Waikato fortifications fall into two groups: Māori and Pākehā works associated with the invasion and fighting of 1863 and 1864, and Pākehā frontier works of the next 20 years. Most date from the 1863–64 Waikato War, which was the most important single campaign of the New Zealand Wars in terms of fighting forces involved and its role in deciding the overall outcome. Fighting began on 12 July 1863 when British troops crossed the Mangatawhiri River near Pokeno to Māori land, and ended at the Battle of Orakau of 31 March – 2 April 1864, near the Puniu River, which was afterwards the boundary of Pākehā settlement until 1881.

Waikato tribes contested the European advance by strategic works set across the invading army’s southward route. Meremere and Rangiriri on the lower Waikato River, and Paterangi, Pikopiko and related works between the Waipa River and Te Awamutu are the most notable. Attacks on pā at Rangiriri and Orakau are among the best known and most significant engagements of the New Zealand Wars.

European fortifications, mostly earthwork redoubts, were built for security of the invasion army, a string of works along the Waikato and Waipa Rivers marking the route. South of Ngaruawahia, redoubts were built on both sides of the Waikato River at Pukerimu, and at Whatawhata, Ngahinapouri, Te Rore and Pirongia on the Waipa River. Some large camps had several redoubts: Koheroa (Mangatawhiri) at the start of the campaign and Te Awamutu at the end each had three defensive redoubts, while Te Rore on the Waipa River had four.

After the campaign, British troops were dispersed to other regions, notably Whanganui for the 1865 invasion of South Taranaki. European security along Waikato’s Aukati (‘Confiscation’) Line was then provided by small works, mostly of stockade or blockhouse form, held by militia or Armed Constabulary. The last Pākehā fortification of the New Zealand Wars was established at Kawhia in October 1883.

Before July 1863, British troops prepared for war by building a military road south of Drury to the Waikato River. This was protected by Queen’s Redoubt near the Mangatawhiri River boundary of Māori land and other works along the line of road. Although part of the Waikato War story, these works are listed with other Auckland and South Auckland sites in Section 3.

Waikato fortifications are listed here by locality, which also reflects movement of the fighting from north to south:

- Mangatawhiri to Rangiriri
- Ngaruawahia and the Waipa River
- Hamilton and the Waikato River
- Te Awamutu and district
- Waikato west coast

**MANGATAWHIRI TO RANGIRIRI**

### 4.1 Buckingham Redoubt

S12/321 (2691950E 6434800N); recorded 2004.

Kellyville, Mercer; 200 m south of the sharp bend on Kellyville Road, under or near a power pylon of the westerly of two high voltage power lines.

Dates from 12 July 1863, when British troops, mostly 14th (Buckinghamshire) Regiment, crossed the Mangatawhiri River boundary of Kingitanga land to begin the Waikato War (Lennard 1986: 77-78).
63–65). One of three Koheroa works put up to secure a large Pākehā camp on Māori land (War Office 0270: I: Fig. 6; see also Eglinton Redoubt (4.2), Lower Redoubt (4.5)). By mid-August 1863 the redoubt was vacated but for a small guard (Lennard 1986: 65).

NZ Aerial Mapping 1942 photograph 281/38 shows an apparently irregular earthwork on the spur, of total dimensions c. 50 × 30 m.

Now under pasture; no surface evidence; west side already destroyed in the 1942 aerial photograph, the power pylon and cultivation may have destroyed the remainder since then.

4.2 Eglinton Redoubt

S12/204 (2692000E 6435200N); N48/192; recorded 1979, updates 1999, 2000, 2004; also Koheroa Redoubt; Fig. 28.

Kellyville, Mercer; west of Kellyville Road 1 km from SH1, on high end of ridge.

Dates from 12 July 1863, when British troops crossed the Mangatawhiri River boundary of Kingitanga land to begin the Waikato War (Lennard 1986: 63–65). One of three Koheroa works put up to secure a large Pākehā camp on Māori land (see also Buckingham Redoubt (4.1), Lower Redoubt (4.5)); on a commanding height (and site of earlier pā, War Office 0270.I: 44). Named after Lord Lieutenant of Ireland the Earl of Eglinton (Lennard 1986: 64).

Irregular earthwork redoubt of internal area c. 40 × 20 m with two interior levels. Perimeter mostly without flanking defence. The unusual form depends on available hill-top land, and/or earthworks of the earlier pā on the site.

Under pasture; good condition, some erosion of scarps through slumping and stock damage; fossicking has been reported.

Figure 28. Eglinton Redoubt: the irregular earthwork was one of three fortifications at the perimeter of the British Army camp put up south of Mangatawhiri River at the start of the July 1863 invasion of the Waikato. Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.
4.3 **Esk Redoubt**

S12/30 (2710950E 6442700N); N48/7; recorded 1967, update 1989; Fig. 29.

Mangatangi; on high ground 5 km west of Miranda, 100 m southeast of Trig ‘1534’ (168 m a.s.l.); access from Miranda Road.

Miranda (4.10), Surrey (4.17) and Esk Redoubts were established in November 1863 between the Firth of Thames and Pokeno, to stop Māori from entering the Hunua Ranges to attack the Great South Road and Pākehā farming districts south of Auckland. HMS *Esk* helped transport troops from Auckland to Pokororo (Miranda). Sited to allow signal communication east to Miranda Redoubt and west to Surrey Redoubt.

Earthwork redoubt with bastion defence at three corners covering all sides; square interior c. 30 × 30 m, with three terraces separated by small scarps and drains; stone platform on one terrace; outside are stone paths and other stone works.

Under pasture; stock erosion; unusual and detailed archaeology within and outside the redoubt.

![Figure 29. Esk Redoubt. Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.](image)

4.4 **Koheroa rifle-pits**

Māori rifle-pits recorded on the ridges west of today’s Mercer township date from the first phase of the Waikato War when Māori contested General Cameron’s advance south of the bridgehead at Koheroa on the Māori side of the Mangatawhiri River. There are four site records for separate pit groups. How many of these relate to the Māori positions of the 17 July 1863 Koheroa engagement is unclear.

1. S12/21 (2692700E 6432700); N52/45; recorded 1976, update 1999

Mercer; 50 m south of S12/279 (below).

Pits, terraces and a defensive(?) ditch.

Under pasture; good condition in 1999 but possibly destroyed since by road works.
2. S12/270 (2693400E 6433200N); recorded 1994
Mercer; south of Koheroa Road on Mardon Road (which is a paper road to Oram Road, Whangamarino). Lieutenant Colonel Gamble’s map of the 17 July 1863 engagement shows four lengths of Māori rifle-pits or trenches across the main Koheroa ridge (War Office 0270 I: Fig. 6). Defenders were driven from these in turn before escaping south from the end of the ridge at or near Te Teoteo pā (4.19). S12/270 is probably ‘1’ on Gamble’s map, and northernmost of the four Māori positions on the ridge, and so the only archaeologically recorded line of rifle-pits apparently matching historical records of the Koheroa engagement.

Under pasture; subsurface remains were probably destroyed in construction of the Waikato River water pipeline after the 1994 record.

3. S12/274 (2692500E 6433700N); recorded 1997
Mercer; c. 200 m from SH1, highest knoll east of farm track, iron survey peg at south end of knoll.

Five rifle-pits are c. 1.5 m apart on top of knoll: (1) 3 × 1 m; (2) T-shaped with 3 m long and 2 m short axis; (3) 3 × 1 m; (4) oval depression 1.5 × 1 m; (5) 2 × 1 m. There is also a larger pit on the ridge 30 m south of the knoll and main pit group.

Under pasture; filled in but showing as patches of dark green grass.

4. S12/279 (2692650E 6432650N); recorded 1997
Mercer; paddock east of SH1, on steep-sided knoll 100 m south of farmhouse, 2 m from road fence.

Single 4.5 × 2.5 m pit.

Under pasture in 1997; probably destroyed since in widening of SH1.

4.5 Lower Redoubt
S12/320 (2691800E 6435000N); recorded 2004; also ‘third’ redoubt in contemporary reports.
Kellyville, Mercer; west of Kellyville Road at end of spur above the railway line and SH1; at the edge of steep scarp above the river crossing (Lennard 1986: 63–65).

