

3. Auckland

The first Auckland fortifications relating to the New Zealand Wars date from the 1840s fighting in the Bay of Islands (2), which was seen as a threat to the infant colonial capital. In the early 1860s, following the emergence of a Māori king in the Waikato, and contemporary with the First Taranaki War of 1860-61, a line of blockhouses was put up to defend the town, with other new blockhouses further out.

Most Pākehā military activity in the region relates to the Waikato War of 1863-64, when men and supplies were sent south to the fighting from Albert Barracks in central Auckland and camps at Penrose, Otahuhu and Drury, by way of the Great South Road. South Auckland works relate entirely to the Waikato War. Pākehā preparations for the war began at the end of 1861 with construction of the Great South Road to the Waikato River and the establishment of an associated chain of forts and camps. All works listed below are European, except for Kuketai's pa (3.19) which belonged to a chief allied to the government.

Auckland and district fortifications are listed under:

- Auckland city
- South Auckland

AUCKLAND CITY

3.1 Albert Barracks

R11/833 (2668000E 6481800N); N42/876; recorded 1979, update 2003; Heritage New Zealand Category I registration No 12 (wall remnant only); Fig. 19.

Auckland; Albert Park, University of Auckland, Princes Street, and adjacent roads and properties.

Prompted by 1845-46 fighting in the Bay of Islands, in 1846 tenders were called for building a stone barrack wall enclosing 22 acres (9 ha) in central Auckland. The work was finished in 1852. Inside were numerous stone and wooden barrack and other buildings. For much of the 1850s and 60s, the barracks were the headquarters of the British Army in New Zealand. The last regiment left in February 1870 and most of the wall was demolished from 1871 to 1873 (Clough & Associates 2003).

Largely destroyed but for a length of stone wall in the university grounds (Fig. 19); excavations in 1979 (Nichol 1979) and 2001 (Clough & Associates 2003) have recovered significant subsurface remains in area of undisturbed ground.

3.2 *Auckland blockhouses*

R11; no site records, not located; Fig. 20.

From about 1860, eight European blockhouses were put up around central Auckland (Lennard 1986: 205, 209-211). Their locations and other available information is given below.

1. Auckland Hospital grounds: three chains (60 m) northeast of Park Road corner. A brick building of cross plan (compare with Onehunga Blockhouse, 3.6); the building was later incorporated into a dwelling, and subsequently demolished for a hospital building.
2. Point Resolution: seaward end of St Stephens Avenue, Parnell.
3. Auckland Domain: on the ridge south of Auckland Museum, at or near the location of a World War II anti-aircraft battery; sold for removal in 1892.
4. Northeast of the Grafton and Carlton Gore Road corner, at or near the site now occupied by Whitecliffe College.



Figure 19. Albert Barracks loopholed stone wall, Auckland University grounds, Alfred Street. *Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.*

5. In the reserve immediately southwest of Symonds Street and Karangahape Road corner. Consisted of a cross plan brick blockhouse; originally probably within a stockade, but not when photographed c. 1870 (see Lennard 1986: 203, 210).
6. Northeast of Karangahape Road and Pitt Street corner.
7. Union and Nelson Streets corner.
8. Freemans Bay: at the corner of Victoria and Union Streets opposite Rob Roy Hotel (now Birdcage); in 1877 sold and demolished.

The blockhouse locations are marked on a contemporary map (Fig. 20); the existence of any remains is not known. Most or all the blockhouses were made of brick. See also Onehunga Blockhouse (3.6), Otahuhu Blockhouse (3.7) and Whau Blockhouse (3.9) from the same period.

3.3 Fort Ligar

R11/1636 (2667400E 6482100N); recorded 1987, update 1988.

Auckland CBD; in the block between Hobson and Federal Streets now occupied by Sky City Casino.

Built in 1845 as a response to the Northern War, but not completed and never used.

Archaeological excavations in 1988 located sections of the defensive ditch of a square earthwork c. 50 × 50 m, also a probable well, rubbish pit, ceramic and glass artefacts, stone and wood items (Smith 1989).

Destroyed by casino development and underground car parks.

