

Rabbits disturb remains

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Northland Regional Council biosecurity officers have stepped in to stop an historic mid-North church graveyard for being overwhelmed by rabbits.

The church and its graveyard were built to commemorate the July 1845 battle of Ohaeawai and subsequent making of peace and the area is the final resting place of many local Maori and European.

James Edmonds from Ngawha contacted the council to say rabbit numbers were out of control.

He says locals were worried someone was going to injure themselves by tripping over one of holes, or that the holes were going to cause graves to collapse or headstones to topple.

The council helped fumigate the burrows and fill them in.