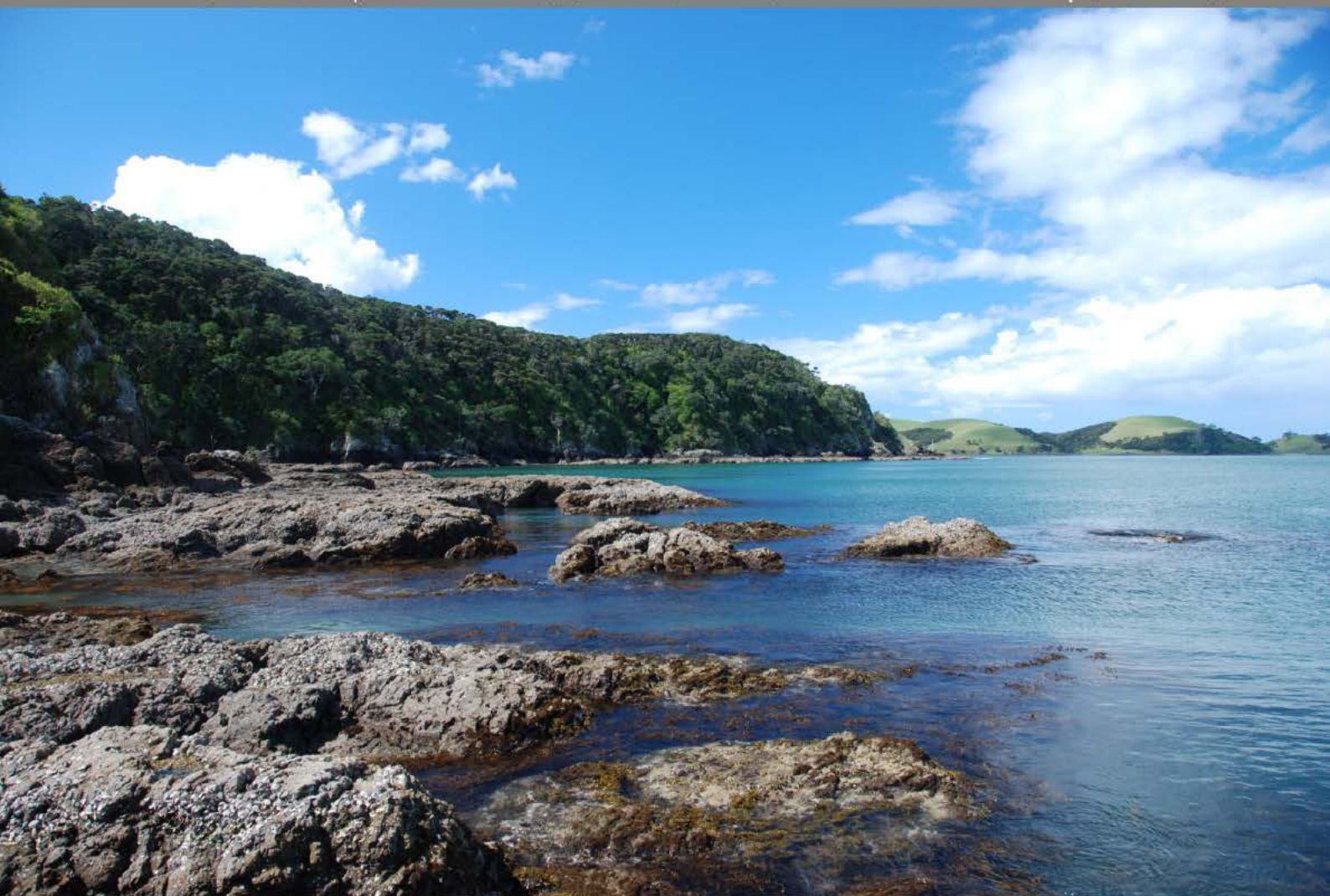




Akeake Historic Reserve Heritage Assessment



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Cover Image: Tareha Point and Akeake Pa, from near Tikorangi Island.

Site Overview

The Akeake Historic Reserve is located at Tareha Point, between the Kerikeri and Te Puna inlets in the north-western Bay of Islands. The reserve is approximately nine kilometres east of Kerikeri and is accessible via Opito Bay Road.

The Historic Reserve is 15.38ha in size and roughly triangular encompassing Tareha Point to the east, Tikorangi Island to the south, and another unnamed headland to the north. The Te Puna Marginal Strip No.4 runs west along the coastline from the north western corner of the reserve. Akeake Reserve is made up of Section 27, Part Section 28 and Section 29 Block VIII Kerikeri Survey District and Lot 1 DP 70065. Part Section 28 is the major part of the reserve, Section 29 is Tikorangi Island, and Section 27 and Lot 1 DP 70065 are two small parcels on the southern headland. The reserve is accessed from Opito Bay Road via Right of Ways on Lot 46 and Lot 47 DP 47619.

The main feature on the reserve is Akeake Pa itself, P05/439. A midden recorded as P05/1010 is located at the southern end of the reserve on the mainland opposite Tikorangi Island.

A GPS-based map of archaeological features was produced by DOC staff in 2010. This has been overlaid with recent aerial imagery and other geographic data in a Geographic Information System to produce a map of the reserve and archaeological features in the context of the surrounding landscape (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Akeake Historic Reserve.

History Description

Tareha Point is associated with the Ngati Rehia Chief Tareha (Tareha the Younger, also known as Kaiteke or Kemara), an ally of Hongi Hika and friend of the CMS missionaries at Te Puna, on the other side of the Te Puna Inlet, and Tareha of Te Tii. The Te Puna or Mangonui Inlet was known as Tareha's river or Tareha's bay to early European arrivals in the Bay of Islands.

Tareha the Younger participated with Hongi in the Ngapuhi taua or war parties during the musket wars. In the missionary period he controlled the Te Puna and Kerikeri Inlets along with Kaingaroa, Hongi Hika's brother and was the first to speak during the Chief's debate over the Treaty of Waitangi. Tareha of Te Tii spoke later and declined to sign the Treaty of Waitangi stating "No Governor for me - for us - we are the chiefs - we won't be ruled. What, you up, and I down - you high, and I Tareha, the great chief low? I am jealous of you, go back, you shan't stay. No, no, I won't assent ..." (Waitangi Tribunal : 58).

