

## Camp Opunake Timeline

1864 Jun 27			“Ministers are led to believe that there are landing places, some of them hardly inferior to the road-stead of New Plymouth, at which troops, materials for the forts or blockhouses, and supplies could be landed without serious difficulty. The Patea river, Waimate, and Te Ngamu are said to be places of this description.” <sup>1</sup>
1865 Apr	Mid		Horopapara, Te Ua & family were removed from Matakupu on the south bank of the Waiana River, Opunake <sup>2</sup>
1865 Apr 28	Fri		Steamship ‘Wanganui’ leaves New Plymouth <sup>3</sup>
1865 Apr 29	Sat	Early am	‘Wanganui’ arrives off Harriet Bay <sup>4</sup>
1865 Apr 29	Sat	5.30pm	Colonel Warre & staff return to ‘Wanganui’ <sup>5</sup>
1865 Apr 29	Sat	6.00pm	‘Wanganui’ leaves for New Plymouth <sup>6</sup>
1865 Apr 29	Sat	10.30pm	‘Wanganui’ arrives at New Plymouth <sup>7</sup>
1865 Apr 30	Sun		Preparations made for overland expedition to Opunake <sup>8</sup>
1865 May 01	Mon	7am	One company of military settlers, some bushrangers & transport leave New Plymouth <sup>9</sup>
1865 May 01	Mon	Midday	Edward Stockman, Interpreter; Colonel Warre & staff & a few mounted natives leave New Plymouth <sup>10</sup>
1865 May 02	Tue		Whole force reaches Te Namu <sup>11</sup>
1865 May --			Mortar fired twice <sup>12</sup>

<sup>1</sup> AJHR 1864 Section E2 page 69 Papers relative to Native Affairs – Memorandum for His Excellency the Governor by Frederick Whitaker 27 June 1864

<sup>2</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 2 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>3</sup> Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 The Month

<sup>4</sup> Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook’s Strait

<sup>5</sup> Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook’s Strait

<sup>6</sup> Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook’s Strait

<sup>7</sup> Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook’s Strait

<sup>8</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>9</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>10</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>11</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

1865 May 06	Sat	Evening	'Wanganui' left for Opunake but had to turn back due to bad weather <sup>13</sup>
1865 May 07	Sun	Morning	Colonel Warre, Robert Parris & mounted men march to New Plymouth <sup>14</sup>
1865 May 07	Sun	Morning	Arama Karaka came to Opunake with 10 men to sign declaration within an hour of Warre's departure <sup>15</sup>
1865 May 10	Wed		'Wanganui' arrives at Opunake at daylight <sup>16</sup>
1865 May 10	Wed		Arama Karaka comes down Waiau with 14 men <sup>17</sup>
1865 May 10	Wed	Noon	'Wanganui' and Robert Parris depart <sup>18</sup>
1865 May 10	Wed		'Ahuriri' leaves Manukau for Opunake <sup>19</sup>
1865 May 22	Mon		Lieutenant Ferguson at New Plymouth is asked to construct a tramway at Opunake <sup>20</sup>
1865 May 31	Wed		Lieutenant Ferguson replies re tramway at Opunake <sup>21</sup>
1865 Jun			Hone Pihama Te Rei Hanataua submitted to Government at Opunake <sup>22</sup>
1865 Jun 01	Thu		George Single, Clerk of Works, Royal Engineers provides more information re Opunake tramway <sup>23</sup>
1865 Jun 01	Thu		Watino skirmish – 4 killed – 1 European, 3 Maori – 2 Maori injured; <sup>24</sup> 4 of Titahi hapu killed <sup>25</sup>
1865 Jun 01	Thu		'Ahuriri' arrives at Opunake and lands 150 men of the 70 <sup>th</sup> Regiment <sup>26</sup>
1865 Jun 01	Thu		'Ahuriri' leaves Opunake and arrives at Wanganui <sup>27</sup>

<sup>12</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>13</sup> Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Shipping Intelligence – Steamship 'Wanganui', 174 tons, Captain Linklater

<sup>14</sup> Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Expedition to Opunake

<sup>15</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>16</sup> Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Shipping Intelligence – s.s. Wanganui, 174 tons, Captain Linklater

<sup>17</sup> AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

<sup>18</sup> Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Shipping Intelligence – s.s. Wanganui, 174 tons, Captain Linklater

<sup>19</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 Arrival of the s.s. Ahuriri – “a Government hired transport” -Captain Shuttleworth

