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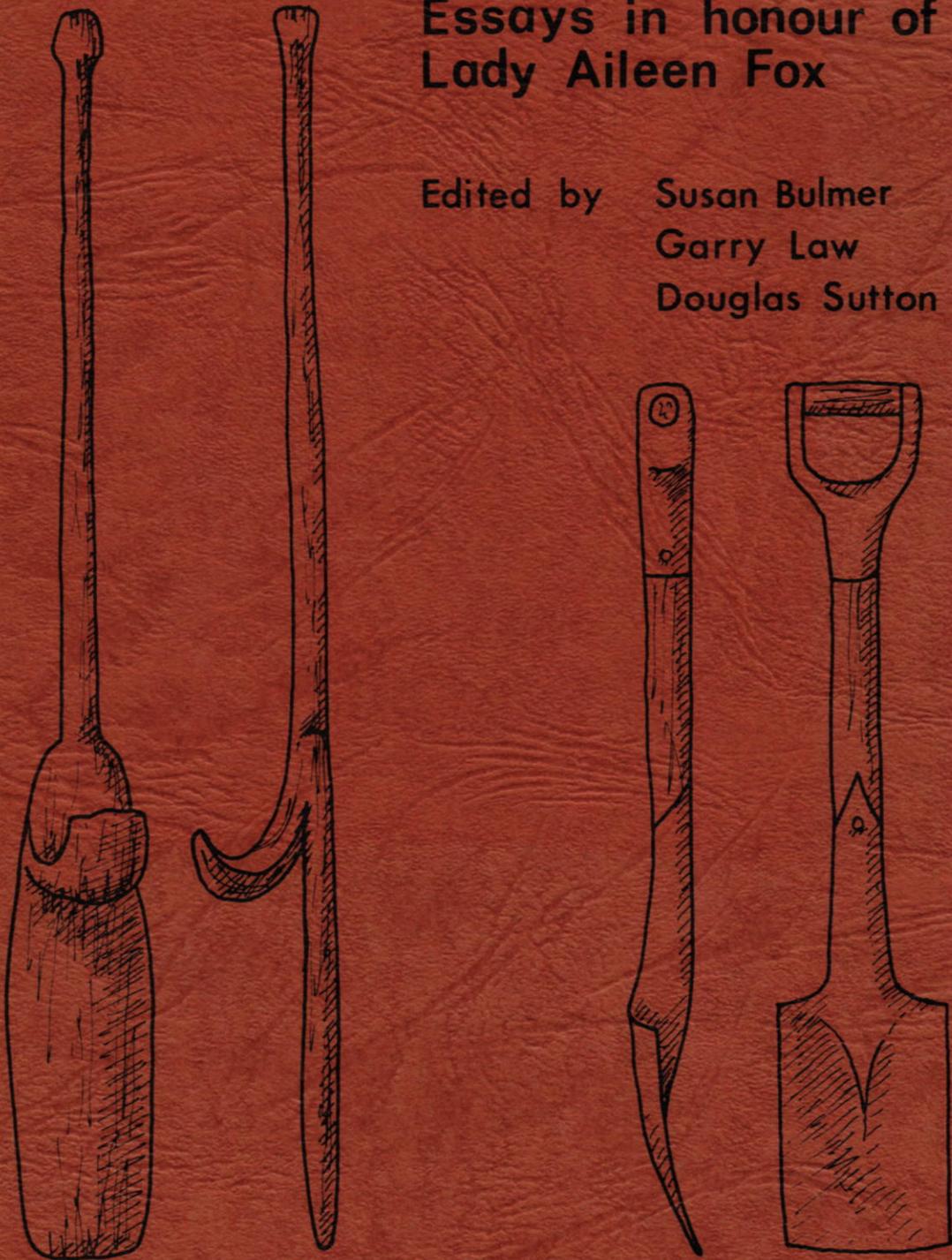
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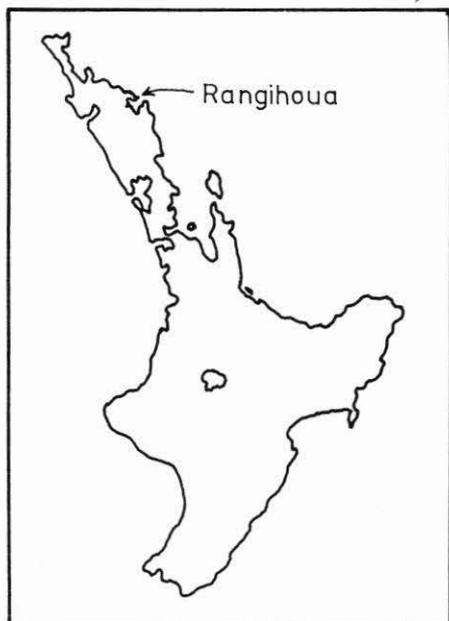
A LOT OF SPADEWORK TO BE DONE