Dates from 12 July 1863, when British troops crossed the Mangatawhiri River boundary of Kingitanga land, to begin the Waikato War. One of three Koheroa works put up to secure a bridge-head on Māori land (see also Buckingham Redoubt (4.1) and Eglinton Redoubt (4.2)).

Lieutenant Colonel Gamble’s map (War Office 0270 I: No. 6) shows only an angled ditch cutting off the end of the spur, which may possibly have made use of an older transverse Māori trench. A stockade gave protection against nearby high ground (Lennard 1986: 65).

Part of the work survived until c. 1980s when the spur end and site was cut away during work on the railway line below.

4.6 Mangatawhiri Stockade
S12/322 (2691450E 6435900N); recorded 2004.
Pokeno; right bank of Mangatawhiri River, immediately upstream of the Pioneer Road bridge (formerly SH1); also referred to as the ‘Naval Stockade’.

The British Army camp and landing at Mangatawhiri River included a stockade on a small knoll (and site of older pā) on the right (west) bank of river. The river crossing was part of the main invasion route south before Māori forces abandoned Meremere on 1 November 1863 and steamers could then transport men and supplies up-river to the war. The associated Naval Camp (S12/213) is 100 m northwest, now largely destroyed by successive roads.

A small rough stockade above the crossing is shown in contemporary photographs. Knoll and any sign of the stockade is now entirely destroyed.
4.7 Meremere

Meremere; Department of Conservation historic reserve, access from Meremere Lane.

Meremere was the first major Māori position met by British troops in the 1863 invasion of Waikato. One of three north Waikato pā, with Paparata (4.12) and Pukekawa (4.13), where Māori forces assembled early in the war. Bombarded from Whangamarino Redoubt August–October; abandoned 1 November when British troops landed up-river to threaten the rear (Cowan 1983 I: 316–318; Swarbrick 1984: 32–39).

The pā comprised a hill-top strong point and rifle trenches and pits on spurs below, mostly on the long spur north to the river. Pā defences included three artillery pieces to contest enemy river traffic.

Meremere Redoubt (4.8) built on the hill-top after Māori withdrawal, has largely or completely destroyed the central Māori position. Associated rifle-pits and earthworks were mostly destroyed in constructing roads and buildings for the power station village.

Meremere rifle-pits

Meremere rifle-pits

S13/116 (2693700E 6429400N); recorded 2004; Fig. 30. Part of pā complex; west of Te Puea Avenue, above SH1 and river; three rifle-pits, each c. 2.5 m², connected by a ditch; present condition not known.

Figure 30. Māori fortifications at Meremere; the pā with flag at top centre occupies the site of the later Meremere Redoubt. GBPP 1864 [3277] opp. p. 106.
4.8 **Meremere Redoubt**

S13/7 (2693700E 6429400N); N52/12; recorded 1968, update 2004; Fig. 31.

Meremere; on hill above village; Department of Conservation historic reserve, access from Meremere Lane.

After Māori withdrew from Meremere pā (4.7) on 1 November 1863, a British redoubt for 200 men was put up on the main pā fortification on top of the hill. When the fighting moved south, militia occupied the post as a transhipment post for men and supplies; abandoned June 1864 (Swarbrick 1984: 32–35).

A ditch and bank earthwork c. 45 × 40 m of overall triangular plan, with flanked and unflanked faces. The unusual form may make use of former Māori earthworks.

Good condition under grass, in historic reserve.

![Meremere Redoubt. Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.](image)

4.9 **Miranda Lookout**


Miranda, Firth of Thames; on top of a prominent hill 400 m south of Miranda Redoubt (4.10).

Established November 1863 to secure high ground commanding nearby Miranda Redoubt.

Hill-top ditch and bank earthwork enclosing irregular platform c. 15 × 15 m.

Under pasture; ditch on south, east and some of west side is still visible, the rest is largely destroyed; bank almost all destroyed; on-going stock damage. Two pits and possible terraces outside may relate to an earlier Māori site. European graves within the defended area post-date the earthwork.
4.10 Miranda Redoubt

S12/46 (2715300E 6443500N); N48/24; recorded 1972, update 1989; Fig. 4.

Miranda; hill-top 200 m south of Miranda Road, east of Findlay Road.

Esk (4.3), Surrey (4.17) and Miranda Redoubts were established in November 1863 between the Firth of Thames and Pokeno, to prevent Māori from using Hunua Ranges for attacks on the Great South Road and Pākehā farming districts south of Auckland. Miranda was built first, above the troops’ landing place at Pokororo. Miranda Lookout (4.9) is 400 m south.

A rectangular ditch and bank earthwork, interior 40 × 35 m, is early example of the so-called ‘New Zealand redoubt’, defined by bastions at all corners each covering one adjacent side. Terraces are on a spur below to the north.

Good condition under grass; some stock erosion of earthworks. Now in a lifestyle subdivision with threats from land-use change.

4.11 Mould’s Redoubt

S13/112 (2693300E 6421100N); recorded 2002; also Camp Takapau.

Rangiriri, west of SH1 and Te Kauwhata; end of Sadlers Road, probably on the last level ground before road descends to the Waikato River. Contemporary reports give location as ‘Ngariohe’ (Survey Map SO 13102) and ‘Takupetohetohe’ (Southern Cross 5 Nov 1863; War Office 0270 I: 67).

Established 31 October 1863 when c. 700 troops landed from river boats on the right bank of the Waikato River, 10 km upstream of Māori defences at Meremere (4.7); that night shots were fired at the camp and replied to by artillery and rifle fire. Abandoned after the Māori withdrawal from Meremere on 1 November.

Fortification was a 2½ ft (750 mm) breastwork on three sides of a 100 × 40 yard (91 × 37 m) area, the rear (river) side being open (Southern Cross 5 Nov 1883).

No visible remains; under pasture and farm buildings.

4.12 Paparata

S12/45 (2701300E 6444600N); N48/23; recorded 1972.

Mangatawhiri; left of Mangatawhiri River after exiting from the Hunua Ranges and before turning south; 1 km north of the end of Lyons Road.

The pā was established by August 1863 (Cowan 1983 I: 270–272) and apparently enlarged in early October (War Office 0270 I: 63). One of three north Waikato pā, with Meremere (4.7) and Pukekawa (4.13), where Māori forces assembled early in the Waikato War. It served as the main Māori base between the Waikato River and Firth of Thames for access to Hunua Ranges and beyond; abandoned before November 1863.

Ditch and bank defences, pits and terraces were recorded and mapped in 1972 over an area c. 120 × 120 m. Associated rifle-pit groups are recorded separately (see below).

Under pasture; west half of site already ploughed in 1972. No recent visit.

**Paparata rifle-pits**

Recorded as associated with Paparata pā (above), or part of the pā complex; all data is from the 1972 site records.

2. Pā/ rifle-pits: S12/33 (2700700E 6445500N); N48/10. Ridge leading west from Mangatawhiri River towards Paparimu. ‘Musket pā’; 12 rifle-pits are in a line up the ridge beside the track; good condition in fern.

3. Rifle-pits: S12/34 (2701100E 6444600); N48/11. Flat point of land between two ridges east of Mangatawhiri River; bulldozed and partly filled.


5. Rifle-pits: S12/36 (2701300E 6444000N); N48/13. Spur east of Mangatawhiri River; filled by bulldozer.


7. Rifle-pits: S12/40 (2699700E 6443700N); N48/18. Ridge to the left just before gate to the property; good condition.


4.13 Pukekawa

R13/23 (2685900E 6427750N); N51/49; recorded 1977, update 2004.

Pukekawa, north Waikato; on top of prominent rounded hill at 277 m a.s.l. ‘Pukekawa’ trig; 500 m west of Pukekawa village.

One of three north Waikato pā, with Meremere (4.7) and Paparatu (4.12), where Māori forces assembled early in the Waikato War. September 1863 attacks on Camerontown (3.19) and Pukekohe East Church (3.25) were from Pukekawa. Reported enlarged early October (War Office 0270 I: 63); abandoned at the same time as Meremere, 1 November 1863 (War Office 0270 I: 67).

