious Plants

*Policy:* To remove or exterminate any noxious plant within the Reserve.

*Explanation:*

Expert advice should be sought regarding the removal of exotic plants, before any decision or action to remove them is taken. This is particularly necessary in the case where species are well established and therefore may have a special value for the control of erosion or as shelter and a nursery for indigenous plants.

Although a stand of exotic pines is present, this will be harvested when mature, and no further planting of this type will be carried out.

7.16

Animals

*Policy:* To prohibit domestic animals, or pets from the Reserve, unless under strict control.

Dogs must be kept on a leash and horses are restricted to the beach area.

7.14

Noxious Animals

*Policy:* To control or exterminate noxious animals in the reserve.

*Explanation:*

Signs (see policy 7.18)  
Stock (see policy 7.6)

*Explanation:* Rabbits are known to be a problem but their extermination is not easily effected, because of their presence in the surrounding countryside. Special measures will be necessary particularly where sensitive areas are threatened or damaged. However, advice should be sought from the local Pest Destruction Board.

7.17

Provision of Facilities

*Policy:* To allow for only those facilities associated with passive recreational activities or maintenance of access to the lighthouse provided they are compatible with the character and function of the Reserve.

7.15

Exotic Flora

*Policy:* To remove or exterminate exotic flora not considered to have special value or utility on the Reserve.

*Explanation:*

The design of any facilities should accord with the following criteria:-



- The form, design and location of the facility should have minimal impact on vegetation, topography, water quality and other natural features and minimal disturbance to wildlife and historical features.

- The site chosen should not dominate the physical, visual or aesthetic qualities of the natural environment.

- The materials and colours used must be in keeping with the natural surroundings.

- Disused or derelict facilities and structures should be removed completely and the ground restored by planting.

Technical advice should be sought on design, siting and construction of facilities, and landscaping around new facilities, or where old ones have been removed.

Historic Sites (see policy 7.23)  
Preservation (see policies 7.1, 7.2)

#### 7.18

##### Signs

**Policy:** *To provide and maintain only those signs necessary to protect the Reserve, for public information, reserve interpretation, and to aid control and management.*

**Explanation:** The following design criteria should apply:-

- Signs to be easily visible but not in a position that detracts from any scenic qualities.

- The design to be functional and visually

appealing.

- The materials used must not detract from the natural environment.

- Where possible information should be consolidated on one signboard.

Information and Education (see policy 7.19)

#### 7.19

##### Information and Education

**Policy:** *To provide information of interest to visitors, to generate a positive attitude towards protection and conservation amongst users of the reserve and to encourage appreciation of its function and qualities.*

**Explanation:**

It is important that the public are made aware of the importance of Castlepoint Reserve and are encouraged to use the resource properly, by being informed and aware of its special values.

Specific sites that are scientifically valuable or sensitive should not be indicated only general localities, so as to avoid indiscriminate use.

#### 7.20

##### Parking

**Policy:**

*To prohibit parking in the entrance to the reserve, but to allow temporary parking on the beach where this does not interfere with or endanger other people using the reserve. The parking/storage of boats and trailers in the reserve is prohibited.*

*Explanation:* Traffic congestion at the reserve entrance should be kept to a minimum. Parking only compounds the problem. Future provision for parking could be accommodated in an area just outside the reserve at present used as a childrens playground. Some parking will be maintained around the toilet facilities.

7.23

Historical Sites

materials in a more suitable area, outside the reserve.  
Preservation (see policy 7.1)  
Use (see policy 7.3)

7.21

Traffic Control

*Policy:*

*To regulate the speed of all traffic in the reserve to a maximum of 10 kph and restrict the use of any vehicle to below Mean High Water Mark.*

*Explanation:*

Those areas where artifacts have been located and are likely to exist are mostly covered in sand dunes. The recommended method for protection in these areas is retention of the vegetation cover on the dunes. Future use and development should be diverted away from these areas.

*Explanation:*

Except when entering the reserve or launching and retrieving a boat or trailer, all vehicles should remain below M.H.W.M. to avoid unstable ground and to ensure the safety of pedestrians.