3.4 Fort Richard

R11; no site record, not located.

Otahuhu; Sturges Park.

Established 1850s, abandoned before 1860 (Lennard 1986: 215).

Described as a redoubt by Lennard.

Destroyed by park development.

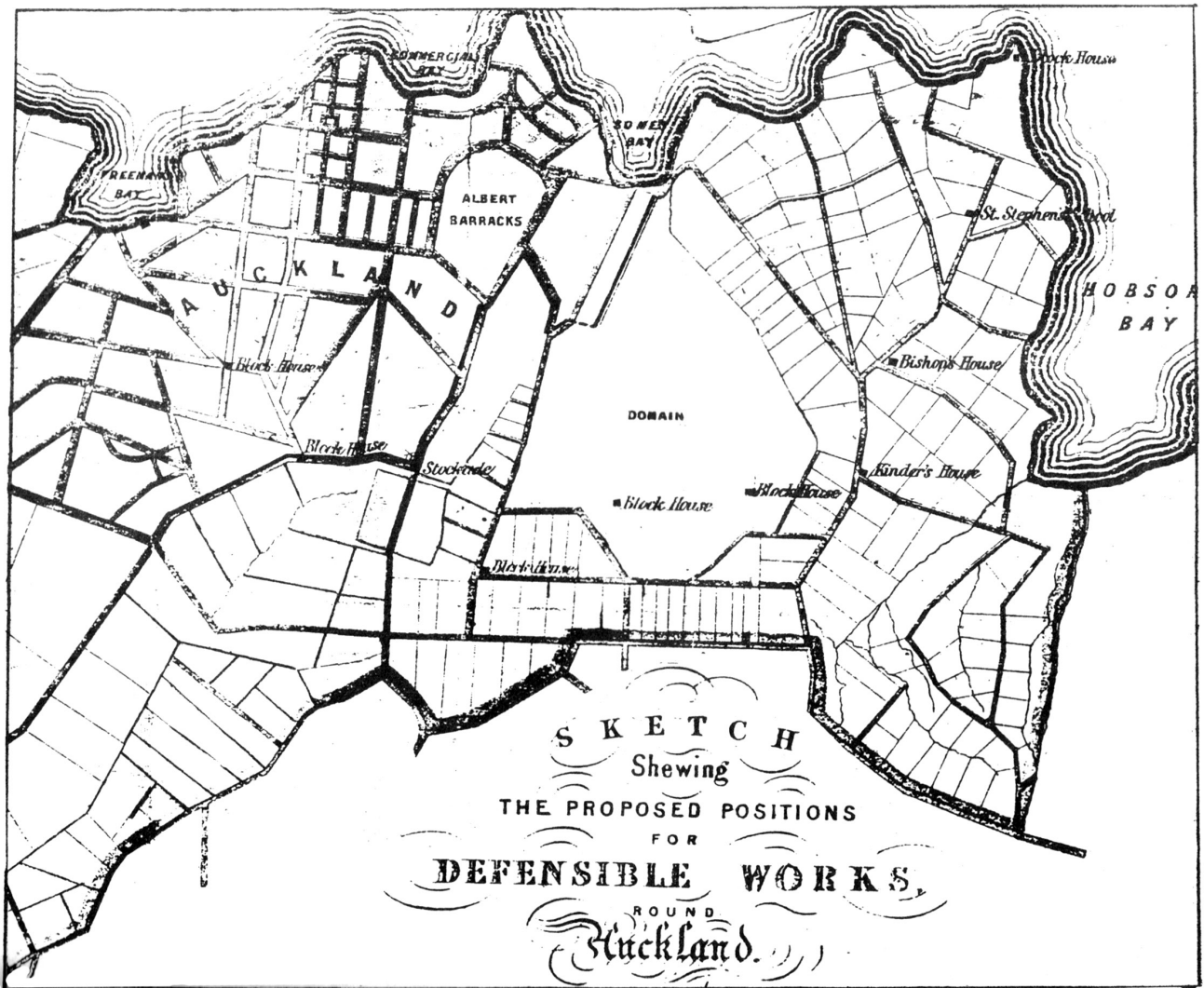


Figure 20. Auckland 1860 blockhouse locations. Plan by Colonel T.R. Mould, Royal Engineers, from Lennard 1986: 210.

