



1 House demolition in process, historic chimney 2 historic rubbish pit 3 Historic artefacts

## Southern Response Archaeological Investigations

Project Location: Canterbury

Opus International Consultants for Southern Response Earthquake

Disciplines: Archaeology, Project Management



The Southern Response Archaeological Risk Management project was a collaborative response to the residential demolition, repair and rebuild work resulting from the Canterbury earthquakes. Southern Response, Arrow and Opus have together developed effective systems and processes for the management of archaeology and historic heritage items affected by the quakes. The project has been recognised by Heritage New Zealand as innovative and leading best practice in the Canterbury recovery.

Key elements of the project are:

- Development of management plans, databases and screening tools to manage the risk to Southern Response, Arrow and their contractors.
- Development of a comprehensive training package (videos, briefings, development of an archaeology training site, flowcharts and information sheets) that has been praised by Heritage New Zealand and held up as a model for the insurance and contracting industries.
- Rapid response times to call-outs and streamlined processes to avoid delays to physical works through commitment of the parties to excellent service delivery.
- Seamless on-site collaboration with contractors where roles and responsibilities are clearly understood between the contractors and heritage and archaeology field staff.
- Open dialogue with all parties being accountable in the relationship and a commitment to share and resolve problems. This has resulted in constant fine-tuning of processes to maximise efficiencies and minimise risks.
- An archaeological response has never been seen on this scale in New Zealand.

### Judging & Copyright Statement

This project is a Finalist entry in the 2016 INNOVATE NZ Awards of Excellence competition. The winners will be announced on Friday 2 September, 2016.

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