The area which included the land on the north side of the peninsula between the Kerikeri Inlet and the upper reaches of the Te Puna Inlet, between the central ridgeline and the coast was sold to Thomas Bateman by Kaitaka "or Kamera", "Akida", Hakero, and Tareha on 11 October 1839. The price for the land was a 10-ton schooner later valued at £140. The deed of sale states:

"This Indenture made the Eleventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine Between Thomas Bateman of the one part and Kai ta Ka, Akida, Tarreah native chiefs of the Bay of Islands New Zealand of the other Witnesseth that for and in consideration of One sailing boat complete value one hundred and forty pounds sterling in hand well and truly paid by the said Thomas Bateman to the said Kia ta ha, Aikada, Tarreah at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof and that the same is in full for the absolute purchase in fee simple of the land and premises hereinafter mentioned as also two cows they the said Kai ta Ka, Akida, and Tarreah do hereby acknowledge and thereof and therefrom and from every part thereof doth acquit release and discharge the said Thomas Bateman his heirs executors administrators and assigns by these presents they the said Kia ta ha Aikada and Tarreah have granted enfeoffed and confirmed and by these presents doth grant enfeoff and confirm unto the said Thomas Bateman his heirs and assigns that portion of land situated between Tarreah and Kiddy Kiddy river in the bay of Islands bounded to the West by Reid's land a creek dividing the boundaries to the Northward and on the opposite side of the river Tarreah Bookatoot running in a W S West direction to the first mark on the ridge of a Hill then running in a W S W to a second mark then due West to a third mark this last bearing is bounded by a Native footpath running in a west south west to a third mark then N West to a fourth mark then W S West to a fifth mark then West to the low point of the ridge of a hill this forming the extreme boundary on this side, To the South by land belonging to the church missionaries this southern boundary runs along the ridge of a hill in a South East and North West direction to a mark made by the said chief Kia ta ha the boundary then runs in an Easterly direction along the foot of a range of hills still bounded by the church missionaries, Wakadoa, and Mr. Small's lands to the bottom of a swamp. A small beach on the Tarreah side of the river and bearing from Captain

Leiche's House North East to be reserved for a native named — as also a small portion of wood the boundary of which is marked by the said chief Kia ta ha. The boundary then runs North east to the top of a hill marked then in an Easterly direction to another mark then South bounded by a footpath dividing it from Mr. Small's land to a mark it then trends east along the ridge of a hill still bounded by a footpath Mr. Small's and Mr. Edmond's land to the top of a Hill marked, from this mark the boundary then runs in an East South Easterly direction along the Kiddy Kiddy river to Pai ta nui The said Paitanui being fronted by the Island of Mootaroa this forming the extreme boundary to the East turning this point it trends up the Tarreah river to a piece or portion of land situated on the said Tarreah river and said to belong to Mr. Thomas Hanson running from thence along the said Tarreah river to the first boundary line at Reid's land. The water frontage of the boundaries on both rivers extends to low water mark, and in addition to this piece of land two cows as aforesaid And all the estate right title interest property claim and demand whatsoever of them the said Kia ta ha, Aikada and Tarreah of in to or out of the same or any part thereof To Have and to Hold the said land and premises hereinbefore granted and enfeoffed or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said Thomas Bateman his heirs and assigns To the only proper use of the said Thomas Bateman his heirs and assigns for ever And the said Kia ta ha Aikada and Tarreah for themselves and their heirs the said land and premises hereby granted and enfeoffed or intended so to be with the appurtenances unto the said Thomas Bateman his heirs and assigns will for ever warrant and defend against all persons whomsoever In witness Whereof we hereby affix our hand and seal.

*Thomas Bateman.
Ki ta ka x his mark.
Na te Hakiro.
Na Te Pa.
E Nata.
Tareha x his mark.*

*Witness—Etow x his mark.
Witness—Wm. S. Grahame.
Witness—John Macnee.
Witness—Walter Brodie.*

Received on the day of the date of the within written Indenture one sailing boat complete value one hundred and forty pounds sterling being the consideration within expressed to be paid.

*Kia ta ka x his mark.
Witness—Etow.
Witness—Wm. S. Grahame.
Witness—John Macnee.
Witness—Walter Brodie.*

Be it remembered that on the day of the date of the within written Indenture full and peaceable possession and seizin of the land therein comprised with the appurtenances was given and delivered by the within named Kai ta ha Aikada and Tarreah in their proper persons To hold the same unto and to the use of him the said Thomas Bateman his heirs and assigns for ever according to the tenor and effect of the same Indenture in the presence of us.

Wm. S. Grahame.”

A small piece of land including a beach and wood within the block was reserved for an unnamed “native”.

A narrative of the subsequent investigation of Bateman’s claim is provided in Berghan (2006: 38-1). On 5 November 1842 Bateman testified before the Land Claims Commission that although he never resided on the land, the sale had been un-contentious until approximately five or six months before his testimony. At that time Wiremu Hau (Te Whiu) of Ngaitawake protested the sale and stated his forefather had always been present on that land, but offered to withdraw his claim in exchange for a consideration of £20-25. Bateman refused to pay and Hau acknowledged the claim and sought payment from Kaitaka. Bateman also stated he had been promised two cows as part of the purchase but had not sought to collect them from the Maori owners.

Other members of Ngatiwai (Ngaitawake) also stated that their lands may have been included in the purchase without their consent. Tareha’s claim to the land was also on the basis of his forefather’s occupation although he had not lived there for 21 years. Hakiro also stated that Ngatahuhu lived on the land which he sold to Bateman and that the land of Wiremu Hau was excluded from the sale, although Bateman urged Hau to ask Tareha for compensation for the alienated land. The Waitangi Tribunal in its assessment of the old land claim described it as “a thicket of overlapping Maori rights” (ibid: 100).