Essays in honour of
Lady Aileen Fox

Edited by Susan Bulmer
Garry Law
Douglas Sutton



RANGIHOUA PA AND OIHI MISSION STATION, PURERUA PENINSULA, BAY OF ISLANDS



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Canberra.

Introduction

In the first half of the 19th century, Rangihoua paa and Oihi Church Mission Society Station (CMS) (1814-1832) on the Purerua Peninsula existed as a special combination of Maori and European settlement in the Bay of Islands.

An archaeological field survey completed in 1979 was related to 19th century written and pictorial records to reveal the lifestyle of the local inhabitants. These historical records document a change from a well populated region in the 1800's to one of almost total depopulation by the 1830's. The survey, which is described in detail elsewhere (Spencer 1982), was by planetable-microptic alidade, Abney level, compass and metric tape, at a plotted scale of 1:200, and surface area was measured by a compensating polar planimeter.

Augustus Earle, travel artist and writer, who visited and painted Rangihoua and Oihi in December 1827, was special amongst European observers in New Zealand for the period before 1840.

'...he alone lived with the Maoris for a considerable period, sharing their quarters, acquiring their language, attempting to comprehend their customs and beliefs. His unprejudiced outlook resembled that of a modern field-worker...'

(McCormick 1966:vi)

Thus his four watercolour views of Rangihoua paa and Oihi Mission Station provide a unique opportunity to relate village structures of a hilltop paa in 1827 with the current landscape of 1979. Copies of the Earle watercolours were used during the archaeological survey, to allow comparisons to be made, and detailed discussion of them will follow. The original Augustus Earle paintings were also closely examined in the Rex Nan Kivell collection, National Library of Australia.

Vegetation

The vegetation landscape of the Purerua Peninsula has altered from continual burnoffs, according to historical records spanning 169 years. J.L. Nicholas (1817, 1:170) in 1814, Charles Darwin (1839:497), and William Yate (1835:15) in 1835 - all record a fern covered landscape with small clusters of trees in the valleys. In 1864 a photograph taken by the Reverend John Kinder, of the eastern flanks of Rangihoua paa and the hillslopes of the former Oihi Mission Station, records regenerating manuka - kanuka scrub over areas of former settlement (Fig. 1). Grazing activities in the 1960's, for sheep and cattle farming by the Patterson Brothers (1979, pers. comm.), were marked by regular burnoffs of the surface vegetation.

A botanical survey by Esler (1973) of the Rangihoua Valley watershed indicates there was regenerating kanuka vegetation in gullies adjacent to Marsden Cross (formerly the Oihi Mission Site). This species replaced previous areas of gorse-manuka growth and is also associated with small pockets of mature puriri, and other



Fig.1 John Kinder's "Rangihou, Bay of Islands - 1864."

broadleaved species.

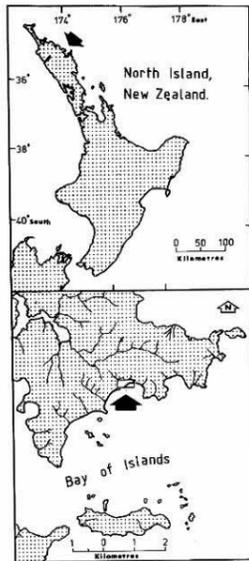
Politics

In the early 1800's Rangihoua paa was the dominant settlement on the Purerua peninsula of the Ngati Rehia, a subtribe of the Ngati Pou of Whangaroa. This paa was controlled by Te Pahi (Nicholas 1817,1:171) until his death in 1810 at the hands of whalers following the Boyd affair (McNab 1914:140).