3.5 Howick Stockade

R11/326 (2682150E 6477000N); N42/333; recorded 1976, updates 1981, 1998, 2005, 2006; Fig. 21.

Howick; Stockade Hill, off Ridge Road.

Established July 1863, for local defence at the start of the Waikato War when Māori forces in the Hunua Ranges threatened South Auckland.

Stockade 40 × 30 m with external ditch; bastion defence at northwest and southeast corners covered all sides.

Under grass in reserve; highly visible with an unknown amount of modern reconstruction of earthworks; World War I memorial at the centre of the earthwork; sealed path through the site; some erosion of the bank on the north side.

3.6 Onehunga Blockhouse

R11 (2669000E 6474400N); no site record; Heritage New Zealand Category I registration No 91.

Onehunga; 1 Park Gardens, Jellicoe Park.

Built in 1860 to a plan by Colonel Thomas Mould, Royal Engineers, completed November 1860 and occupied by Auckland Militia. Reported dilapidated in August 1863, although apparently held by militia to 1865 (Lennard 1986: 213).



Figure 21. Howick Stockade; the defensive ditch outside the stockade defence has been subject to reconstruction. *Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.*

Brick building of cross plan; the main part (east–west), 41 × 20 ft (12.5 × 6 m) is of two rooms with back-to-back fireplaces; two smaller square rooms, 12 × 12 ft (3.7 × 3.7 m), north and south make up the cross plan (Lennard 1986: 213).

Later used as a private school, council chambers and family dwelling; restored by NZ Historic Places Trust (now Heritage New Zealand) 1962–64.

3.7 Otahuhu Blockhouse

R11; no site record, not located; also Otahuhu Stockade.

Otahuhu; in the area of Hokonui and Hauti Roads.

Completed on 28 June 1860. Near the portage from Otahuhu Creek, Tamaki River, to Manukau Harbour. After the Waikato War it was used as a drill shed by Otahuhu Volunteers (Lennard 1986: 214).

Kauri and corrugated-iron blockhouse, surrounded by a stockade.

Present condition not known.

3.8 Panmure Redoubt

R11; no site record, not located.

Panmure; western end of bridge (Lennard 1986: 211).

Present condition not known.

3.9 Whau Blockhouse

R11/1815 (2661900E 6473750N); recorded 1993.

Blockhouse Bay; 8 Gilfillan Street; hence ‘Blockhouse Bay’.

Completed 1 June 1860 and first held by 14th Regiment (Lennard 1986: 214–215).

Cross-shaped building in earthwork on a commanding hill above Manukau Harbour (Lennard 1986: 215).

Demolished 1886; a depression visible in 1993 near the southern property boundary may mark the defensive ditch.

SOUTH AUCKLAND

3.10 Alexandra Redoubt

R12/141 (2682450E 6433300N); N51/17; recorded 1977, update 2004; Fig. 22.

Tuakau; at the end of Alexandra Redoubt Road, on a commanding hill 100 m above Waikato River; historic reserve.

On the day General Cameron crossed Mangatawhiri River to start the Waikato War, 12 July 1863, Colonel Wyatt led 300 men of the 65th Regiment from Drury to secure Waikato River traffic and the right flank of the Pākehā advance, arriving early the next day near Tuakau, a Ngāti Pou kāinga, and starting work on the redoubt overlooking the river. The post was later held by Waikato militia to October 1864 (Swarbrick 1984: 13–22; War Office 0270 I: 44–45). The name is after Princess Alexandra of Denmark who married Queen Victoria's eldest son, the future Edward VII, in March 1863.

Rectangular work c. 50 × 20 m, with bastion defence at two corners covering all sides. A stone path within the parapet is an unusual feature.

Under grass; outstanding condition in public ownership; a surrounding cemetery has destroyed some or all evidence of external buildings and other features; 365 steps to river (Lennard 1986: 83) were not found in 2004.

3.11 Baird's Hill Stockade

R12/184 (2686400E 6445200N); N46–47/185; recorded 1979.