Following the signing of the Treaty and the reassessment of prior land purchases, Bateman’s claim was reduced to 382 acres and then increased by Busby to 1200 acres in 1844 for no apparent reason. Despite the Land Commissioner’s recommending reserving land for the Maori claimants, this did not happen. Bateman then sold the un-surveyed or floating grant to William Smellie Grahame in 1849. That deed states:

“This Deed made the twenty-sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine Between Thomas Bateman of the Bay of Islands in the territory of New Zealand Sub-Collector of Customs of the one part and William Smellie Grahame of Auckland in the said territory Merchant of the other part Whereas by deed of grant dated the twenty-fourth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four under the hand of Robert FitzRoy Esquire Governor and Commander in Chief of the said territory and its dependencies and under the seal of the said territory Her Majesty Queen Victoria did grant unto the said Thomas Bateman his heirs and assigns all that allotment or parcel of land in the said territory said to contain one thousand two hundred acres more or less situated between the Tareha and Kiri Kiri rivers as the same is in said deed of grant and hereafter more fully set forth and described And whereas the said Receipt for £348 6s. William Smellie Grahame hath agreed with the said Thomas Bateman for the absolute

purchase of the said allotment or parcel of land at or for the price or sum of three hundred and forty-eight pounds six shillings and hath requested a conveyance thereof Now this Deed Witnesseth that in consideration of the sum of three hundred and forty-eight pounds six shillings sterling paid by the said William Smellie Grahame to the said Thomas Bateman the receipt whereof the said Thomas Bateman hereby acknowledges he the said Thomas Bateman doth hereby convey and assure unto the said William Smellie Grahame his heirs and assigns for ever all the aforesaid allotment or parcel of land in the said territory of New Zealand said to contain one thousand two hundred acres more or less situated between the Tareha and Kiri Kiri rivers and of which the boundaries of the entire quantity claimed are reported to be as Boundaries. [1,200 acres.] Certain lands excepted. follows, vizt., "Bounded on the West by Reed's land, On the South and East by land belonging to the Church Missionaries to Mr. Small and Mr. Edmonds and the river Kiri Kiri, and on the North by the river Tareha" excepting the twenty acres claimed by John Reed and all the portion claimed by Wiremu Hau and the part reserved for the Native (name unknown) which can be pointed out by the Chief Kamera with all the rights and appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonging To hold unto the said William Smellie Grahame his heirs and assigns for ever And the said William Smellie Grahame doth hereby declare that no widow whom he may have shall be entitled to dower out of the land hereby conveyed and assured or out of any part thereof. In Witness whereof the said parties have hereunto subscribed their names.

Thomas Bateman.

Signed by the above-named Thomas Bateman in the presence of—

Wm. Climie, Agent, Russell, Bay of Islands. Samuel Stephenson, Merchant, Russell, Bay of Islands.

Wm. S. Grahame.

Signed by the above-named William Smellie Grahame in the presence of—

Christopher Atwell Harris, Settler, Auckland. John Roberton, Gentleman, Auckland."

Grahame was a Scottish trader who arrived in Auckland in the 1840s and established major land holdings in Northland, Auckland and Waikato. Grahame had the land surveyed by William Tacey Clarke and Grahame paid an additional £50 to unnamed Maori to settle outstanding claims (perhaps those of Wiremu Hau). The total area surveyed was 1827 acres with 1157 acres granted to Grahame, and 128 acres designated surplus to the Crown. An additional 542 acres went to the Crown in 1858 under the terms of the Bay of Islands Settlement Act. Compensation of £948 was paid to Grahame for the latter. The final grant was not issued by the Crown until 1864 and no Maori reserves were ever established on the land. The name Akeake is shown on the point on Old Land Claim 16, "The Akeake" property of William Smellie Graham. Akeake is an expression made by Maori warriors when fighting or defending a position and means "Forever, forever", and it is also the Maori name for the tree *Dodonaea viscosa*, the strong wood of which was used to make traditional weapons.

The land remained in private hands until the 1960s when it was reserved following subdivision of OLC 16. The 37 acre Akeake Scenic Reserve comprising Section 28 and 29 Block VIII Kerikeri SD and illustrated on SO 43133 was gazetted on 29 May 1962. Following an inspection by S. Bartlett on behalf of the Lands and Survey Department and the Bay of Islands Historic and Maritime Park Board in 1979, the reserve was reclassified historic in 1980 under the Reserves Act 1977. The track network was formalised, and a barrier placed above the cliff at the eastern end of the pa in 1986. Management of the reserve passed to the Department of Conservation upon its establishment in 1987 and since that time maintenance and upgrading of the visitor amenities has occurred in an ad-hoc fashion, with a link to Pukewhau Road created by local volunteers in 2000-2001, new interpretational signage (never erected due to miscommunications with and between Tangata Whenua), and a new viewing platform/safety barrier in 2009.

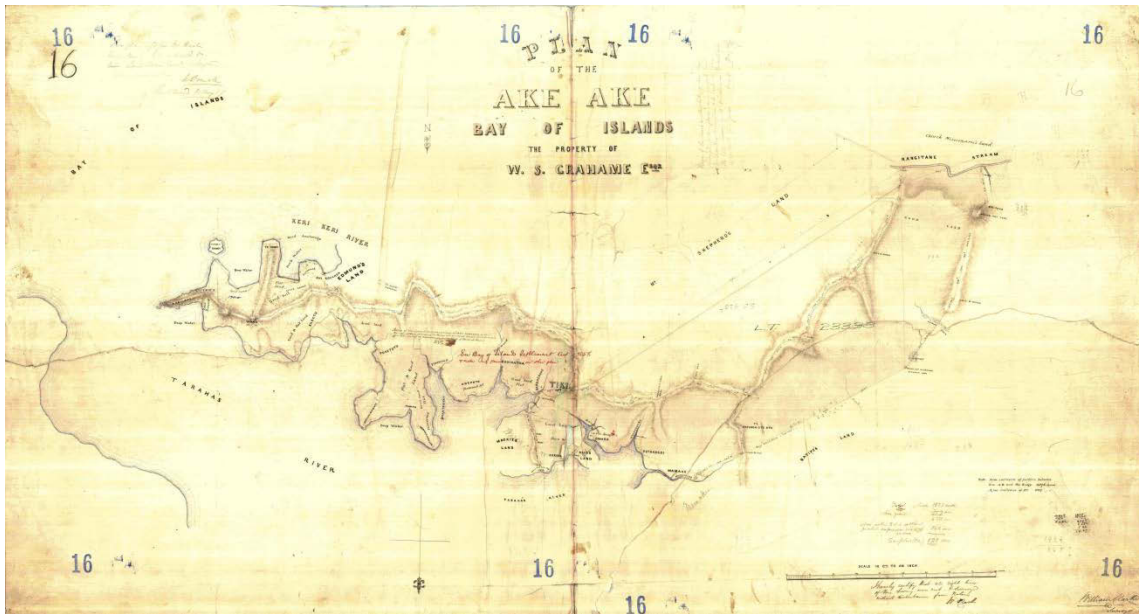


Figure 2: Old Land Claim 16 (ca.1849).