A sketch plan with the site record shows a rectangular ditch and bank earthwork of c. 120 × 65 m interior dimensions, with bastions at two adjacent corners covering three sides only. A second outer line of ditch and bank defence is c. 40 m forward of one long side only, presumably facing the expected line of attack.

Under pasture; present condition unknown.

4.14 Rangiriri

S13/50 (2698700E 6417200N); N52/39; recorded 1963, update 2004; Figs 13, 32.

Rangiriri; Māori earthworks extended from the Waikato River east to Lake Waikare. Access is from Te Wheoro Road west of SH1, Heritage New Zealand reserve.

Māori defensive line attacked in the Battle of Rangiriri 20–21 November 1863, arguably the most important single engagement of the New Zealand Wars (Adams 1978; Cowan 1983 I: 326–334; Swarbrick 1984: 41–52).

For most of its length, the defensive line between Waikato River and Lake Waikare comprised a single ditch and parapet. A major strong point lay across the north–south track which ran down a low ridge between outlying grouped rifle-pits and swampy ground to the east and west. At the time, Lake Waikare included the present Lake Kopuera and adjacent low-lying ground. Contemporary plans and photographs show the arrangement and scale of earthworks. See also Rangiriri Commissariat Redoubt (4.15) and Te Wheoro’s Redoubt (4.20).
Part of the central strong point survives in the historic reserve in fair condition despite filling of the defensive ditch. Outside the reserve, west to Waikato River and east to Lake Kopuera, Māori earthworks are almost entirely destroyed by cultivation, SH1, houses, former Rangiriri school (now a kura kaupapa), the later Te Wheoro’s Redoubt, etc.

4.15 **Rangiriri Commissariat Redoubt**

S13/135 (2699000E 6416650N); recorded 2009.

Rangiriri; at the river bank, between SH1 and river.

First established during the Battle of Rangiriri, November 1863, among Māori rifle-pits in a peach grove.

Earthwork redoubt with large building inside.

Surface evidence destroyed; April–May 2011 archaeological excavations preceded re-alignment of State Highway 1 through the site.

4.16 **Suffolk Redoubt**


Whangamarino, Mercer; at 78 m a.s.l. spot height on metric map sheet, at the junction of three ridges.
Established in August 1863 near one of two lines of rifle-pits (4.4) of the 17 July Koheroa engagement, to secure high ground commanding Whangamarino Redoubt (4.22). Held by a company of 12th (Suffolk) Regiment under Captain Francis Williams (Lennard 1986: 120).

Irregular ditch and bank earthwork c. 25 × 20 m with rounded bastion on south side; 6 × 3 m depression outside east side; possible hut site on slope below west side (Auckland Historical Society 1993: 33).

Mostly fair condition under grass; a farm road has destroyed the west side defences.

4.17 **Surrey Redoubt**

S12/38 (2702500E 6442100N); N48/16; recorded 1972; Fig. 33.

Mangatawhiri/ Mangatangi; at the edge of a high scarp; 175 m a.s.l. spot height on metric map sheet.

Miranda (4.10), Esk (4.3) and Surrey Redoubts were established in November 1863 between the Firth of Thames and Pokeno, to stop Māori accessing the Hunua Ranges for attacks on Great South Road and Pākehā farming districts south of Auckland. Hill-top location gave visual communication west to Queen’s Redoubt (3.26) and east to Esk Redoubt along southern margin of the Hunua Ranges. Name from the 70th (Surrey) Regiment.

Earthwork redoubt c. 30 × 30 m, with bastions at three corners covering all four sides (Auckland Historical Society 1993: 34–35).

Under pasture; good condition except for defences on the southeast side now largely destroyed by a farm road.
4.18 **Tapahina**

S13/11 (2694000E 6417500N); N52/16; recorded 1976, update 2004.

Churchill, Rangiriri; west bank of the Waikato River, between confluence with Whangape Stream and Pukekawa–Churchill Road. Also Tapahina or Tapaina in contemporary Pākehā reports.

A November 1863 fortification on site of older pā (‘Ahikaeo’?); possibly intended to be part of the Rangiriri (4.14) fortified line. Midshipman Foljambe (1868: 26) of the *Pioneer* reported ‘... the natives had made a new redoubt at Tapahina’. After the Battle of Rangiriri, shots were fired from Tapahina at the steamer *Avon* travelling down-river with Māori prisoners and wounded Pākehā.

An 1894 survey fieldbook reports ‘old rifle pits on summit of ridge 3 ch[ain]s’ (LINZ Hamilton, Fieldbook 1104). Platforms, ditch and four pits are visible in 1949 NZ Aerial Mapping photographs 288/33, 34. In 2004 a short length of scarp was reported visible under grass and trees, with farm buildings at the north end.

4.19 **Te Teoteo**

S12/237 (2692950E 6432300N); N52/43; recorded 1976, update 2004.

Whangamarino; 2 km south of Mercer, north of Whangamarino Stream, on a spur end above SH1 road bridge. Department of Conservation historic reserve; on the Whangamarino Walkway from Oram Road (see also Whangamarino Redoubt; 4.22).

Early in the Waikato War an older pā was reoccupied by 200–400 Māori under Te Huirama, leading to the 17 July Koheroa engagement (Swarbrick 1984: 26), which Waikato Māori refer to as taking place at Te Teoteo (Cowan 1983 I: 255).

Transverse ditch c. 30 m long cuts off c. 30 m length of the dipping spur-end. Three or four terraces and some shell midden are within the pā.

Fair to good condition under grass.

4.20 **Te Wheoro’s Redoubt**

S13/3 (2699000E 6417100N); N52/2; recorded 1960s, update 2004; Fig. 34.

Rangiriri; Heritage New Zealand reserve, access from Talbot Street.

After the 20–21 November 1863 Battle of Rangiriri, a 150-man redoubt was built on a group of rifle-pits south of the Māori defensive line from the Waikato River to Lake Waikare (4.14). It was first occupied by British troops, then abandoned in 1865. In 1869, the post was reoccupied by 30 Ngāti Naho under Wiremu Te Wheoro in response to Te Kooti’s activities in the central North Island, when it was remodelled and reduced in size (Swarbrick 1984: 53–57), presumably to the present form.

Rectangular earthwork redoubt of 20 × 15 m internal dimensions, with four bastions, and a 1.5 m high scarp to the external ditch which is 1 m up on the outer side and 4 m wide at the top.

Good condition under grass; earthworks extend outside historic reserve to adjacent land.
4.21 Waikare Tirohia

S13/61 (2696000E 6417500N); recorded 1983, update 2004; also Thompson’s Pā.
Rangiriri; 2 km west of township, above Churchill East Road, east of Waikato River, on a low hill with ‘Rangiriri’ trig, 61 m a.s.l.
Shown on contemporary maps; unclear historical role.
Form not known.
Under pasture; no surface evidence.

4.22 Whangamarino Redoubt

S12/22 (2693060E 6432300N); N52/47; recorded 1976, update 2004; also Pickard’s Redoubt; Fig. 35.
Whangamarino; 2 km south of Mercer, east of SH1, Heritage New Zealand reserve above Whangamarino Stream; access from Oram Road via Whangamarino Walkway (see also Te Teoteo pā; 4.19).

Site first occupied on 14 August 1863 by the 14th Regiment; the part stockade defences were completed on September 22 (War Office 0270 I: 53, 60). Held the south end of Koheroa Ridge with Suffolk Redoubt (4.16) on higher ground 600 m northeast. Guns at Whangamarino, under Lieutenant A.F. Pickard, Royal Artillery (later to win a VC at Rangiriri), bombarded Meremere (4.7) 3 km south. When Meremere was abandoned on 1 November 1863, militia replaced British troops at Whangamarino until the post was finally abandoned in October 1864 (Swarbrick 1984: 23–31).