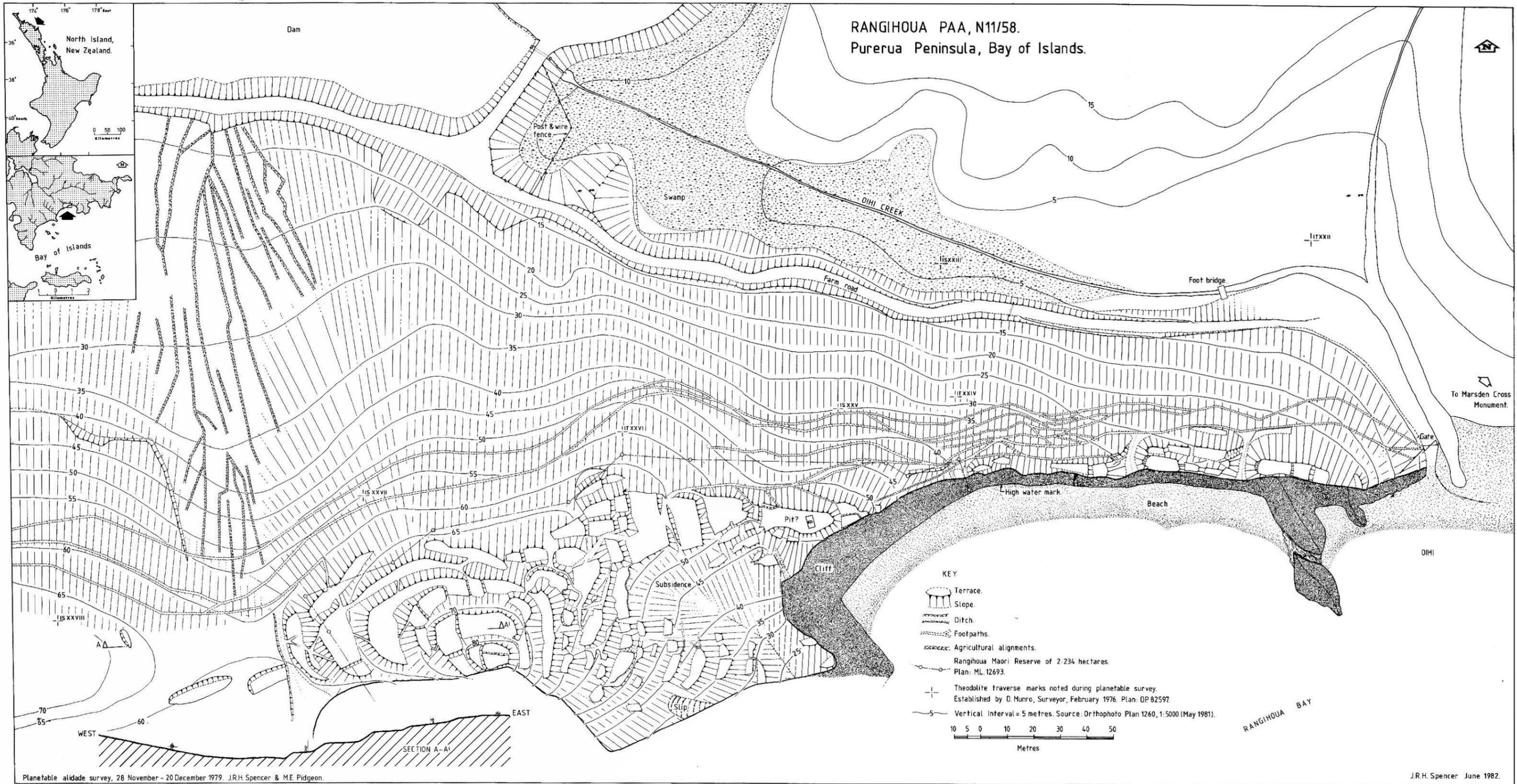
On Te Pahi's death, intense tribal warfare and internal strife erupted throughout the Bay of Islands (Havard-Williams 1961:46). This involved Nga Puhi from the Waimate - Kerikeri districts, Ngati Rehia from the Purerua - Whangaroa area and the Ngare Raumati hapu in the south east Bay of Islands. By ca 1813 the situation had stabilised, with the Nga Puhi - Ngati Rehia hapu emerging as the dominant tribal force in the region. The Ngati Rehia of Rangihoua-Te Puna by 1814, were dominated by pro Nga Puhi interests (Elder 1932:166). Hongi Hika, a Nga Puhi from Kororipo paa Kerikeri, was noted by 1819 to be supervising the construction of an agricultural village at the nearby plantation of Te Puna (Elder 1932:177).