Figure 3: Tareha Point, Tikorangi Island and Opito Bay, 1973. Whites Aviation. ATL WA-71134-F.

Fabric Description

Akeake or Tareha Pa is a medium sized headland pa defended by a deep transverse ditch and bank earthwork. It was recorded as archaeological site P05/439 by S. Bartlett in 1979. He visited the site at the request of the Lands and Survey Department and the NZ Historic Places Trust and on behalf of the Bay of Islands Historic and Maritime Park Board which managed the reserve. The purpose of the visit was to assess whether the reserve should be gazetted as Historic or Scenic.

He recorded the eastern and central part of the pa site, noting its well preserved ditch and bank defences cutting off the headland, within which lay terraces with house sites and still-functioning drainage channels. He produced a sketch map of features he noted on the reserve including terraces on Tikorangi Island, midden along the track around the headland opposite Tikorangi, house sites outside the defences of the pa, and the pa itself. He also made a more detailed map of the features of the pa noting at least six terraces divided by scarps and a reticulated network of shallow drainage channels taking water off the living areas. He also recorded a disturbed fire place.

The terraces on Tikorangi Island, and midden on the headland opposite, below the track to the pa, have not been allocated their own site numbers or otherwise re-recorded.

Bartlett provided a letter report to the Lands and Survey Department and noted that the established kanuka scrub and lack of topsoil development had made the site unappealing to stock leading to the good preservation of features. He noted that more features would be present to the west along the remaining part of the headland presently under dense scrub, and that other features probably existed on the slopes north of the pa. He also recommended that owing to the historic associations with Chief Tareha and the excellent preservation of the site (which he suggested meant it was a relatively late pa), that the property be gazetted as an historic reserve.

Despite the preservation of the features suggesting a relatively recent origin, the site does not bear any of the hallmarks of a musket wars era gun-fighting pa, so its defensive works probably predate the general introduction of muskets in 1817. There is no documentary or archaeological evidence suggested the pa was still occupied into the missionary period and the site's heyday may have been in the late 18th and early 19th century as Ngapuhi were expanding and consolidating their position in the Bay of Islands.

The site was revisited by G. Nevin in 1984 as part of the Northland Harbour Board's Bay of Islands study, which included a historic and archaeological technical report (Nevin 1984). She recorded more features on the eastern end of the pa, which Bartlett had suggested were present.

P05/432 is a terrace complex just west of the western boundary of the reserve, between the boundary and Pukewhau Road. The site was also recorded by G. Nevin during the Bay of Islands survey noted above. At that time the site consisted of a 10 x 8m tihi or platform on a high point with a smaller terrace 40cm below and the east measuring 7.5 x 6m. A house was built on the southern edge of the site. The site was located on the track between Tareha Pa and Pukewhau Pa to the east. The site has not been revisited.

Pukewhau Pa, which is also on private land was the first site recorded in the area, in 1971. It was recorded by the R. Lawns as P05/22. At that time it was in good condition and covered in manuka, ferns and scrub. The site consisted of well-formed terraces with a raised rim around the tihi platform with excellent views up the Te Puna and Kerikeri Inlets. Dense vegetation prevented a detailed inspection at that time. By 1973 part of the site had been bulldozed as part of the development of Opito Bay as a bach community, and the Bay of Islands County Council had not reserved the pa as part of the on-going subdivision. G. Nevin re-recorded the pa in 1984 and noted the summit was completely covered in sweet peas with peach trees and rose bushes at the southern end. She recorded a 50m long tihi with terraces down slope to the north and west with a large slip and midden between these and the bulldozed track below.