Position for 150 men (War Office 0270 I: 53), c. 26 × 26 m square or near-square, with small bastions at two opposite corners. Earthwork defence faced south to Meremere; 18–20 ft (c. 6 m) stockade of split logs, built partly of timber from nearby Te Teoteo pā (4.19), faced north to higher ground (Lennard 1986: 119).

Under pasture; visible are the levelled interior of the work with banks, ditches and scarp; site apparently in good order.
NGARUAWAHIA AND WAIPA RIVER

4.23 Alexandra Redoubt

S15/28 (2703150E 6354150N); N65/48; recorded 1968, update 2004; Fig. 36.

Pirongia; west of main (Franklin) street between Bellot and Baffin Streets; Heritage New Zealand reserve.

In 1868 a redoubt was built around an 1867 church on 'Church Hill'; the church was removed in 1871, and in 1872 the present larger redoubt was built by the Armed Constabulary. On 11 July 1881, King Tawhiao laid down his weapons at Pirongia, bringing peace to the Waikato frontier; the redoubt was abandoned in 1886 (Swarbrick 1984: 73–82).

Rectangular earthwork 33 × 22 m, on the summit of a low but commanding hill; an unusual New Zealand form with bastions at four corners covering all sides from both adjacent angles.

In good order under grass in historic reserve, low bracken on earthworks; repaired 1994.
4.24 **Alexandra East Redoubt**

S15/375 (2703190E 6354700N); recorded 1997, update 2004.

Pirongia; terrace edge east side of Waipa River, west of Aubin Close, off Crozier Street.

Two redoubts were established in June 1864 on opposite banks of the Waipa River at the head of navigation for steamers (see also Alexandra West Redoubt; 4.25). These took over from Te Rore as the transhipment point for supplying Te Awamutu where 3000 men were in camp in winter 1864. The 100-man Alexandra East Redoubt was occupied by Colonel Haultain’s 2nd Waikato Regiment (Gumbley n.d.: 2).

A square work c. 30 × 30 m, with square bastions at adjacent southwest and southeast corners each covering both adjacent sides, and a triangular bastion from the centre of the north side above the river landing (the form is from map ‘Pirongia IV’ SO 157); commissariat store, hospital and other buildings nearby.

Under grass in Waipa District Council reserve; excavated 1998 (Gumbley n.d.).

4.25 **Alexandra West Redoubt**

S15/334 (2703200E 6355000N); recorded 1997.

Pirongia; left bank of Waipa River, on the terrace edge 200 m downstream of O’Shea Road.

Alexandra West and East Redoubts were established 1864 on opposite sides of Waipa River above the river landing for the Alexandra (later Pirongia) frontier settlement (see Alexandra East Redoubt; 4.24).

A contemporary map (‘Pirongia IV’ SO 157) shows an unusual redoubt trace, which needs archaeological confirmation; a ‘Commissariat’ is marked at the east side of the earthwork.

Under pasture; terrace considerably cultivated in recent years; subsurface evidence of ditch, and so redoubt form, will have survived.
4.26 **Fort Newcastle**

S14/190 (2699500E 6390750N); recorded 2004.

Ngāruawāhia; between Waipa Esplanade and Herschel Street, near the east end of the Waipa bridge; at or near the location of an 1863 pā (4.32).

Redoubt constructed by Armed Constabulary in the late 1860s.

Bastioned, ½ acre (.2 ha) fort, with 120 loopholes (AJHR 1870 D–7: 8). A 16 ft (5 m) high brick tower was later used as a jail.

No surface indication of site, now under houses, gardens, roads, etc.

4.27 **Harapepe Blockhouse**

S15/381 (2697600E 6360800N); recorded 1997, update 2003.

Harapepe, Pirongia; 200 m north of Corcoran Road, 1200 m from Te Pahu Road corner.

Replaced Harapepe Redoubt (4.28) at the military settlement. Shows on NZ Aerial Mapping 1943 aerial photo as c. 20 m square earthwork on a long ridge.

Under pasture, considerably cultivated; a slight mound is the only surface evidence.

4.28 **Harapepe Redoubt**

S15/354 (2698100E 6360600N); recorded 2004.

Harapepe, Pirongia; south of Corcoran Road.

Established February 1865 by Forest Rangers at their allotted settlement site.

Redoubt shown on March 1865 survey plan of Harapepe military settlement (SO314); see also Harapepe Blockhouse (4.27).

Under pasture; does not show on early air photographs, no visible evidence in 2004.

4.29 **Mangaotama earthwork**

S15/31 (2701600E 6361850N); N65/56; recorded 1977, update 2003.

Te Rore; right bank of Waipa River, between Mangaotama Stream and unnamed stream to the south; access by Alcock Road.

Identification as defences of a Pākehā camp during Cameron’s advance to Te Rore in late January 1864 is yet to be confirmed.

Single 100 m transverse ditch between two steep stream gullies cuts off the corner of a terrace.

Under pasture; the ditch is now filled in, except at the north end where there is 1–2 m length of ditch and remnant of internal bank, and south end where it is marked only by a slight depression.

4.30 **Ngahinapouri Redoubt**

S15/350 (2700500E 6364700N); recorded 2004.

Ngahinapouri; right (east) bank of Waipa River, opposite Te Pahu redoubt (4.37) on the west bank.
Fortifications of the New Zealand Wars

Redoubt for 200 men established 31 January 1864 as part of General Cameron’s advance up Waipa River to Te Rore (War Office 0270 I: 91).

Earthwork redoubt, otherwise no particulars.

Present condition not known, but not apparent on aerial photographs and likely to have been ploughed.

4.31 Ngaruawahia Redoubt


Ngaruawahia; within area bounded by Broadway, Sampson Street and Bradley Street. Terrace edge above low ground at the confluence of Waipa and Waikato Rivers, location formerly occupied by Māori rifle trenches (4.32).

Established by British Army on arrival at Ngaruawahia in early December 1863, two weeks after the Battle of Rangiriri.

Contemporary maps show rectangular earthwork with bastions at northeast and southwest corners covering all sides, unusually at northeast corner having separate bastions for the two adjacent sides.

Now under houses, gardens, roads, etc.; no surface indication of site; pieces of black bottle glass found in 2000 excavations for storm-water drains along the east side of Broadway.

4.32 Ngaruawahia Māori defences

S14/187 (2699500E 6390750N); recorded 2004, update 2005.

Ngaruawahia; confluence of Waipa and Waikato Rivers from The Point to south of Waipa bridge. At the same location as Fort Newcastle (4.26). Another pā S14/31 at the site of Ngaruawahia Redoubt (4.31) is unconfirmed.

Māori defences of Ngaruawahia were abandoned December 1863 when the British Army reached Tawhiao’s capital two weeks after the Battle of Rangiriri.

An 1864 map by Captain George Greaves has ‘Māori Redoubt’ east of Waipa River and a line of rifle-pits around the terrace edge above low ground on The Point. Colonel Mould (1869: 22) and Featon (1971: 65) both report a line of rifle-pits and ‘small’ or ‘half-finished’ Māori ‘redoubt’.

Now under houses, gardens, roads, domain, etc.; subsurface remains likely of excavated trenches, rifle-pits, etc.

4.33 Paterangi

S15/61 (2706200E 6358100N); N65/104; recorded 1979, update 2003; Figs 12, 37.

Paterangi; elevated ground along Bell Road.

Extensive Māori fortified line from early 1864, located to prevent a European advance from the Waipa River to Te Awamutu and Rangiaowhia, along with Pikopiko (4.36) c. 3 km north, Rangiatea (4.75) and unrecorded Manga-pukatea (see Cowan 1982 I: 337). When General Cameron and nearly 1000 men bypassed Paterangi in the night of 20–21 February Māori forces pulled back to defend rear areas, many being involved in the 22 February fight at Hairini (4.62).

The largest continuous earthwork fortification and outstanding barrier work of the New Zealand Wars, comprising c. 1 km of rifle trenches connecting six strong points.

The site is now largely destroyed by farming, key areas have been built on in recent years. Little is now visible; significant subsurface remains likely of such a major earthwork.
4.34  Paterangi Redoubt

S15/75 (2706400E 6358250N); N65/131; recorded 1979, update 1997.