Bombay, South Auckland; 100 m northeast of the Bombay and Portsmouth Road junction.

Camp established in 1862 for troops working on Great South Road to Waikato River, prior to the Waikato War. Abandoned before the war when a new fortified post was established on the Bombay ridge at Williamson's Clearing (Lennard 1986: 47).

The only known fortification is a 60 × 60 ft (18 × 18 m) square stockade for recalcitrant soldiers (Lennard 1986: 12), and so not strictly a defensive work.

Under pasture; no visible surface evidence.



Figure 22. Alexandra Redoubt, Tuakau. Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.

3.12 Bluff Stockade

R12/161 (2689700E 6434300N); N51/98; recorded 1980, updates 1995, 2004; Fig. 23.

Pokeno; on a hill above the Waikato River; access from the end of Bluff Road.

Located to secure the Te Ia landing place, at the end of the original Great South Road to the Waikato River, before the road was diverted through Pokeno to the Mangatawhiri Stream. Fifty men began work on the post 19 May 1862 (Lennard 1986: 18). The stockade was a transshipment and landing place for European river traffic throughout the Waikato War.

Rectangular stockade 50 × 46 ft (15 × 14 m); 14 ft (4.3 m) timbers had 4 ft (1.2 m) in ground and 10 ft (3 m) above (War Office 0270 I: 20). A sketch by the surveyor Percy Smith (Fig. 23) shows a stockade enclosing two buildings and a small yard.

Under pasture, some gorse, pine and gum trees at the scarp edge above river (1995). Built on the site of an older pā, likely to be the origin of five terraces below the stockade platform, which are reported in recent records (White 1995: App. 1).

3.13 Commissariat Redoubt

R12 (c. 2683100E 6453550N); no site record, not located.

Drury; immediately north of the Bremner Road bridge, between the motorway and Ngakoroa Creek.

Established in 1862 for troops working on the Great South Road. At the navigation limit for small vessels bringing supplies across Manukau Harbour from Onehunga.

Earthworks destroyed for construction of buildings on the site (Lennard 1986: 6).

3.14 Drury Redoubt

R12/123 (2683850E 6453550N); N46/156; recorded 1979, update 2004.

Drury; northeast of the Great South Road and Waihoehoe Road corner.

Redoubt for 50 men replaced the earlier Drury Settlers' Stockade (3.15).

No remains known to Lennard (1986: 6).