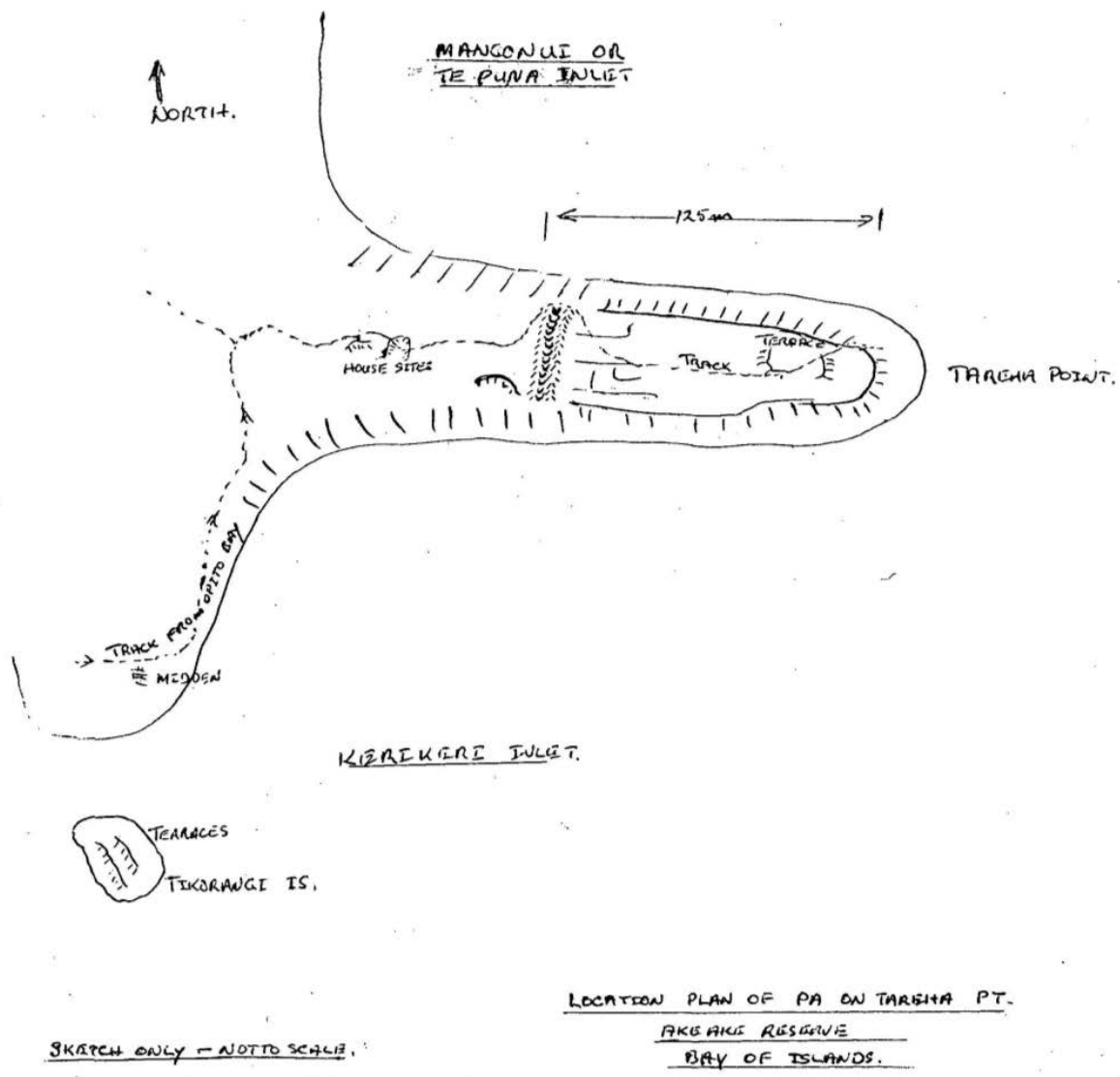


Figure 4: Original location map by S. Bartlett, 1979. NZAA Site Record P05/439.

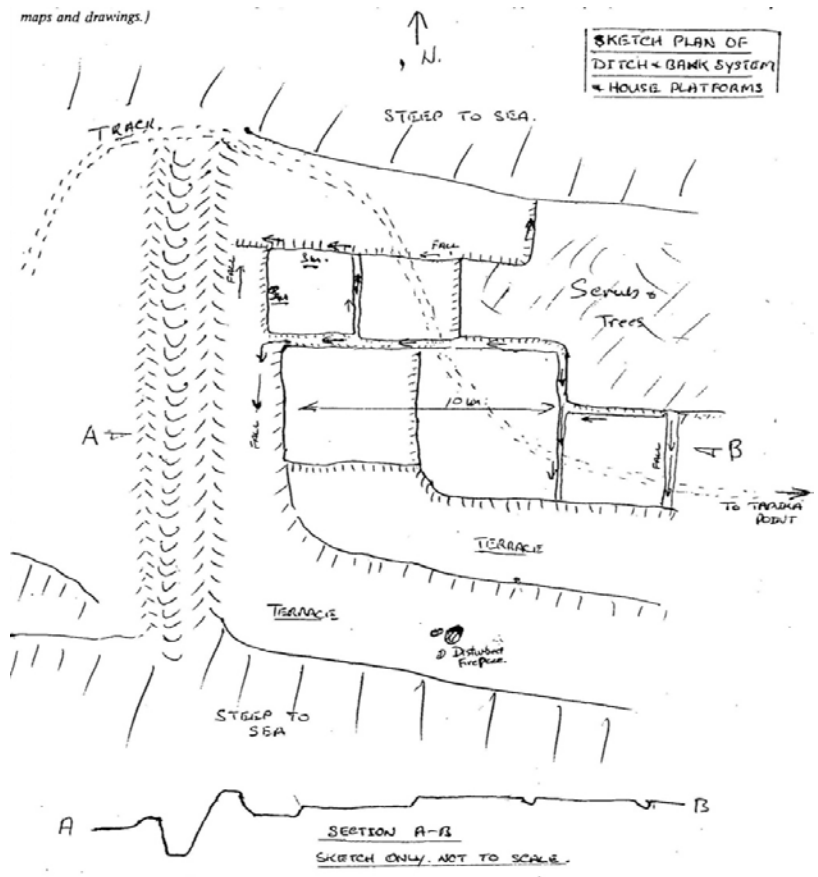


Figure 5: Original site map by S. Bartlett, 1979. NZAA Site Record P05/439.

Additional information by G.E. Nevin, September 1984
 Bay of Islands Maritime and Historic Parks Board
 P5/439

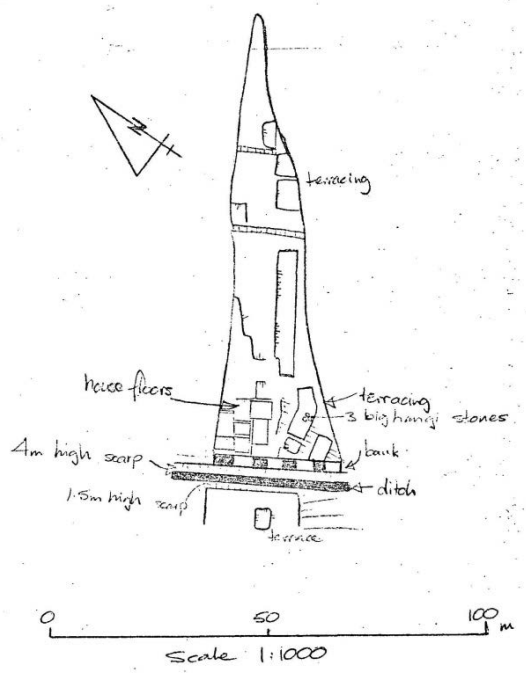


Figure 6: Site map by G. Nevin, 1984.