Paterangi; Bell Road, ‘Pa-rangi farm’, in front of cowshed, totara tree in middle of site.

European redoubt established after Māori evacuation of Paterangi pā (4.33), February 1864, on site of Māori strong point ‘2’ (see Fig. 12).

Under pasture; some part of redoubt trenches are just visible in low light.

4.35  Pikiarero

S14/181 (2699500E 6391000N); N55/33; recorded 1981.

Ngaruawahia; Sampson Street, on scarp to Waipa River, mostly or all in the Domain.

Pā built in 1863, presumably with the aim of contesting European advance on Ngaruawahia, but not used.

Rectangular work 330 × 208 ft (100 × 63 m); traversed rifle trenches loopholed in bank under forward palisade line; angled trenches lead to five interior whare over pits; ‘... partly constructed’ according to Cowan (1983 I: 337). An historical drawing with the site record shows a palisaded pā on the lower terrace (‘Oikoi[?] Old Pah’), with a c. 60 ft (20 m) pole flying a flag with the name ‘MATUTAERA’ (for King Matutaera Tawhiao).

No known remains; subsurface evidence likely.
4.36 **Pikopiko**


Ngahinapouri; Meadoway Road cuts through site on broad ridge 600 m south of Hams Road corner, above and east of Lake Mangakaware.

Early 1864 Māori fortified line, north of the main Māori barrier pā at Paterangi (4.33); located to prevent European advance to Te Awamutu by a direct route southwest from Ngahina-pouri. Heavily manned in expectation of an attack when General Cameron’s army passed by along the right bank of Waipa River on its way to Te Rore, 27–28 January; Pikopiko abandoned by Māori on 21 February after the invading army bypassed Paterangi at night.

Fortification complex of three strong points and connecting trenches c. 250 m across a broad ridge between Mangaotama Stream and Lake Mangakaware and c. 250 m in depth along the ridge; the largest, forward, strong point is c. 100 × 40–60 m; two rear strong points are c. 30 × 30 m (after plan by Captain Edward Brooke, Royal Engineers, in Cowan 1983 I: 345).

Under pasture, cut by Meadoway Road; no visible surface evidence in 1998.

4.37 **Te Pahu redoubt**

S15/38 (2700300E 6364700N); N65/70; recorded 1977, update 1989.

Te Pahu; east of Grove Road, 500 m north of Martelletti Road corner; on the terrace edge above Waipa River, north side of a short gully to the river.

Probably relates to 1864 British Army transport and communication on the Waipa River, opposite Ngahinapouri Redoubt (4.30) on the east bank, like other paired redoubts at Pukerimu, Whatawhata, Te Rore and Pirongia.

Bastion defence at northeast and southwest corners only; the northwest corner is unusually cut off at 45° to adjacent sides.

East side and corners and part of north and south sides is visible in a 1980 Waikato Museum aerial photograph.

Present condition not known.

4.38 **Te Rore pā**

S15/279 (2702600E 6359550N); N65/144; recorded 1980, update 2004.

Te Rore; 150 m southwest of Kakaramea and Oakshott Roads corner.

Identified in the site record as Te Rore pā, said by Colonel Gamble to have been also the location of one of four Te Rore redoubts (4.40), but which is more likely to have been on the terrace south of Mangakaware Stream than the recorded pā location on the narrow, steep-sided and isolated ridge north of the stream.

A pre-European pā indicated by transverse ditch, pits and terraces; no indication of European works.

Under pasture and some large trees.

4.39 **Te Rore Piquet**


Te Rore, Pirongia; south of Bell Road and Macky Road corner, largely or all under new house on site.
'As our main piquet is about three quarters of a mile from the encampment [4.40] a small redoubt has been constructed for them' (War Office 0270 I: 91).

No known particulars of form.

House on the site has largely destroyed any remains.

4.40 **Te Rore Redoubt**

S15/83 (2702600E 6358300N); N65/107; recorded 1979, updates 2000–2003.

Te Rore, Pirongia; Kakaramea Road 3.5 km north of Pirongia. Included in the site record are: redoubt (on ‘… high hill overlooking the main road’), river landing, hospital site, cemetery, etc.

Separate records for other features of Te Rore camp and locality are: pā (4.38); piquet (4.39); redoubt (4.41); military road S15/352.

European forces reached Te Rore on 28 January 1864 (Cowan 1983 I: 339) and a large camp with four redoubts established near Māori works at Paterangi pā (4.33). Te Rore was General Cameron’s HQ until the 22 February advance to Te Awamutu, also the main transhipment point on Waipa River until this was moved in June 1864 upriver to Alexandra/ Pirongia (4.24–25).

Colonel Gamble (War Office 0270 I: 91) reports of this work: ‘A redoubt has been constructed for 150 men on our main encampment which covers a good landing place for stores on the river bank … Another redoubt for 100 men has been constructed on the site of the old “pah” of Te Rore [4.38], and a third for 80 on the left bank [4.41] … As our main piquet is about three quarters of a mile from the encampment a small redoubt [4.39] has been constructed for them.’


4.41 **Te Rore redoubt**

S15/71 (2702050E 6359050N); N65/127; recorded 1979, update 2003; Fig. 38.

Te Pahu, Pirongia; on terrace, left bank of Waipa River, 200 m south of Te Pahu Road bridge.

One of four redoubts established by European forces on arrival at Te Rore, 28 January 1864: ‘… a third [redoubt] for 80 on the left bank …’ (War Office 0270 I: 91; 4.40).

Irregular four-sided redoubt with single bastion to the west.

Earthworks faint under pasture.

4.42 **Waddy’s Forward Post**

S15/348 (2705300E 6357600N); recorded 2003.

Pirongia; east of Bird Road.

Little known of this post, which dates from early 1864 (4.43).

Repeatedly cultivated, no surface evidence in 2003; military relics including buttons, badges, buckles and bullets found over the years.

4.43 **Waddy’s Redoubt**

S15/351 (2704700E 6356700N); recorded 2003.

Te Rore, Pirongia; high point immediately east of Bird Road, north of junction with paper road east to Waiari pā.
Established under Colonel Waddy after the arrival of General Cameron’s army at Te Rore on 28 January 1864 (Cowan 1983 I: 339). On 11 February 1864, soldiers from the post were attacked while bathing in Mangapiko Stream near the old Waiari pā (4.44).

Nothing known of form.

Any surface evidence will have been destroyed by the house and associated buildings now on the site.

4.44 Waiari

S15/53 (2705700E 6356200N); N65/85; recorded 1977, revisited 2004; Fig. 39.

Pirongia; within northward loop of the Mangapiko Stream, 500 m north of Pirongia Road.


Three ditches as much as 8 m deep cross a narrow isthmus to define the pā area c. 200 m long and 30–60 m wide.

The terrace is in pasture; scarps to river and defensive ditches are in scrub.

4.45 Waiari Redoubt

S15/74 (2705750E 6356400N); N65/130; recorded 1979, update 2004; Fig. 39.

Pirongia, on terrace north (right) of Mangapiko Stream, immediately across from Waiari pā (4.44).

Eight hundred officers and men of 50th and 70th Regiments began work on the 200-man redoubt on 13 February 1864, two days after the Waiari engagement (War Office 0270 I: 94).
Rectangular redoubt, c. 40 × 35 m internal dimensions, with rounded bastion defence at two corners covering all sides.

Fair to good order under light vegetation.

4.46 Whatawhata Redoubt

S14/74 (2699650E 6376200N); N65/109; recorded 1979, update 2004.

Whatawhata; right bank of Waipa River, c. 100 m north of SH23 bridge.

On 28 December 1863, 1200 British troops advanced c. 15 km from Ngaruawahia up Waipa River to Whatawhata, where Colonel Mould (1869: 23) reported construction of a ‘large stockade’. Whatawhata was an important depot in the advance south to Te Rore and Te Awamutu. There is also an historical reference to ‘Pehihoukoura Camp’ at or near Whatawhata.

A January 1864 photograph shows the c. 30 m side of a redoubt earthwork with a massive timber gateway at the centre and a stockade bastion, next to an extensive camp (Stowers 1996: opp. 49).