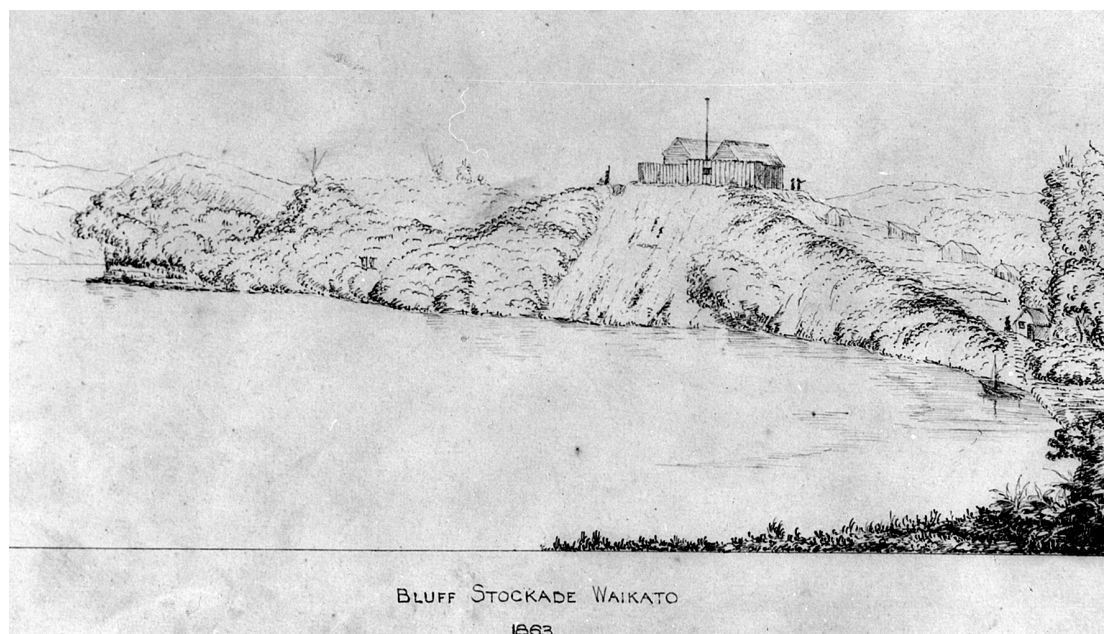


Figure 23. Bluff Stockade. S. Percy Smith, 1863, *Auckland Museum, MS281, 43, vol. 3 p. 80.*

3.15 Drury Settlers' Stockade

R12; no site record; not located.

Drury; west of Great South Road opposite Jolly Farmer Hotel, at the high point in the township.

Erected by local settlers early in Waikato War for a guard of 50 men; later replaced by Drury Redoubt (3.14) c. 200 m south (Lennard 1986: 6).

No known remains.

3.16 Galloway Redoubt

S11/533 (2692100E 6466400N); N43/663; recorded 1979; also Wairoa Redoubt.

Clevedon; 48 North Road.

Established in July 1863 as part of a Pākehā fortification line along the Wairoa River valley to Papakura, for control of Māori movement north from the Hunua Ranges. Held by Major William Lyon and 200 Auckland Militia. Name from Major General Thomas Galloway (Cowan 1983 I: 247; Lennard 1986: 100).

Lennard (1986: 101) describes a rectangle 80 × 30 yards (73 × 27 m) with bastions at two corners covering all sides; a drawing by Colonel Morrow shows internal arrangement of six rows of eight (?) bell tents (Cowan (1983 I: 291).

Levelled ditch and bank defences are behind and on the south side of the house at 48 North Road.

3.17 Kerr's Farm Redoubt

R12; no site record, not located; also Ramarama, York (from 65th York and Lancaster Regiment), Tuamata (after nearby Māori settlement), and Shepherd's Bush (Lennard (1986: 43).

Ramarama, South Auckland; west side of Great South Road opposite Ararimu Road.

A road-builders' camp was established at the location in early 1862. The redoubt was put up by troops of 65th Regiment at the end of July 1863 after the 17 July 1863 attack on a Great South Road convoy (see Razorback Redoubt; 3.27).

A 100-man redoubt.

Destroyed by farming, buildings and road.

3.18 Kirikiri Redoubt

R11/956 (2685750E 6459250N); N46/154; recorded 1978, updates 1994, 2002; also Ring's Redoubt.

Papakura; 931 Papakura–Clevedon Road.

On 18 July 1863, Captain James Ring and 200 of the 18th Regiment moved to Kirikiri on the Wairoa Road (now Papakura–Clevedon Road) to cover the end of Māori tracks through the Hunua Ranges (War Office 0270 I: 48); on 22 July 1863, troops from the redoubt fought Māori nearby.

Bastioned earthwork c. 40 × 40 m.

The east ditch and bastion survive under trees and pasture, otherwise destroyed by house and garden.

3.19 *Kukutai's pā*

R12/732 (2677100E 6435900N); recorded 1991, updates 2003, 2004.

Camerontown, Pukekohe; south end of Cameron Town Road, 50 m from Waikato River in historic reserve; see also site records for R12/731 ('landing') and R12/733 ('military depot').

Cowan (1983 I: 262) refers to '... a small pā on a hill, weakly stockaded' held by Ngāti Whāuroa under Waata Kukutai of Te Kohanga, guarding a Pākehā transshipment depot at Camerontown early in the Waikato War (War Office 0270 I: 57). Ngāti Maniapoto attacked the depot on 7 September 1863, destroying stores and sacking Kukutai's pā. Troops who came from Alexandra Redoubt were driven off, Colour-Sergeant McKenna being awarded the Victoria Cross for his leadership in the withdrawal (Cowan 1983 I: 262-264).