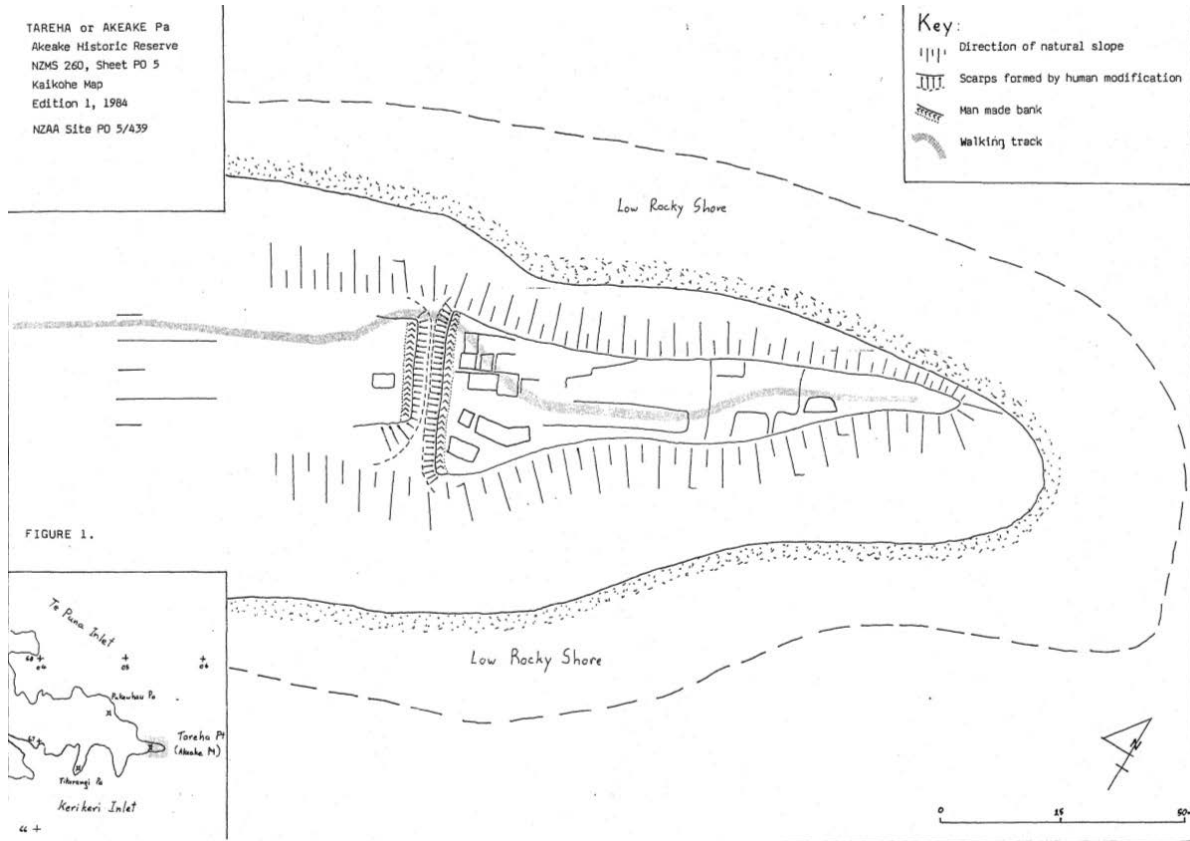


Figure 7: Plan of pa by J, Robinson, n.d.

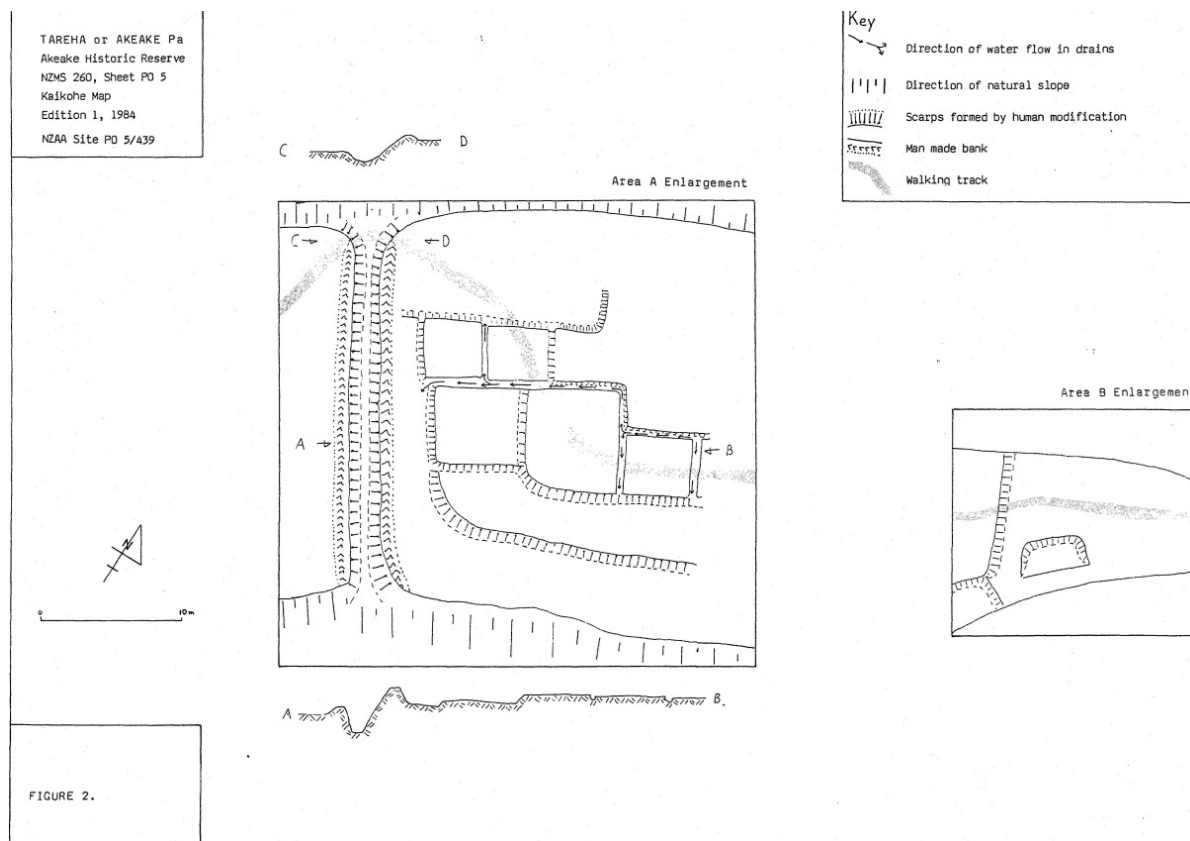


Figure 8: Plan of drainage channels by J. Robinson, n.d.