A 1943 aerial photograph (831/28) shows one side of a rectangular earthwork redoubt and the adjacent square bastion. Half of the redoubt was destroyed by the road to an earlier bridge north of the present bridge; the rest appears to have been destroyed for a gravel pit by 1980. Some of the associated military camp will have survived where not destroyed by houses, cultivation, etc.
HAMILTON AND WAIKATO RIVER

4.47 Cambridge Redoubt
S15/320 (2727600E 6364500N); recorded 1991, update 2008; also Camp Cambridge (Gumbley & Keith 2010: 2).

Cambridge; within town block bounded by Victoria, Duke and Fort Streets.

Built in August 1864 by the 3rd Waikato Regiment at the Cambridge town site, and occupied as headquarters of the regiment. After the Waikato regiments were disestablished in 1867, the Armed Constabulary maintained a post at Cambridge to 1886 (Gumbley & Keith 2010: 2–6).

In February 1865 the redoubt of eight-pointed star plan is reported to cover 2¼ acres (c. .91 ha) and hold 1000 men; although this size may include the defences as well as interior since a plan of about the same date shows the unusual star form with an interior c. .44 ha (c. 1 acre) (Gumbley & Keith 2010: 4, 7–8).

The site is now largely built over; subsurface remains will have survived within the town block defined above; in 1963 trenches were uncovered on the Fonterra Milk Plant site, Fort Street. Further excavations were carried in 2008 (Gumbley & Keith 2010).

4.48 Crow’s Nest Redoubt
T15/4 (2732700E 6360900N); N66/8; recorded 1967.

Karapiro; on ridge above the dam and Maungatautari Road, the site now occupied by two concrete water towers.

Redoubt built on the site of Wiremu Tamihana’s stronghold, Te Tiki-o-te-Ihingarangi (4.57).

Present condition not known.

4.49 Firth Tower
T14 (2757350E 6374000N): no site record; Fig. 40.

Matamata; Tower Road, 2 km from the town.

Watch-tower and refuge, built in 1882 by Josiah Clifton Firth near the homestead on his 23,000 ha Matamata Estate.

16 m high reinforced concrete tower, loopholed at all three storeys.

Good condition and well maintained in Firth Tower Historical Reserve administered by Matamata–Piako District Council.

4.50 Galloway Redoubt
S14/95 (2713050E 6375900N); recorded 1983, update 1999.

Hamilton East; southwest corner of Galloway Park, between clubhouse, croquet lawns and Findlay Street.

Put up in 1868 by Armed Constabulary and local settlers.

Historical reference to a ‘small redoubt’.

Under grass; likely location a raised area c. 1.5 m above the surrounding grounds; no recorded remains.
4.51 **Hamilton A.C. Magazine**

S14/57 (2711500E 6376400N); N65/55; recorded 1977, update 1990.
Hamilton; St Peter’s Cathedral, Victoria Street.

Fortified Armed Constabulary magazine built in 1873 at or close to the site of the 1864 Hamilton West Redoubt (4.53).
Parts of an old ditch are said to be intact under the cathedral floor; nothing else is visible in the vicinity.

4.52 **Hamilton East Redoubt**

S14/72 (2711950E 6376500N); N65/103; recorded 1977; also Moule’s Redoubt.
Hamilton; above right bank of river at 24 Bridge Street.

Established in August 1864 and held by a section of the 4th Waikato Regiment who took up confiscated land in the vicinity. Nine buildings accommodated five officers and 135 men. Completed in May 1865; later held by Armed Constabulary to 1877.
Rectangular earthwork; rounded bastion at southeast and square bastion at northwest corner covering all sides; unusual additional bastion on north side probably protected the nearby entrance.

No recorded remains; partly destroyed in cutting down Bridge Street for bridge approach; no archaeological evidence found in 2004 excavations (Simmons & Simmons-Ritchie 2007).

4.53 **Hamilton West Redoubt**

S14/57 (2711500E 6376400N); N65/55; recorded 1977, update 1990.
Hamilton; St Peter’s Cathedral, Victoria Street.

Established in 1864 by two companies of the 4th Regiment Waikato militia to accommodate 128 men. The Waikato regiments were disbanded in 1867 and the redoubt then taken over by
Armed Constabulary. In 1872 buildings were removed, and in 1873 the earthworks were levelled for construction of the A.C. magazine (4.51).

Contemporary photograph shows a low earth parapet enclosing four or six buildings on top of the hill, at or near site of the later A.C. magazine.

No recorded remains.

4.54 Kirikiriroa Redoubt
S14/45 (2713850E 6375050N); N65/29; recorded 1968, updates 1986, 2005.
Hamilton East; north bank of Waikato River, between the cemetery and Howell Avenue, at 62 m a.s.l. spot height on S14 map sheet.
1865 survey plan SO 381 shows 'Kirikiriroa Redoubt'. Of common New Zealand rectangular form with defences at all corners each covering one side. An historic plan with the site record has 181 × 165 ft (55 × 50 m) external dimensions (c. 45 × 30 m internally), a barrier outside the entry on the southeast side, and six buildings inside.
Under grass, fenced off from surrounding paddock, redoubt platform visible.

4.55 Pukerimu Redoubt (1)
S15/41 (2723900E 6364050N); N65/73; recorded 1977, update 2000; Heritage New Zealand Category II registration No 6204.
Pukerimu; Kaipaki Road, north of cemetery, on the terrace edge left (south) bank of the Waikato River.
Established and occupied by British troops in March 1864 (Cowan 1983 I: 361). For a time it was General Cameron’s HQ, later held by Waikato Militia. Another Pukerimu Redoubt (4.56) was on the opposite (right) bank of river.
Square earthwork with bastions at northwest and southeast corners covering all sides; 1986 excavations showed the distance between the inner edge of east and west defensive ditches to be 46.4 m.
Under pasture, levelled.

4.56 Pukerimu Redoubt (2)
S15/99 (2724100E 6364500N); N65/157; recorded 1981.
Cambridge; south of St Peter’s School, on the terrace edge, right (north) bank of the Waikato River.
British military redoubt, established late March 1864 across the Waikato River from the main Pukerimu Redoubt (4.55).
Site ploughed in the 1930s–40s.
Present condition not known.

4.57 Te Tiki-o-te-Ihingarangi
T15/4 (2732700E 6360900N); N66/8; recorded 1987, also Pukekura.
Karapiro; on ridge above the dam and Maungatautari Road, site now occupied by two concrete water towers (4.48).
Ridge-top pā occupied by Ngāti Haua and allies under Wiremu Tamihana Tarapipipi in March 1864.
Large pā with several strong points.
Present condition not known.
TE AWAMUTU AND DISTRICT

4.58 40th Regiment Redoubt
Te Awamutu; Redoubt Street, site now occupied by police station.
The redoubt here was first established on the arrival of troops at Te Awamutu on 21 February 1864, when it was occupied by 156 of the 40th Regiment and 63 militia (4.59–60; War Office 0270 I: 100). In 1870 the Armed Constabulary demolished half the work, repaired the remainder, and built a new side to a smaller fort.
Largely or completely destroyed, now occupied by the Te Awamutu Police Station, which inherited the site from the Armed Constabulary and 40th Regiment; 1991 rescue excavation reported by Ritchie & Gumbley (1992).

4.59 57th Regiment Redoubt
S15/380 (2714300E 6352600N); recorded 1997, update 2005.
Te Awamutu; rose garden between the Mutu Street / Gorst Street corner and Mangaohoi Stream; Heritage New Zealand sign and heritage walk sign.
British redoubt shown on 1865 survey plan (4.58, 4.60).
In reserve under trees, lawn and garden; no visible evidence. A feature consistent with dimensions of a redoubt trench is said to have been uncovered during road works at the site.

4.60 65th Regiment Redoubt
S15/338 (2714800E 6352200N); recorded 1997.
Te Awamutu; Albert Park in front of pavilion near the bend in Scout Lane.
Redoubt dates from February 1864 arrival of British troops at Te Awamutu, where up to 3000 men were based for much of that year (4.58–59).
On contemporary maps shown as a rectangular work with bastions at two corners covering all sides.
Southeast side and bastion shown on 1973 aerial photo and visible on site as a 50–100 mm depression resulting from continued settling and compaction of the playing fields into the redoubt trench.