7.22

Fishing

*Policy:*

*To permit the continued operation of commercial fishing and other boating interests from the reserve, at the present or a reduced level, but to prohibit any related development or facilities in the reserve.*

7.24

Vandalism

*Policy:*

*To prohibit the carrying and use of saws, axes, firearms and any other tools or instruments which could be used to damage natural features or facilities in the reserve.*

*Explanation:*

While the reserve provides the necessary means for launching and retrieving fishing boats in relative shelter, it must not become a depository for the assorted paraphernalia normally associated with commercial fishing. Encouragement should be given to the County Council to provide storage for both the boats and

7.25 Litter

**Policy:** To foster a 'take home' policy with regard to litter and only provide and maintain facilities for the disposal of litter at points receiving concentrated use, near the entrance to the reserve.

**Explanation:** The minimum number of litter bins should be provided and the design of litter bins should be compatible with the surroundings (see policy 7.17).

7.26 Fires and Fire Control

**Policy:** To prohibit the lighting of open fires on the reserve.

**Explanation:** It will be necessary to install notices stating open fires are prohibited, to liaise with the Forest Service and to work under the NZFS fire plan for the district. Barbeque sites could be provided. (See policy 7.17)

7.27 Research Programmes

**Policy:** To allow research studies which will broaden the understanding of the resources and assist in management

**Comment:** Research programmes should be accommodated but can only be permitted if techniques to be used will not detrimentally affect the native flora, fauna or other features of the Reserve.

Research groups should apply to the Commissioner of Crown Lands for permission to carry out studies. (See also policy 7.4 regarding removal of specimens.)

7.28 Adjacent Land Uses

**Policy:** To facilitate and maintain cooperative liaison with, and communication between, adjoining landowners to ensure compatible management of the adjoining land and the reserve.

**Comment:** The types of activity which should be known and monitored include:-

- Spraying near reserve boundaries.
- Maintenance of fences.
- Implementing drainage and stock watering schemes.

7.29 Overnight Staying

**Policy:** To prohibit camping within the reserve.

**Explanation:** Suitable facilities are available 1km to the north.

## APPENDIX I

Senecio compactus is a low woody shrub with small revolute leaves which are light greyish green. The flowers are yellow and it has a drawn out flowering season. Most of the plants are 30-60cm high, but on the sheltered more stable areas they range up to 1.2m (see map for distribution).

The conspicuous features of Senecio compactus are:

1. Its limitation to the Castlepoint area.
2. Its pioneering and colonising nature.
3. The ease with which it is eliminated by aggressive species.

Because the plant is very resistant to exposure by drying winds and salt spray, it is able to inhabit areas which are unsuitable for more aggressive, but less resistant species. For this reason it maintains a climax position on rugged cliffs, where favourable rooting conditions are provided by small ledges and protruding boulders. It is also well adapted to pioneer colonisation on areas of newly formed slips of colluvium (talus slopes) and the boulderfields. As Senecio compactus improves conditions by breaking the rock, providing shelter and retaining moisture, other plant species are able to become established between the S. compactus plants with the result that the plants are isolated and crowded out.

Senecio compactus regenerates by the distribution of wind blown seeds. Future distribution will depend on the continued occurrence of rocky outcrops and on weathering of Castlepoint itself, in order to provide exposed areas for S. compactus to become established with little competition from aggressive but less hardy plants (Poa caespitosa, Phorium cookianum). If in the future deposition of colluvium decreases, S. compactus will retreat from the major areas it now dominates and become restricted to the rugged cliff

faces and on the larger boulders.

### Reference

G N Park and P A Williams (1965)  
in V.U.W. Castlepoint Survey 1st report:  
Senecio compactus at Castlepoint.