**TAREHA POINT PA
AKE AKE HISTORIC RESERVE**

Not to scale
Perspective

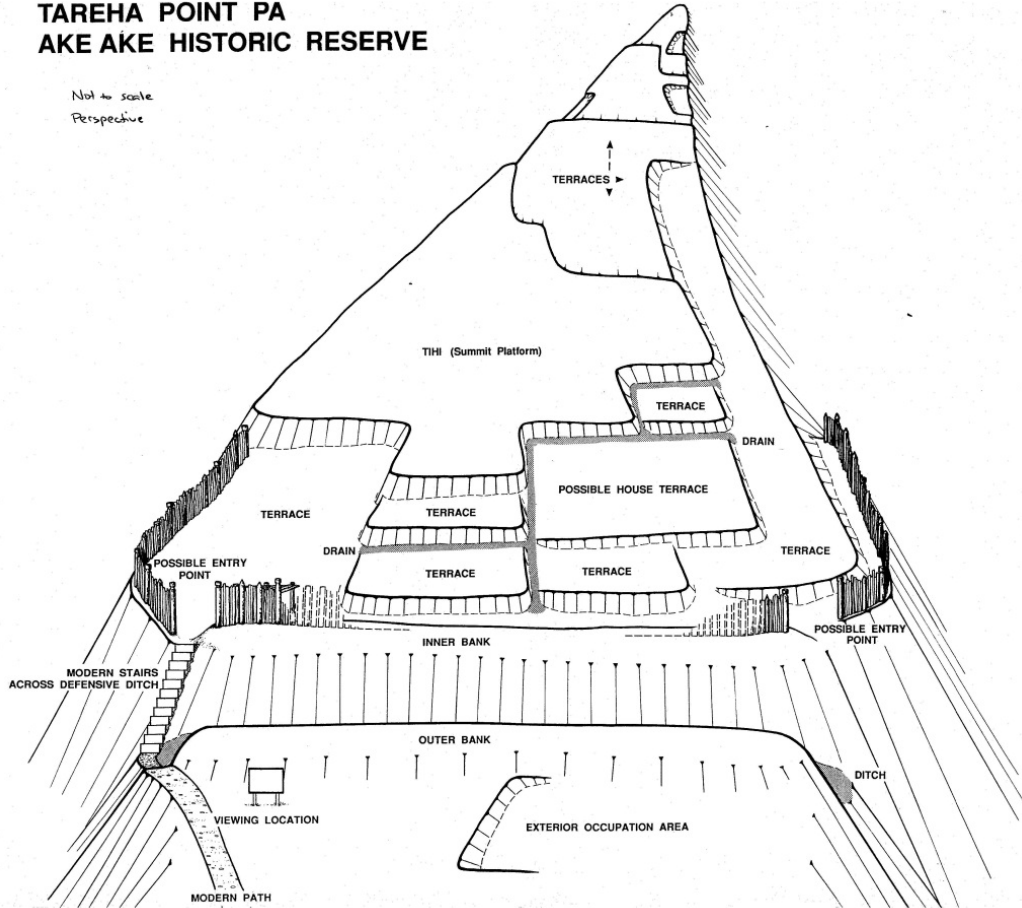


Figure 9: Interpretive illustration of pa by J. Robins, n.d.

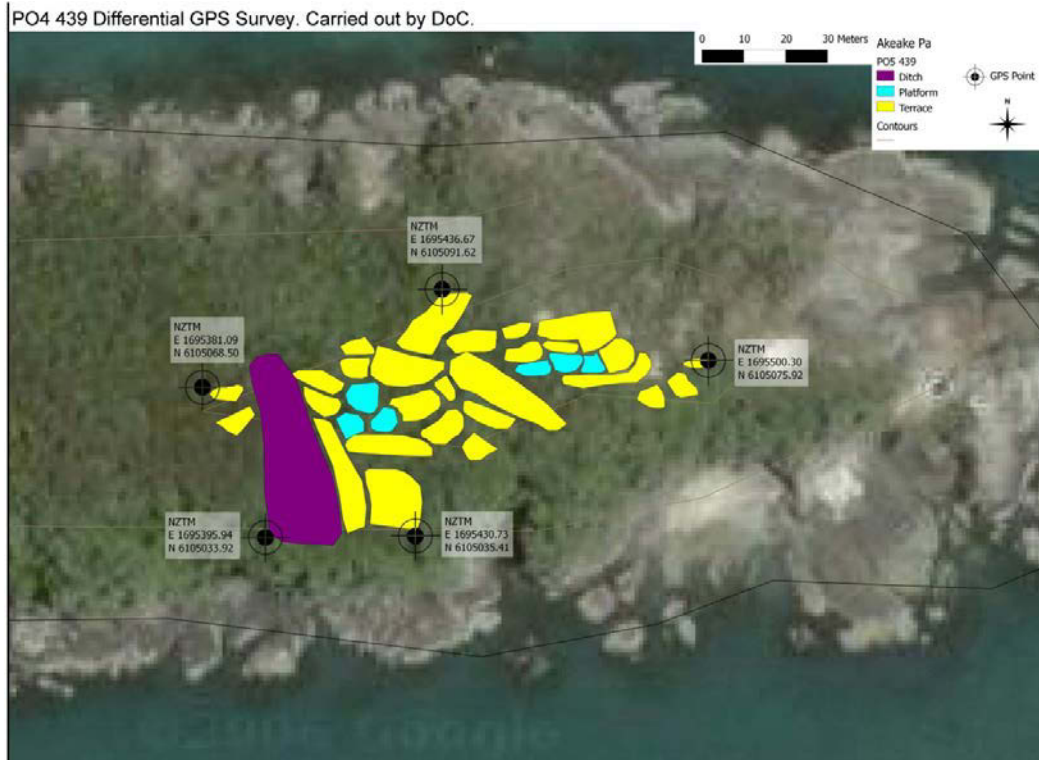


Figure 10: GPS map of features. A. Blandshard 2010.