4.61 Ford Redoubt
S15/233 (2710000E 6351200N); N74/243; recorded 1979, update 2004.
Te Awamutu; 3 km southwest of town, on hill-top between Frontier Road and Puniu River, 78 m a.s.l. at trig ‘520’.
Ford Redoubt was established in 1873 by the Armed Constabulary ‘Native Contingent’, under Sub-Inspector Tregear to overlook two Puniu River fords (AJHR 1873 H-14, p. 3). In 1874 the redoubt was pulled down and replaced by a blockhouse likely to have been similar to other frontier works of the period (e.g. see Orakau Blockhouse; 4.70).
Under pasture; present condition not known.

4.62 Hairini
S15/326 (2717600E 6351600N); recorded 1996, update 2004.
Hairini; 3 km east of Te Awamutu near the Cambridge Road and Puahue Road corner. The site record and map reference is focussed on the pre-European Ngāti Hinetu pā, Tauranga Tahi, but also refers to Māori earthworks of the 22 February 1864 Hairini engagement at the same place, extending north and south of the older hill-top pā.

On 21 February, European troops reached Te Awamutu, going on to attack Rangiaowhia that day. The next day, Māori were reported reinforcing a ditch and bank fence at Hairini between Te Awamutu and Rangiaowhia, where they were attacked by European troops.

A contemporary plan shows a straight c. 1.5 km long ditch and bank (War Office 0270II: opp. p. 195).

Mostly under pasture, some lengths of earthwork may have survived.

### 4.63 Hairini Picket

S15/379 (2716500E 6352700N); recorded 1997.

Hairini, Te Awamutu; north of Cambridge Road. Marked as ‘Redt’ on map by Colonel Mould, Royal Engineers (Mould 1869: Pl. 2), and ‘advanced picket’ on 1864 plan (War Office 0270 II: opp. p. 195).

Held in March 1864 by 66 men of 65th Regiment (War Office 0270 I: 100).

Form not known.

Present condition not known, possibly under houses.

### 4.64 Haurua

S16; no site record, not located.

Otorohanga; short distance south of the town, west of the railway line according to Cowan (1983 I: 408). It is unclear how ‘Haurua pā’ (S16/4, 2700500E 6327800N), 6 km south of town, 1–1.5 km west of SH3, relates to the 1864 fortification.

One of three works (see also Paratui (4.73), Te Roto-Marama (4.79)) prepared south of Puniu River on Ngāti Maniapoto territory after the March–April 1864 Battle of Orakau, in case of further southward advance by the European army (Cowan 1983 I: 408).

Entrenchments across a ridge on the main track between Otorohanga and Hangatiki, swamps each side.

Present condition not known.

### 4.65 Kihikihi Redoubt

S15/235 (2715900E 6349150N); N74/246; recorded 1979; update 1984.

Kihikihi; between SH3 and Leslie Street, south of Havelock Street; at ‘Rata-tu’, the highest part of the Kihikihi ridge (Cowan 1983 I: 361, 364).

Established after troops reached Te Awamutu in February 1864, by 40th and 70th Regiments under Colonel Waddy (War Office 0270 II: 198); garrisoned by regimental troops and militia, and subsequently Armed Constabulary to 1885.

Survey plan SO324 shows c. 40 × 40 m square redoubt, with rounded bastions at northwest and southeast corners covering all sides.

Under grass and buildings; in 1984 surface indication of defensive ditches at southwest corner only.

### 4.66 Kihikihi Stockade

S15/236 (2716400E 6348900N); N74/247; recorded 1979, updates 2004, 2006.

Kihikihi; in the town block bounded by Whitmore Street (Arapuni Road) and Rolleston, Grey and Hall Streets.
Military stockade; history not known.
Under pasture; Waipa District Council reserve.

4.67 **Ohaupo**
S15/357 (213800E 6363500N); recorded 2004.
Ohaupo; on a hill now occupied by school and Ohaupo Redoubt (4.68). Exact pā location not known; may have been in or close to the present school grounds.
Pā located to contest a European advance along the ridge south of Kirikiriroa (Hamilton), which did not happen, Cameron instead advancing south by way of the Waipa River.
Levelled by the military in 1864; no known surface evidence.

4.68 **Ohaupo Redoubt**
S15/11 (2713800E 6363550N); N65; recorded 1965, update 2008; Fig. 41.
Ohaupo; west of SH3 (Ohaupo Road), in historic reserve south of school grounds and above cemetery.
Established after Lieutenant Colonel John M’Neill (for spelling, see Hart 1869: 66) was ambushed on the road between Pukerimu and Te Awamutu on 30 March 1864 (winning a VC for rescuing Private Vosper who was thrown from his horse). The redoubt was built by 40th Regiment troops under Major Blyth near Ohaupo pā (4.67), while von Tempsky’s Forest Rangers patrolled the road.
Rectangular redoubt c. 75 × 30 m; defensive projection from the centre of west end. A 1943 aerial photograph (836/47) shows a flanking angle at the east end.
Good condition under grass; east end now destroyed.

Figure 41. Ohaupo Redoubt, from the south, Ohaupo Road (SH3) at right. *Photo: K.L. Jones, 2004.*
4.69 Orakau

S15/103 (2719900E 6347800N); N74/4; recorded 1964, update 2002; Fig. 42.

Orakau; Arapuni Road, monument and car park 4 km east of SH3 junction at Kihikihi; at a place known as Rangataua (Cowan 1983 I: 371), the pā was named after nearby Orakau kāinga (S15/341).

The siege of Orakau pā, 31 March to 2 April 1864, is one of the best known battles of the New Zealand Wars. The pā was built in two days, and held by c. 310 Māori, including c. 20 women and some children, under Ngāti Maniapoto chief Rewi Maniapoto. When General Cameron arrived at noon on 2 April, c. 1800 British Army and colonial forces were present. Late that afternoon the defenders broke through enemy lines, suffering considerable casualties, but mostly escaping to the south (Cowan 1983 I: 366–407; Swarbrick 1984: 58–69).

Orakau was a c. 30 × 16 m rectangular earthwork of traversed rifle trench with bastions at the northwest and northeast corners only. A parapet behind the trench had tunnels under it for access from rear shelters to firing positions. A c. 50 m long trench from the northwest angle was unfinished when the attack began (Cowan 1983 I: 373). The whole work was enclosed by a post and three-rail fence.

No apparent surface evidence; the Kihikihi–Arapuni Road cuts through the pā at or close to the monument; the house north of the road may be on the north end of the pā site.

4.70 Orakau Blockhouse

S15/346 (2719800E 6347400N); recorded 2003.

Orakau; c. 350 m southwest of Orakau pā (4.69), on a low hill at the edge of a scarp falling to southeast.

Figure 42. Orakau pā, with unfinished northwest defences. From War Office 0270 II: opp. p. 219.
The blockhouse was held by Armed Constabulary 1871–75. Located on a low hill named Karaponia (after ‘California’, Cowan 1983 I: 366), in the cultivations of Orakau kāinga. During the battle the site was occupied by Brigadier Carey’s HQ and two 6-pounder Armstrong guns behind a parapet.

The two-storey blockhouse was made mostly of kahikatea: the 9 ft (3 m) high ground floor was 16 × 20 ft (5 × 6.5 m) in plan; the upper floor was 12 ft (3.5 m) high, extending out from the lower by 3 ft (1 m) all round. The walls were filled with sand for bullet-proofing. A 10–12 ft (3–3.5 m) stockade all around was 6–7 ft (2 m) out from the building; a c. 7 ft (2 m) scarp at the rear gave further protection; the upper storey and stockade were loopholed (description from Cowan 1922: 89; 1983 II: 472).

Under pasture. A large gum tree was planted by Armed Constabulary in the 1870s to mark the location of guns in the battle (Cowan 1983 I: 370).

4.71 **Orakau sap**

S15/347 (2719700E 6347600N); not recorded, not located.