<sup>20</sup> Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 22 May 1865 to the Resident Royal Engineer, New Plymouth

<sup>21</sup> Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 31 May 1865 Lt Ferguson to Col Mould, commanding Royal Engineers

<sup>22</sup> Ian Church. 'Te Rei Hanataua, Hone Pihama', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara - Encyclopedia of New Zealand, updated 30-Oct-2012

<sup>23</sup> Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 01 Jun 1865 written by George Single, Clerk of Works, Royal Engineers

<sup>24</sup> Nelson Examiner and New Zealand Chronicle 08 Jun 1865 News of the Day

<sup>25</sup> Ngāti Ruanui – A History by Tony Sole (2005) p268

<sup>26</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865

1865 Jun 03	Sat		Private Patrick O'Neill dies and his body is taken to New Plymouth via 'Ahuriri' <sup>28</sup>
1865 Jun 03	Sat	2pm	'Ahuriri' arrives at Opunake – leaves at 5pm <sup>29</sup>
1865 Jun 04	Sun	8am	'Ahuriri' arrives at New Plymouth <sup>30</sup>
1865 Jun 05	Mon	Noon	'Ahuriri' left New Plymouth with Colonel Warre, 60 bushrangers & 50 sheep <sup>31</sup>
1865 Jun 05	Mon	3.30pm	'Ahuriri' arrives at Opunake – also letter for Captain Carthew of No.4 Company Taranaki Military Settlers <sup>32</sup>
1865 Jun 07	Wed		Colonel Weare & 600 men proceeded from Patea Camp to Waingongoro <sup>33</sup>
1865 Jun 07	Wed		Colonel Warre, a portion of the 70 <sup>th</sup> regiment & some bushranges march south from Opunake <sup>34</sup>
1865 Jun 08	Thu		Colonels Warre and Weare meet at Taikatu <sup>35</sup>
1865 Jun 11	Sun		'Ahuriri' encounters heavy weather at Opunake; <sup>36</sup> Two Maori are 'captured' at Opunake <sup>37</sup>
1865 Jun 19	Mon		Letter to Captain Carthew to be ready to embark on arrival of Captain Page <sup>38</sup>
1865 Jun 30	Fri		Letter written by Major Pitt re Opunake tramway expenditure chargeable to Colonial Funds <sup>39</sup>
1865 Jul 05	Wed		Work on building whares for the Troops started with two Friendly Natives cutting raupo <sup>40</sup>
1865 Jul 13	Thu		Seven Friendly Natives work only half a day each cutting raupo and flax <sup>41</sup>
1865 Jul 14	Fri		Fifteen Friendly Natives cutting toi toi, raupo and flax <sup>42</sup>

<sup>27</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865

<sup>28</sup> New Zealand Herald 12 June 1865 New Plymouth

<sup>29</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865

<sup>30</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865

<sup>31</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865

<sup>32</sup> ATL Reference: qMS-1447 Letter book of the Military Settlers Office, New Plymouth. Letter No.956 Capt Cumming to Capt Carthew 04 Jun 1865

<sup>33</sup> Nelson Examiner 17 Jun 1865 Meeting of Troops from Wanganui and Taranaki

<sup>34</sup> Nelson Examiner 17 Jun 1865 Meeting of Troops from Wanganui and Taranaki

<sup>35</sup> Ngāti Ruanui – A History by Tony Sole (2005) p268

<sup>36</sup> Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 Arrival of the s.s. Ahuriri – Captain Shuttleworth

<sup>37</sup> New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian 14 Jun 1865 Wanganui

<sup>38</sup> ATL Reference qMS-1447 Letter book of the Military Settlers Office, New Plymouth. Letter No.977 Capt Cumming to Capt Carthew 19 Jun 1865

<sup>39</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 30 Jun 1865 Maj Pitt to Private Secretary, Government House, Wellington