## APPENDIX II

### SPECIES LIST OF BIRDS OF THE CASTLEPOINT AREA

J A Bartle & P Williams

Compiled from information collected during January 1960

9th May 1965

3rd - 9th July 1965

Nomenclature follows Oliver (1955)

### Native Birds

<i>Daption capensis</i>	Cape Pigeon
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Giant Petrel
<i>Puffinus gavia</i>	Fluttering Shearwater
<i>P. griseus</i>	Sooty Shearwater
<i>P. bulleri</i>	Bullers Shearwater
<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wandering Albatross
<i>Phalacrocorax brevirostris</i>	White-Throated Shag
<i>P. v. varius</i>	Pied Shag
<i>P. carbo</i>	Black Shag
<i>Sula serrator</i>	Gannet
<i>Haematopus longirostris chathamensis</i>	Pied Oystercatcher
<i>H. u. unicolor</i>	Black Oystercatcher
<i>Charadrius b. binctus</i>	Banded Dotterel
<i>Himantopus leucocephalus</i>	Pied Stilt
<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Black-Backed Gull

APPENDIX III

LIST OF FISH SPECIES PRESENT AT CASTLEPOINT

<i>L. novaeollandiae scopulinus</i>	Red-Billed Gull
<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Caspian Tern
<i>Sterna striata</i>	White-Fronted Tern
<i>Notophox n. novae hollandiae</i>	White-Faced Heron
<i>Demigretta matook</i>	Blue Heron
<i>Circus approximans gouldi</i>	Harrier
<i>Anthus n. novaeeseelandiae</i>	Pipit
<i>Gerygone igata</i>	Grey Warbler
<i>Rhipidura flabellifera placabilis</i>	Pied Fantail
<i>Zosterops lateralis</i>	Waxeye
<i>Halycon canctus vagans</i>	Kingfisher
<u>Introduced Birds</u>	
<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard
<i>Lophortyx californica brunnescens</i>	Californian Quail
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Skylark
<i>Turdus musicus</i>	Song Thrush
<i>T. merula</i>	Blackbird
<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Hedgesparrow
<i>Sturnus v. vulgaris</i>	Starling
<i>Gymnorhina ngpoleuca</i>	White-Backed Magpie
<i>Passer d. domesticus</i>	Housesparrow
<i>Fringilla coelebs gengleri</i>	Chaffinch
<i>Carduelis carduelis britannica</i>	Goldfinch
<i>Emberiza c. citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer
<u>Total number of species - 38</u>	

These can be grouped in any of the following ways:

(26 native (20 sea and shore  
(12 introduced (18 land

(14 Passerine birds (4 Native Passerines  
(24 Non-Passerine birds (10 Introduced Passerines

References: Oliver WRB (1955) "New Zealand Birds" Reed,  
Wellington  
V.U.W. Castlepoint Survey 1st Report June 1965.

<i>Acanthoclinus cardinalis</i>	rockfish
<i>Aldrichetta forsteri</i>	yellow-eye mullet
<i>Aplodactylus meandratus</i>	maori chief
<i>Arripis trutta</i>	kahawai
<i>Caranx lutescens</i>	trevally
<i>Chironemus spectabilis</i>	red moki
<i>Chrysophrys auratus</i>	snapper
<i>Clupea antipodum</i>	sprat
<i>Conger verreauxi</i>	conger eel
<i>Coridodox pullus</i>	butterfish
<i>Diplocrepis puniceus</i>	suckerfish
<i>Galeorhinus australis</i>	tope
<i>Heptatretus cirrhosus</i>	hagfish
<i>Hippocampus abdominalus</i>	seahorse
<i>Latridopsis ciliaris</i>	moki
<i>Physiculus bachus</i>	red cod
<i>Polyprion oxygeneios</i>	groper
<i>Pseudolabrus celidotus</i>	spotty
<i>Pseudolabrus pittensis</i>	kelp
<i>Rhombosolea leporina</i>	yellow-belly flounder
<i>Scorpaena cordinalis</i>	red scorpionfish
<i>Tripterygion spp. (2)</i>	threefin blenny
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	broad-billed swordfish

Reference: Castlepoint Fish Survey

L D Ritchie, Castlepoint Survey 1st Report p27  
V.U.W. June 1965

APPENDIX IV

LIST OF THE VASCULAR PLANTS OF THE CASTLEPOINT AREA

Source: Castlepoint Survey, 1st Report June 1965 V.U.W.