British attacking sap to Orakau pā (4.69); total length including demi-parallels was 124 m.

West of the pā, probably close to the north side of Arapuni Road; under pasture or destroyed by road cutting; nothing visible.

4.72 **Paekuku Blockhouse**

S15/343 (2720900E 6348700N); recorded 2002.

Puahue, east of Kihikihi; Glasson Road, on hill-top c. 200 m southeast of road end (which is not as shown on NZMS 260 map).

Armed Constabulary blockhouse built in 1873 during increased frontier activity after killing of the surveyor Sullivan (see Cowan 1983 II: 468–471). On the A.C. patrol road between Rangiaowhia Redoubt (4.74), Orakau Blockhouse (4.70) and other Pākehā frontier posts.

Rectangular slightly raised platform c. 28 × 15 m, with indication of a 2 m wide surrounding ditch; deteriorating under pasture.

4.73 **Paratui**

S16/226 (2698300E 6322500N); N83/38; recorded 1976; Fig. 43.

Hangatiki, Te Kuiti; the highest point for ‘several miles’ on the north-south ridge between the Mangapu and Mangaokewa Streams, west of SH3 (Kelly 1939).

One of three works (with Haurua (4.64), and Te Roto-Marama (4.79)) prepared south of Puniu River on Ngāti Maniapoto territory after the March–April 1864 Battle of Orakau, in case of further advance by the European army (Kelly 1939; Cowan 1983 I: 408; Phillips 1989: 202–203).

A triangular pā, with east and south sides 50 yards (46 m) long, west side...
70 yards (64 m), and the point which faces north to an attack truncated to a 20-yard (18 m) face; an outer firing trench and parallel inner communication trench all round; with c. ten circular and rectangular pits dug into the top of a high parapet between the two ditches on the east side (Kelly 1939). Both sides of the ridge fall steeply to swamps.

Excellent condition when visited by Kelly in 1931, and shows in 1940s aerial photo; bulldozed before 1968, now largely destroyed (Phillips 1989: 202–203).

4.74 **Rangiaowhia Redoubt**

S15/234 (2718650E 6351250N); N74/244; recorded 1979, update 2004; also Blewitt’s Redoubt.

Rangiaowhia, Te Awamutu; Rangiaowhia Domain, behind the hall on a low hill (‘Hikurangi’ according to Cowan 1983 I: 360).

Established in February 1864 after the 21–22 February engagements at Rangioawhia and Hairini. The 200-man redoubt was first occupied by ten Royal Artillery and an artillery piece, 56 of the 65th Regiment and 103 Waikato Militia (War Office 0270 I: 100). Captain Charles Blewitt, 65th, was the first officer in charge. In the 1870s Armed Constabulary occupied a blockhouse at the location.

Under grass, in the hall domain; subsurface remains are likely. Faint traces of a rectangular earthwork can be made out, within which is a totara tree, said to be on the site of a former flagpole.

4.75 **Rangiatea**

S15/355 (2714300E 6355600N); recorded 2004.

Te Rahu, Te Awamutu; cut by Ngaroto Road c. 400 m west of SH3.

Early 1864 pā on the ridge route east from Paterangi (4.33) and Pikopiko (4.36) to Te Awamutu and Rangiaowhia (War Office 0270 II: opp. p. 183).

Strong fortification on the crown of a narrow ridge, with trenches down to swamps on both sides (Cowan 1983 I: 346).

In Cowan’s time already destroyed by road and farming.

4.76 **Rotoorangi**

S15/344 (2725300E 6355300N); recorded 2002; also Roto-o-Rangi (Cowan 1983 II: 469, 471).

Rotoorangi, near Cambridge; at the top of hill 1 km west of the Rotoorangi settlement, at spot height 126 m a.s.l. on NZMS 260 map, north of Cox Road.

It is not clear if this pā on the site later occupied by Rotoorangi Redoubt (4.78) dates from the Waikato War or was older.

Angular trapezoidal earthwork c. 3× the size of later redoubt on site (see McFadgen & Walton 1988). Earthworks partly destroyed by 1873 redoubt construction; under pasture; on-going stock damage.

4.77 **Rotoorangi Blockhouse**

S15; no site record, not located.

Rotoorangi, near Cambridge.

Armed Constabulary blockhouse built in 1873 during increased frontier activity after killing of the surveyor Sullivan (see Cowan 1983 II: 468–471).

Present condition not known.
4.78  **Rotoorangi Redoubt**

S15/54 (2755300E 6355300N); N85/87; recorded 1977, update 2002; Fig. 44.

Rotoorangi; top of hill 1 km west of settlement, at spot height 126 m a.s.l. on NZMS 260 series map, north of Cox Road (4.76).

Armed Constabulary redoubt; commenced 23 May 1873, finished 12 June, held by 28 men. Capable of holding 60–70 men. Relationship to a blockhouse (4.77) in the district is unclear.

Earthwork of star form from angled bastions at all corners covering all sides from both adjacent corners; triangular ‘ravelin’ outwork protects the entry.

Under pasture; on-going stock damage; archaeological excavations in 1986 (McFadgen & Walton 1988).

4.79  **Te Roto-Marama**

S16; no site record, not located.

Hangatiki.

One of three works (with Haurua (4.64) and Paratui (4.73)) prepared south of Puniu River on Ngāti Maniapoto territory after the Battle of Orakau (March–April 1864), in case of further advance by the European army (Kelly 1939; Cowan 1983 I: 408; Phillips 1989: 202–203).

‘Entrenched hill near ... Hangatiki’ (Cowan 1983 I: 408).

Present condition not known.

---

Figure 44.  Rotoorangi Redoubt: unusual ‘star’ form for 1873 work with ‘ravelin’ outwork protecting the entry. Photo: Kees Sprengers, Waikato Museum Te Whare Taonga o Waikato, Ref. No M581-1 (1990).
WAIKATO WEST COAST

4.80 Kawhia A.C. Camp

R15/498 (2670200E 6347300N); recorded 1998.

Kawhia; north end of township on Hospital Hill, which is also the location of 1850s Ngāti Hikairo gun-fighter pā Te Puru and older Karereatua pā (R15/177).

The last Pākehā fortification put up in the New Zealand Wars or its aftermath; established October 1883 by 114 Armed Constabulary under Major Edmund Tuke, in response to Māori destruction of government beacons in Kawhia Harbour (AJHR 1884 H–1:.1; Cowan 1983 II: 474–475); 34 men were still at the post on 31 March 1886, before the Armed Constabulary was incorporated into the civilian police later that year.

Blockhouse and associated camp located on Te Puru pā gunfighter fortifications.

Level area and other earthworks on top of hill site may relate mostly to Te Puru pā; no definite Armed Constabulary archaeological evidence noted in 1998 site record.

4.81 Raglan Redoubt

R14/341 (2674650E 6376350N); recorded 2004.

Raglan; west end of Bow Street, between Nero Street and harbour.

Earthwork fortification put up around the courthouse and prison early in the Waikato War as a refuge for settlers (Cowan 1983 I: 249); garrisoned by the 2nd Waikato Regiment.

Courthouse sheathed in thick timbers and loopholed, with a ditch enclosing c. 1 acre (.4 ha) dug around the government buildings (Cowan 1983 I: 249).

Now built over and occupied by police station.

4.82 Waitetuna Redoubt

R14/133 (2679500E 6376600N); N64/174; recorded 1977, update 2005.

Raglan Harbour/ Whaingaroa; south side of the Narrows, on top of a ridge 400 m from end of Hawea Point.

Dates from Colonel Waddy’s end of December 1863 expedition to set up a supply line and line of control between the west coast and Waipa River; occupied by 300 Waikato Militia in early January 1864 (War Office 0270 I: 86). The route inland proved impracticable and was soon abandoned; the redoubt also abandoned, probably before 7 February 1864.

NZ Aerial Mapping photographs 830/7–8 and 831/9–10 and 2675/8 and 9 show a well preserved earthwork c. 44 × 44 m, apparently without bastions.

Under pasture and scattered trees, reported visible on the ground in 2005.