<sup>40</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

<sup>41</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

1865 Jul 18	Tue	Work on road from beach to cliff top started <sup>43</sup>
1865 Jul 19	Wed	Eighteen Friendly Natives cutting poles and supplejacks in the bush <sup>44</sup>
1865 Jul 29	Sat	Ten Friendly Natives cutting timber in bush for whares <sup>45</sup>
1865 Aug 03	Thu	Eleven Friendly Natives cutting rods and assisting to thatch whares <sup>46</sup>
1865 Aug 04	Fri	Captain Carthew's Company arrives at New Plymouth from Opunake <sup>47</sup>
1865 Aug 22	Mon	Lieutenant Ferguson advised to proceed with Opunake tramway <sup>48</sup>
1865 Aug 23-24	Wed-Thu	No work done on road <sup>49</sup>
1865 Aug 24	Thu	Four Friendly Natives finishing off the whares <sup>50</sup>
1865 Aug 29	Tue	The detachment of the 43 <sup>rd</sup> Light Infantry under the command of Captain Horan occupy the whares <sup>51</sup>
1865 Sep 16	Sat	Road completed <sup>52</sup>
1865 Oct 07	Sat	Colonel Warre forwards Captain Horan's application for road expenses recompense to Auckland <sup>53</sup>
1865 Oct 17	Tue	Lieutenant Ferguson granted authority to expend £32 on constructing Opunake tramway <sup>54</sup>
1865 Oct 18	Wed	Colonel Warre advises £32 not needed but £50 would cover the cost of the road <sup>55</sup>
1865 Oct 27	Fri	Colonel Warre's request that remuneration be granted for work on the road is approved <sup>56</sup>

<sup>42</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

<sup>43</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Report dated 23 Sep 1865 by Captain Thomas Horan, Camp Opunaki

<sup>44</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

<sup>45</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

<sup>46</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

<sup>47</sup> ATL Reference qMS-1447 Letter book of the Military Settlers Office, New Plymouth. Letter No.1041 by Lt-Col Lepper 04 Aug 1865

<sup>48</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 22 Aug 1865 Colonel Mould to Major Pitt

<sup>49</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Working Roll of the Road making party Jul-Sep 1865 by Captain Thomas Horan

<sup>50</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter

<sup>51</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Letter dated 29 Aug 1865 Captain Horan, Camp Opunaki to Deputy Assistant Quarter Master

General, New Plymouth – reporting the occupation of whares by the Detachment 43<sup>rd</sup> Light Infantry

<sup>52</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Report by Captain Horan, Camp Opunaki 23 Sep 1865 – Item 2

<sup>53</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Colonel Warre to the Assistant Military Secretary 07 Oct 1865

<sup>54</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Lt Ferguson to Deputy Adjutant Quarter Master General 17 Oct 1865

<sup>55</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Colonel Warre, New Plymouth to the Assistant Military Secretary 18 Oct 1865

<sup>56</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Major George Dean Pitt to the Private Secretary, Government House 27 Oct 1865

1865 Nov 21	Tue	Sub Treasurer Taranaki is instructed to pay £45 for work on the road <sup>57</sup>
1865 Dec 17	Sun	Capt Livesay, Lt Pearson, 2 sergeants & 47 rank and file 43 <sup>rd</sup> Regiment depart on 's.s. Ahuriri' for Opunake <sup>58</sup>
1865 Dec 18	Mon	John Wilkinson, Interpreter at Opunake, takes charge of 35 Natives for active service under Capt Corbett <sup>59</sup>
1865 Dec 19	Tue	Sub Treasurer Taranaki is to pay £38 8s 9d for "hutting the troops at Opunaki." <sup>60</sup>
1866 Jan 02	Tue	Te Ua Haumene signs declaration of allegiance <sup>61</sup>
1866 Jan 30	Tue	General Chute orders Captain Livesay, 43 <sup>rd</sup> Light Infantry, to march north with 100 men from Opunake <sup>62</sup>
1866 Feb 01	Thu	Chute Force of 450 men moves south from Haungatahua River <sup>63</sup>
1866 Feb 02	Fri	General Chute's field force arrived at Opunake and Te Ua Haumene is made a prisoner <sup>64, 65</sup>
1866 Feb 06	Tue	Chute column arrives at Patea <sup>66</sup>
1866 Feb 09	Fri	Night
1866 Feb 09	Fri	W. Kingi Matakatea and Jeremiah go over to the rebels & supposed to have gone inland to Omorua Pah <sup>67</sup>
1866 Feb 11	Sun	W. Kingi Matakatea, Heremaia and 40 or 50 of their followers "had gone over to the enemy" <sup>68</sup>
1866 Feb 13	Tue	W. Kingi Matakatea's place inland, Nukuteapiapi, was attacked, captured and burnt <sup>69</sup>
1866 Feb 15	Thu	Colonel Syngé, 50 men of 43 <sup>rd</sup> Regt and 50 bushrangers accompany convoy from Warea to Opunake <sup>70</sup>
1866 Feb 20	Tue	Night
		Wm King Matakatea's places are attacked again <sup>71</sup>
		A Native who left Opunaki with letters passed four rebel encampments between there and Warea <sup>72</sup>