Samuel Marsden, as Principal Chaplain of New South Wales, desired to set up a mission settlement in New Zealand (Havard-Williams 1961:II). Thus the fortuitous meeting in 1809 with Ruatara on board the Ann, outward bound from England to New South Wales, allowed Marsden to further his project (Havard-Williams 1961:22). Marsden's friendship with the Nga Puhi chief gave him the necessary local contact to ensure the successful establishment and future survival of a Bay of Islands mission, if placed under the protective mantle of Ruatara's paa at Rangihoua.

Barely two months after the establishment of the Oihi



RANGIHOUA PAA, N11/58.
Purerua Peninsula, Bay of Islands.



- KEY**
- Terrace.
 - Slope.
 - Ditch.
 - Footpaths.
 - Agricultural alignments.
 - Rangihoua Maori Reserve of 2.234 hectares. Plan: ML 12693.
 - Theodolite traverse marks noted during planetable survey. Established by D. Munro, Surveyor, February 1976. Plan: DP 82597.
 - Vertical Interval = 5 metres. Source: Orthophoto Plan 1260, 1:5000 (May 1981).
- 0 5 0 10 20 30 40 50
Metres

Planetable alidade survey, 28 November - 20 December 1979. J.R.H. Spencer & M.E. Pidgeon.

J.R.H. Spencer June 1982.

mission, the untimely death of Ruatara (McNab 1914:187), caused a rapid decline in the political and economic importance of the Rangihoua-Te Puna region. For the next two decades, indifferent leadership of Rangihoua paa continued, under the chiefs Wharepoaka¹ and Turi o Kana².

Hongi Hika's campaigns on the tribes of the Hauraki Gulf and East Coast took place in the 1820's (Urlich 1970:403), and those from Rangihoua who wanted to take part in war expeditions moved from Rangihoua to Kororipo paa at Kerikeri, some 12.5 kilometres to the west. (Missionary Register 1826:160).

Fortifications

The palisade defences of Rangihoua paa that were recorded for the period 1814-1834 varied dramatically with the oscillating political climate. Nicholas, (1817,I:174) on first visiting Rangihoua, described the paa as:

'a fortress of very great strength... It was almost encompassed with a deep and wide trench, on the inner side of which was formed a breast-work of long stakes stuck in the ground at a short distance from each other...'

The archaeological survey plan (Fig.2) indicates a single ditch on the western side of the paa, and three sets of ditches (two single, one double) on the eastern flanks. There is no field evidence for a defensive ditch encircling the hilltop as described by Nicholas. The observations by Nicholas in 1814 contrast with the pictorial evidence in 1827 of Augustus Earle's paintings, which lack any depiction of timber defences (Fig.3). The only form of 'breast work' are low picket fences, which seem to be domestic enclosures rather than fortifications. Earle depicts the western ditch cutting across the saddle, separating the terraced hillside from the remainder of the ridge.



Fig.3 Augustus Earle's Watercolour - "Ranghe Hue a New Zealand Fortified Village". 1793-1838.

Three years after Earle's visit, the security of Rangihoua paa was evidently disturbed (Missionary Register 1830:369). Renewed attempts at fortifying the hilltop took place during Marsden's sixth visit to New Zealand (8 March - 27 May 1830). The missionary, William Yate, noted in his Journal:

'They have fortified the place. It really appears to be quite impregnable. It was done during Mr Marsden's last visit to the Natives, as they were expecting an attack to be made upon them by the enemy; and this again may account for so great a number of Natives being there at that time: a circumstance which had not taken place before for many years'

(Yate Journal: 28 August 1830 p.18)

On 10 March 1834, Lieutenant Thomas Woore RN of HMS Alligator made a watercolour sketch entitled 'Hippa or Native Fortress Rangahahoo Bay of Islands. N.Z.'³ This sketch shows rows of palisading encircling the hilltop. W.B. Marshall, surgeon of HMS Alligator, who accompanied Lieutenant Woore, described the paa:

'It covers the whole top of the hill, and is composed of a series of circles, surrounding one another, and mutually protecting the several enclosures, which they fenced in by a high stockade, the stakes being about 12 feet (3.66 m) from the ground'.