A transverse ditch cutting off 40 m of a narrow spur end is likely, but unconfirmed, evidence of Kukutai's pā.

Site in stable condition.

3.20 Lower Wairoa Redoubt

S11/534 (2693850E 6469200N); N43/664; recorded 1979.

Clevedon; '... at the present wharf and boat harbour near the mouth of the river' (Lennard 1986: 109).

Established 1863 to protect the landing place for vessels from Auckland, from which small boats took supplies up-river to Galloway Redoubt (3.16).

From an aerial photograph described as c. 60 × 60 ft (18 × 18 m); sometimes referred to as a stockade (Lennard 1986: 109).

Under pasture; Lennard was unable to see it on the ground.

3.21 Martyn's Farm Stockade

R12/183 (2685300E 6446400N); N46-47/184; recorded 1979; Fig. 24.

Ramarama, South Auckland; west of Great South Road and Ngakoroa Stream, now 'Martyn's Farm Estate' (Barton 1997).

Camp established in 1862 for troops working on the Great South Road to Waikato River prior to the Waikato War. Strengthened to protect Great South Road between Drury and Pokeno after the 17 July 1863 attack on a military convoy (see Razorback Redoubt; 3.27).

Stockade probably of irregular plan, 1.8-2.4 m high, enclosing the Martyn farmhouse and other buildings.

Largely or completely destroyed by the present subdivision and previous Ravensthorpe Hospital on the site.



Figure 24. 'Martin's Farm' (1864). A stockade has been erected around existing buildings, on the Great South Road, Auckland. Lieutenant Colonel E.A. Williams, Royal Artillery, pencil and watercolour on paper, Hocken Collections, Uare Taoka o Hākena, University of Otago, acc 78/133.

3.22 Papakura Redoubt

R12/120 (2683100E 6458000N); N46/152; recorded 1979; also Campbell's Redoubt after the officer in charge (Lennard 1986: 90).

Papakura: Methodist church site, Broadway.

Redoubt completed in August 1863, held by militia and some 65th Regiment; stables for 120 cavalry horses (Cowan 1983 I: 246; Lennard 1986: 90).

Earthwork details not known.

Site condition not known.

3.23 Papakura churches

Three Papakura churches were fortified early in the Waikato War (Lennard 1986: 90–91).

Christ Church (Church of England), west of Great South Road at the Queen Street corner, had walls filled with sand to 6 ft (1.8 m) and loopholed for defence.

Presbyterian church enclosed in 3 inch (75 mm) vertical planks, loopholed.

Methodist chapel east of Great South Road, taken over by the army Commissariat and a stockade erected around it.

3.24 Pokeno stockade

S12; no site record, not located.

Pokeno; '...on a hill west of the Queen's Redoubt' (Morris 1963: 143).

Fortification put up 1868 to reassure newly arrived European settlers coming into the district.

A stockade.

Site condition not known.

3.25 Pukekohe East Church Stockade

R12/741 (2683060E 6444100N); recorded 1995, update 1999.

Pukekohe East, South Auckland; Runciman Road, on a prominent site opposite Rutherford Road.

Church fortified as a militia post at the start of Waikato War. On 14 September 1863 c. 200 mostly Ngāti Maniapoto and Ngāti Pou used the cover of standing and felled trees to get close in an attack on the stockade, but withdrew when British troops arrived from Ramarama. Three Pākehā were killed in the fight, and six or more Māori, some of them now buried in the churchyard.

Stockade and external ditch c. 3 m out from church building enclosed an area c. 14 × 11 m; small bastions at the northwest and southeast corners covered all sides.

Earthworks at the front end and south side of church, front part of the north side and the southeast bastion have survived; the west side of the earthworks were largely destroyed by a 1920s addition to rear of church.

3.26 Queen's Redoubt

S12/23 (2690000E 6437500N); N46/188; recorded 1978; Fig. 25.

Pokeno; south end of town, between the Great South Road and Auckland–Hamilton motorway.