<sup>57</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Annotation to letter Major Pitt to Private Secretary 07 Nov 1865 dated 21 Nov 1865

<sup>58</sup> Taranaki Herald 23 Dec 1865 Shipping Intelligence

<sup>59</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 35/ct CD 1866/1779 Letters Lieut-Col Lepper to Major Parris 16 Dec 1865

<sup>60</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Colonel Haultain's response to letter written by Major Pitt, Wanganui 12 Dec 1865

<sup>61</sup> Lyndsay Head. 'Te Ua Haumene', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara updated 30-Oct-2012

<sup>62</sup> Chute's Campaign by H. R. H. Livingston, Alexander Turnbull Library Reference MS-1152

<sup>63</sup> The New Zealand Wars and the pioneering period by James Cowan Volume II Cameron's West Coast Campaign – page 70

<sup>64</sup> Diary of Edward Strickland – entry for 02 Feb 1866, Alexander Turnbull Library Reference qMS-1934 [MS-Copy-Micro-0787]

<sup>65</sup> Chute's Campaign by H. R. H. Livingston, Alexander Turnbull Library Reference MS-1152

<sup>66</sup> The New Zealand Wars and the pioneering period by James Cowan Volume II Cameron's West Coast Campaign – page 70

<sup>67</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 34/m CD 1866/1291 Report of Captain Livesay, 43rd Regiment written at Camp Opunake to General Chute dated 09 Feb 1866

<sup>68</sup> Taranaki Herald 17 Feb 1866 Military Movements

<sup>69</sup> Taranaki Herald 17 Feb 1866 Military Movements

<sup>70</sup> ATL Reference MS-Papers-4968 Military Diary of Thomas Tatlock, G. Company, 43rd Light Infantry

<sup>71</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Letter Robert Parris to Native Minister Wellington 17 Feb 1866

- 1866 Aug 13  
1866 Oct Te Ua Haumene writes to Mr Halse from Opunake and provides names of those killed at Pokaikai<sup>73</sup>  
Te Ua Haumene died at Oeo – possibly of tuberculosis<sup>74</sup>
- 1867 Early Robert Parris, Civil Commissioner in Taranaki attended to “the acquisition of the site of Opunake”<sup>75</sup>
- 1867 April Taikomako, the successor of Te Ua, on hearing that the troops were about to be withdrawn from Opunake and Warea, expressed his satisfaction, saying that in that case they (the Taranakis) should cease doing anything more at the pakehas; but it is probable that by the withdrawal of the troops they understand the giving back to them of all their land south of the Stoney River, and when they find themselves mistaken in this their good behaviour may be of short duration.... Opunake will be garrisoned in future by the late Arama Karaka’s people, in whose charge the redoubt and buildings will be left. It is said the Government intend supplying these natives with guns and ammunition, but we can hardly credit it.<sup>76</sup>
- 1867 May  
1867 May 02 Thu Opunake Redoubt is given up by the 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment<sup>77</sup>  
Troops gone – Hauhaus cut down flagstaff in redoubt<sup>78</sup>
- 1867 Jun 11 “... martial law across the province, having been lifted, a grant of 50,000 acres of confiscated land was made to William King and Arama Karaka and members of their hapu, both resident and absentee. This was the Opunake block which extended from the Mototoi River (Oaonui) to the Taungatara.”<sup>79</sup>

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<sup>72</sup> Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Letter Robert Parris to Native Minister Wellington 22 Feb 1866

<sup>73</sup> AJHR 1868 Section A3 Report of the Pokaikai Commission page 24

<sup>74</sup> Lyndsay Head. 'Te Ua Haumene', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara updated 30-Oct-2012

<sup>75</sup> Ian Church. 'Parris, Robert Reid', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, updated 30-Oct-2012

URL: <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/biographies/1p8/parris-robert-reid>

<sup>76</sup> Lyttelton Times 26 Apr 1867 Taranaki – page 3

<sup>77</sup> An Illustrated History of Taranaki by Gail and Ron Lambert (1983) page 47

<sup>78</sup> The New Zealand Wars and the pioneering period by James Cowan Volume II Cameron’s West Coast Campaign – page 535

<sup>79</sup> Opunake and District Centennial 1865-1965 Souvenir Booklet – Early History – Opunake District