Cultural Connections

Akeake Historic Reserve and Tareha Point are in the rohe of Ngati Rehia and Ngaitawake and are associated with their ancestor Tareha.

National Context Sources

There is no national context source available in order to provide a comprehensive basis for assessing the national (representative) significance of Akeake as a pre or proto-historic Maori archaeological landscape. However general references for pa and kainga include Davidson (1982, 1984) and area studies of pa in the upper North Island including Irwin (1985) and Sutton (1991, 1993) and Sutton, Furey and Marshall (2003). Furey (n.d.) has also produced a Northland Archaeological Resource Statement which summarises the archaeology of the region, its values, and the threats that it faces. This report was prepared for the Department of Conservation and remains in draft form and limited circulation.

Historic Significance

Akeake Pa and associated sites are significant in part owing to their association with named ancestors and key events in the proto-historic period as Ngapuhi and then European missionaries established themselves in the Bay of Islands.

Fabric Significance

Akeake Pa and its associated sites are significant as a largely intact example of a pre- or protohistoric archaeological landscape that is typical of the east coast of the northern part of the North Island; a large central headland pa and dispersed undefended kainga nearby represented by terrace complexes. The collection of cockles and pipi from nearby muddy shore and estuarine environments, and inshore and offshore fishing would have been key subsistence activities in the area. The small amount of midden around the reserve probably reflects the poor conditions for preservation is not reflective of the importance of coastal subsistence strategies.

The pa site is in good condition although features have been modified by vegetation growth, visitor activity and natural erosion. Terrace scarps and defensive ditch and banks are obvious, and although drainage channels have been in-filled by duff they are also still visible. The preservation of the drainage channels around the terraces and their visibility on the surface is relatively rare, with Okuratope at Waimate North and Ngaungau Pa/Poor Hill at Ohaewai being two of the few other well-known examples of sites with such well-preserved drainage features.



Figure 11: Tareha Point looking north from Titoki Island.



Figure 12: Viewing platform at end of Tareha Pa.



Figure 13: Boardwalk over defensive ditch.



Figure 14: Defensive ditch (1m scale).



Figure 15: Looking along drainage channel towards bank and ditch (1m scale).



Figure 16: Scarp at rear of terrace, outside defences (1m scale).



Figure 17: Tikorangi Island from loop track.



Figure 18: Tikorangi Island from Opito Bay.



Figure 19: 2007 slip and archaeological material.



Figure 20: Grey black cultural layer containing cockle shell, charcoal and fire cracked rock.

Cultural Significance

The sites are significant due to their associations with named ancestors of Ngati Rehia and Ngaitawake. The land was acquired under dubious circumstances and despite recommendations no Maori reserve land was ever established. Pa sites are also generally considered wahi tapu.

Management Recommendations

Akeake does not require much in the way of active management. The features on the pa site are relatively stable and do not appear to be suffering to any great degree from natural or human induced erosion, with the exception of water running down the unformed walking track which provides access along the top of the ridgeline to the end of the point.

Monitoring

Quarterly monitoring should be undertaken with photo points established on the defensive earthworks, terraces with drainage channels, and a selection of other points.

Vegetation Management

The existing regime of vegetation management along the track network should be maintained by DOC staff. The vegetation immediately either side of the boardwalk over the defensive ditch should be removed to allow for views along this feature and consideration should be given to removing vegetation at the base of the ditch. The manuka on the pa is unlikely to get much larger or cause much damage by way of tree fall as dead trees tend to be caught by their neighbours and then rot down in place. It is possible that larger species on the edge of scarps may cause more damage and this should be monitored and specimens in these areas removed if they become a problem. Vegetation along the drainage channels should be removed as these small but important features are more sensitive to damage from root action.

Interpretation

The HAMS costed specification for remedial work and improvements at Akeake Historic Reserve stated that high quality interpretation was the only component needed at the reserve to provide a high quality experience. Unfortunately interpretational signage was developed in 2005-6 but has never been erected owing to miscommunication with and between Tangata Whenua. A new approach should be made to Ngati Rehia and Ngaitawake about resurrecting the signage.

There is no detailed information about Akeake available on the internet, apart from visitor information and a précis of the traditional history of the site. This Heritage Assessment and other public documents should be made available on the DOC website.

Track

The loop track to the pa and around the southern end of the reserve is not metalled; lacks water tables and culverts and becomes slick during rain. The Department intends to upgrade the track in the medium term.

Survey and Mapping

The reserve has not been intensively surveyed for other archaeological sites and features, and these are likely to exist. Tikorangi Island should be surveyed, along with the ridgeline running north from the southern headland, the slopes between the pa and the beach to the north, and the ridgeline running back to Pukewhau Road and P05/472.

Although several plans of the drainage network on the pa exist, these are not particularly detailed having been produced by pace or tape and compass and plane table and alidade. There is a general indication of fall direction and length but given the rarity of such features and their fragility, an accurate and detailed topographic survey by theodolite is warranted, preceded by the clearing out of the features by hand.

Management Chronology

- 1839 Sold to Thomas Bateman.
- 1849 Sold to Willieme Grahame.
- 1864 Crown grant confirmed.
- 1962 Gazetted as Akeake Scenic Reserve.
- 1978 Archaeological inspection recommends Historic Reserve status, following Reserves Act 1977.
- 1980 Reclassified as Akeake Historic Reserve.
- 1986 Barrier built at end of point.
- 1995 Boardwalk and stairs over defences constructed.
- ~2000 HAMS costed specifications developed.
- 2001 Track to Pukewhau Road established by ratepayers group/volunteers.
- 2006 New interpretation signage produced.
- 2007 Major storms and slip opposite Tikorangi Island.
- 2008 Historic Ranger inspects slip and notes archaeological material.
- 2009 New viewing platform built to replace existing barrier under HPT Authority 2010-138.
- 2010 Track from Opito Bay to ridge and down to beach upgraded.
- 2011 B. Warren builds retaining wall in the esplanade reserve.

Management Documentation

The key document is the HAMS costed specification (2000).

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