Location of the redoubt was fixed by General Cameron May 1862, to secure the south end of the Great South Road and put pressure on Waikato tribes. It was also to be a base for invasion of the Waikato, if required. In June 1862, 400 troops were working on ditch and bank defences and

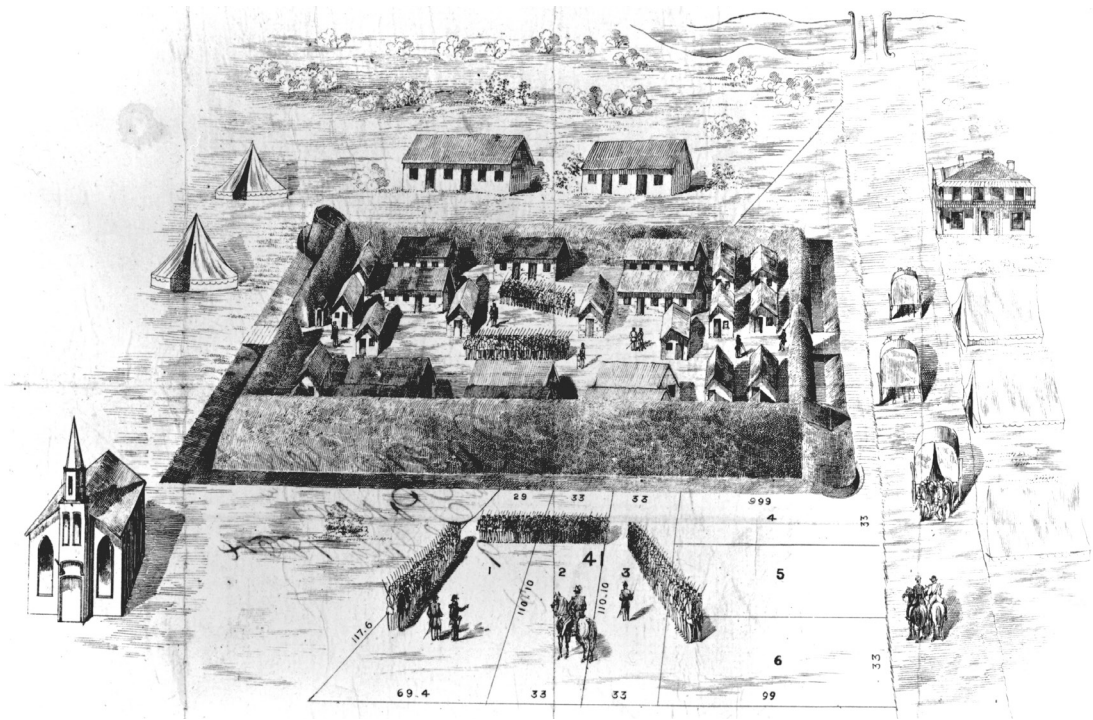


Figure 25. Queen's Redoubt, Pokeno: an 1864 drawing shows 27 buildings within the earthwork with two earth bastions; at right is the Great South Road and Queen's Hotel. Sir George Grey Special Collections, Auckland Libraries, NZ Map 4498-19.

accommodation huts. Cameron moved to the redoubt on 11 July 1863 and the next day crossed the Mangatawhiri River to commence the war. Queen's Redoubt was the invasion headquarters until the Battle of Rangiriri in November 1863, and remained the key post in a network north to Auckland, east to the Firth of Thames and south to the fighting front. Maintained to 1866; buildings sold in 1867 (Prickett 2003: 16).

At 100 × 100 yard (c. 91 × 91 m) square within the defences, an area of 8281 m² or 2.05 acres, with 27 huts accommodating 450 men, it was one of the largest European fieldworks of the wars (see also Camp Waitara, 9.26). Northwest and southeast bastions covered all sides; which incorporate blockhouses in two 1863 photographs (Prickett 2003: 18, 20), but are shown as earthworks in an 1864 drawing (Fig. 25). 1992 excavations showed a 2.4 m deep ditch, c. 2.4 m across the bottom and 4.8 m across the top (Prickett 2003: 25).

Most of the redoubt is now owned by the Queen's Redoubt Trust; the extensive associated camp has been largely destroyed by town development, roads, etc.

3.27 Razorback Redoubt

R12/185 (2687900E 6443000N); N46-47/186; recorded 1979; also Kakaramea Redoubt.