The following preliminary list was compiled over a period of 5 days during the winter season:

<i>Adiantum cunninghamii</i>	maidenhair fern
<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>	marram grass
<i>Apium australe</i>	native celery
<i>Asplenium flaccidum (aggr.)</i>	fern
A. lucidum	fern
<i>Blechnum banksii</i>	fern
<i>Bromus sp.</i>	brome
<i>Calystegia soldanella</i>	sand convolvulus
<i>Carex spp.</i>	sedge
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	ice plant
<i>Cassinia leptophylla</i>	tauhinu
<i>Coprosma acerosa</i>	sand coprosma
C. repens	taupata
<i>Coriaria arborea</i>	tutu
<i>Cordyline australis</i>	cabbage tree
<i>Cortaderia sp.</i>	toetoe
<i>Corynocarpus laevigatus</i>	karaka
<i>Desmoschoenus spiralis</i>	pingao
<i>Deuxia billardieri</i>	grass
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	dichondra
<i>Disphylla australe</i>	ice plant
<i>Geranium molle</i>	doves foot
G. sessiliflorum	geranium
<i>Gnaphalium collinum (aggr.)</i>	cudweed
G. luteo-album	haloragis
<i>Haloragis erecta</i>	haloragis
<i>Hebe stricta var. macroura</i>	hebe
<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	catsear

<i>Juncus caespitius</i>	rush
J. maritimus	rush
<i>Lachnagrostis sp.</i>	grass
<i>Lagenophora pumila</i>	harestalk
<i>Lagurus ovatus</i>	linum
<i>Linum monogynum</i>	lobelia
<i>Lobelia anceps</i>	lupin
<i>Lupinus arboreus</i>	,kawakawa
<i>Macropiper excelsum var. excelsum</i>	horehound
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	native dandelion
<i>Microseris scapigera (aggr.)</i>	fern
<i>Microsorium diversifolium</i>	orchid
<i>Microtis unifolia</i>	ngalo
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	grass
<i>Notodanthonia racemosa</i>	grass
N. unarede	grass
<i>Olearia solandri</i>	olearia
<i>Oxalis sp.</i>	oxalis
<i>Phormium cookianum</i>	mountain flax
P. tenax	flax
<i>Phymatodes diversifolius</i>	fern
<i>Picris echioides (Helminthia)</i>	oxtonque
<i>Pimelea arenaria</i>	sand pimelea
P. prostrata	pimelea
<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	buckshorn plantain
P. spathulata	plantain
<i>Poa anceps var. condensata</i>	poa
P. anceps var. anceps	poa
P. caespitosa	silver tussock
<i>Polystichum richardii</i>	fern
<i>Puccinellia (Atropis) stricta</i>	grass
<i>Pyrrosia serpens (Cyclophorus)</i>	grass
<i>Ranunculus acaulis</i>	coastal buttercup
<i>Salicornia australis</i>	glasswort
<i>Samolus repens</i>	sea primrose
<i>Scirpus nodosus</i>	sedge
S. cernuus	sedge
<i>Selliera radicans</i>	selliera

<i>Senecio compactus</i>	senecio
<i>S. lautus</i> var. <i>lautus</i>	groundsel
<i>S. sp.</i>	ragwort
<i>Solanum aviculare</i>	poroporo
<i>S. nigrum</i>	black nightshade
<i>Sophora microphylla</i>	kowhai
<i>Spergularia media</i>	sea spurry
<i>Spinifex hirsutus</i>	silver sand-grass
<i>Stellaria media</i>	chickweed
<i>Tetragonia trigyna</i>	native spinach
<i>Thelymitra</i> sp. (prob. <i>longifolia</i> )	orchid
<i>Trifolium</i> sp.	clover
<i>Triglochin striatum</i>	
<i>Trisionic</i> sp. (prob.)	stock
<i>Vittadinia australis</i>	daisy
<i>Wahlengerbia gracilis</i> (aggr.)	bluebell
<i>W. marginata</i>	harebell
<i>Zoisia minima</i>	grass

Also: Buffalo grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*), Elderberry  
(*Sambucus nigra*), Tasmanian Ngaio (*Myoporum serratum*).