Bombay, South Auckland; 1.5 km south of Bombay township, on a prominent hill 200 m east of Great South Road.

After the 17 July 1863 Māori attack on a Great South Road military party (Cowan 1983 I: 255-257) 100 troops were ordered to: Kerr's Farm (3.17), Martyn's Farm (3.21), Williamson's Clearing (3.32), Razorback and Rhodes Clearing (3.28), to establish fortified posts 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 miles (5, 8, 9.5, 13 and 14.5 km) from Drury (War Office 0270 I: 48, App. 12). A Māori approach to Razorback Redoubt on 8 September 1863 gave rise to minor skirmishing (Cowan 1983 I: 261-262; Lennard 1986: 50).

Square or rectangular redoubt c. 20 × 20 m, with bastions at northeast and southwest corners covering all sides.

Under pasture; intact, but for the south side ditch which is destroyed by a fence.

3.28 Rhodes Clearing

R12/186 (2688100E 6441600N); N46-47/187; recorded 1979.

Pokeno, South Auckland; c. 100 m west of the Great South Road, behind a house 150 m north of the Nikau Road corner.

One of several camps set up in 1862 for troops working on Grey's strategic Great South Road to the Waikato River prior to the Waikato War. Later strengthened to protect the Great South Road between Drury and Pokeno after the 17 July 1863 Māori attack on a military convoy (see Razorback Redoubt; 3.27).

Square earthwork 30 × 30 m strengthened by logs laid inside the bank (Lennard 1986: 50).

Under pasture and trees; earthworks traceable in 1970 (Lennard 1986: 50), now indistinct.

3.29 St Bride's Church

R12 (2671150E 6442900N); no site record; Fig. 26.

Mauku; Findlay Road, 300 m from Mauku Road corner.

Hill-top site, the church was built in 1861; loopholes and an external timber layer were added early in the Waikato War.

Church in good order; loophole covers are picked out in darker colour.

3.30 St John's Redoubt

R11/534 (2678600E 6465950N); N42/560; recorded 1978, updates 1988, 2002; Fig. 27.

Manukau City; 100 m south of Redoubt Road next to Wilisa Rise, mostly in an historic reserve.

Established on 21 July 1863 by militia, overlooking the Great South Road; laid out by Charles Heaphy (Lennard 1986: 36); named after an officer in charge (Cowan 1983 I: 246).



Figure 26. St Bride's Church, Mauku: defensive loopholes are still marked on the walls. *Photo: N. Prickett, 1982.*

Square earthwork 50 × 50 m with large bastions at east and west corners covering all sides.

Under grass; distinct earthworks protected in reserve except for the west bastion in adjacent property (Fig. 27).

3.31 Wairoa Stockade

S11/949 (2692200E 6465900N); recorded 2002; also Settlers' Stockade to distinguish it from the later Galloway Redoubt (3.16) on the other side of Wairoa River.

Clevedon; east of Wairoa River, near Kawakawa Road.

Built early in the Waikato War by Auckland Provincial Government and held by 50–60 Wairoa Rifle Volunteers (Cowan 1983 I: 247; Lennard 1986: 106).

A 40 × 16 ft (12 × 5 m), corrugated-iron barn was shifted to the site and enclosed in a rectangular loopholed stockade (Cowan 1983 I: 247, 295).

Present condition not known.

3.32 Williamson's Clearing

R12/187 (2686500E 6444700N); N46-47/189; recorded 1979.

Bombay, South Auckland; west of Great South Road, 1 km north of Paparata Road corner (Auckland Historical Society 1993: 39).

Established by General Cameron for protection of the Great South Road between Drury and Pokeno, following the 17 July 1863 attack on a convoy (see Razorback Redoubt; 3.27).

The nature of any fortification is unclear; historic artefact finds include buttons and clay pipes.

The 1979 site record refers to crop marks; accurate location is needed.



Figure 27. St John's Redoubt from the south: most of the earthwork is in an historic reserve; a matching second bastion is largely destroyed in the neighbouring property at left. Photo: N. Prickett, 1992.