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Castlepoint Historical Committee  
1948

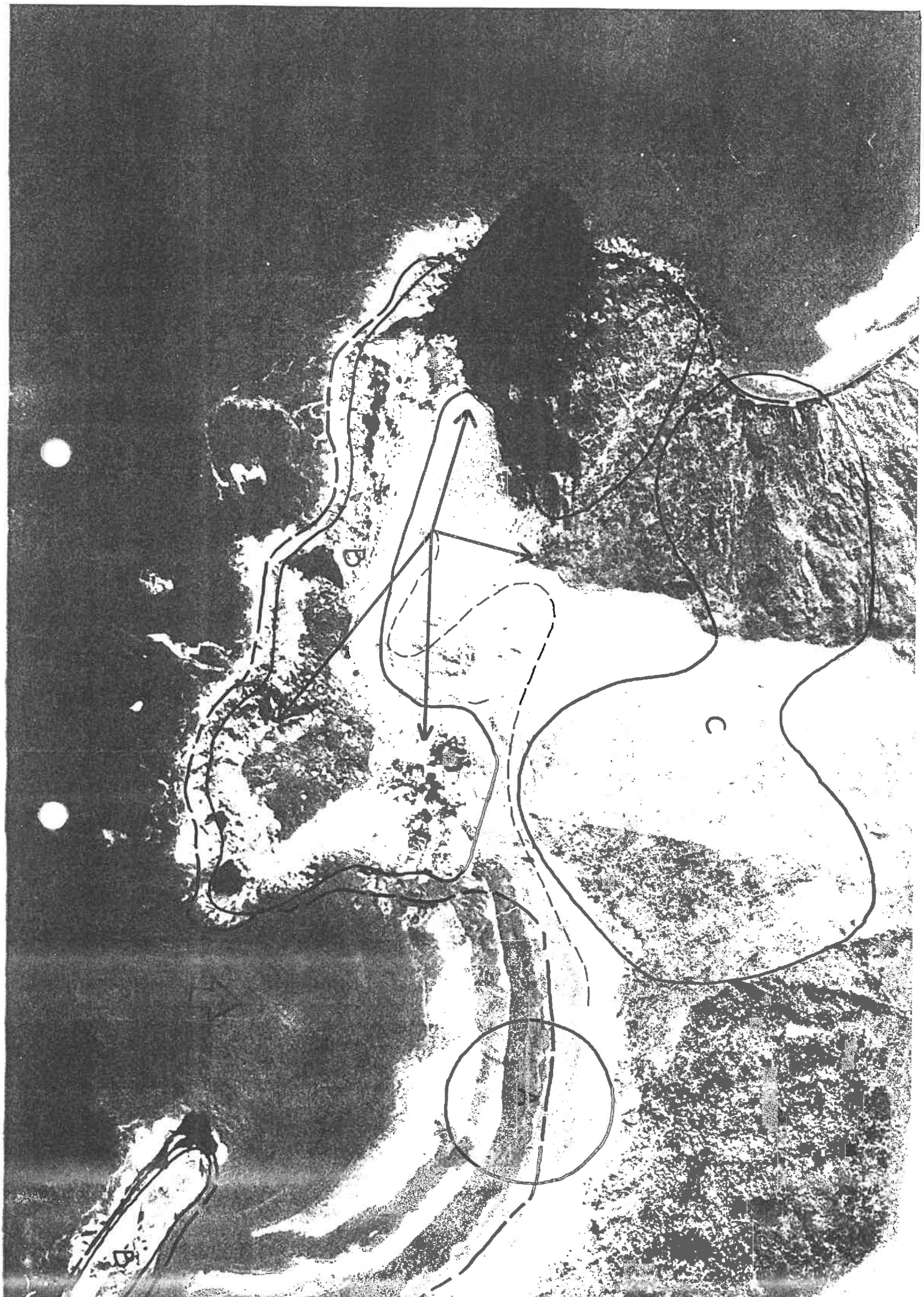
Early Castlepoint. First Years in a  
Pioneer Settlement

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# Management Concept

Key:

- A Dominant recreational areas
- B Areas protected for scientific educational & historical values
- C Water & soil conservation
- ↑ Access routes
- ⋯→ Vehicle access
- - - Major tracks
- Important views
- - - Water classification SA