(Marshall 1836:8-9)

The political instability of the Bay of Islands region in the 1820's may have influenced modification of earthworks for other musket fighting paa on the Purerua peninsula. Two modified 'gunfighter' paa N11/286 and N11/380 are noted and described in a recent Purerua archaeological field survey (Leahy and Walsh 1977/8).

Population

In February 1815 Nicholas described the Maori population of the Bay of Islands as composed of small communities, each with less than one hundred inhabitants, living apart from each other (Nicholas 1817, 11:298). On first landing at Oihi Beach on 22 December 1814 he estimated the inhabitants of Rangihoua village as between 150-200 individuals (Nicholas 1817, I:177). For comparison, the population at the Oihi Mission Station in 1815 amounted to 21 Europeans; eleven adults, seven children plus three anonymous individuals. A possible one or two itinerant Europeans were resident elsewhere in the Bay of Islands (Shawcross 1967:254).

By 1819, Marsden had authorised the establishment of a second CMS mission at Kerikeri, to be under the 'protectorship' of Hongi Hika, and thus under direct Nga Puhi control (Binney 1968:34). By July 1832 John King (one of the founder missionary mechanics of 1814) had left Rangihoua for the adjoining Te Puna valley 1 km to the west; Te Puna being more favourable for mission agriculture (Elder 1932:474). Within four years King had purchased a large portion of the Purerua peninsula (Turton 1877).

The magnitude of these land sales indicates the extent of the depopulation of the Purerua district since the early 1820's. The notable exception to King's land purchases was the summit of Rangihoua paa consisting of 2.234 hectares (Fig. 2), withheld because of its status as a burial wahi tapu (Marshall 1836:10).

On April 3 1830 Marsden conducted his first Rangihoua Maori census. Fifty eight men, 71 women and 51 children were counted. In addition to these, two canoe loads of men, amounting to twenty individuals, were stated to be out fishing, with others at their cultivations. From this census, Marsden concluded there were less than 200 permanent inhabitants in Rangihoua village at that time. This did not include Maoris living with the missionaries (Elder 1932:479).

Marshall in March 1834 commented on Rangihoua's subsequent decline:

'This Pa, from the febleness of the tribe to which it belongs, whose numbers have very considerably decreased of late years, is in comparative disuse at present, and, consequently, out of repair'.

(Marshall 1836:8)

Philip Tapsell, a European trader at Maketu in the Bay of Plenty from 1830 to 1835, was married by Marsden to Karuhi, a sister of Wharepoaka, at Kerikeri on 21 April 1830 (Elder 1932:487). Karuhi died in Tauranga soon afterwards. Her remains were returned to the Bay of Islands and buried on Rangihoua hill-top by Wharepoaka (Cowan 1935). The Rangihoua paa summit was described in the Maori Land Court sitting at Kaikohe on 13 March 1930 as 'Rangihoua Native Reserve (Oihi Wahi Tapu)'⁴. This court record lists several prominent tribal burials on the hilltop.

By January 1844, a deserted Te Puna - Tangihoua landscape was sketched by Edward Ashworth. In the sketch the only signs of habitation, are a picket fence encircling the summit of the paa, and the missionary John King's house at Te Puna Bay to the west. The pen and wash coastal profile covers both pages of an oblong sketchbook, and encompass, from west to east, Te Pahi Islands, the bay of Te Puna, and Rangihoua paa, as far as Oihi Creek. The drawing is entitled 'Panioramic view of the Northpart of the Bay of Islands, New Zealand. The greatest elevation shows the remains of Rangihoua (deserted), the first footing of Missionaries. The oldest of that body lives here Mr King'. (Alexander Turnbull Library E42/33).

The European population at the mission stations of Rangihoua, Kerikeri and Paihia at the close of 1829, amounted to 27 adults (14 men, 13 women), along with 40 or more children. There were then over 50 non-Mission Europeans living throughout the

Bay of Islands (Shawcross 1967:254).

A contributing factor in the depopulation of the Te Puna and Rangihoua districts was the attack by Hongi Hika, in 1827, on his relations the Ngati Pou at Whangaroa (Earle 1832:36; Yate 1835:119). The leaderless remnants at Rangihoua and Te Puna had no choice but to ally themselves with the Nga Puhi under Hongi Hika.

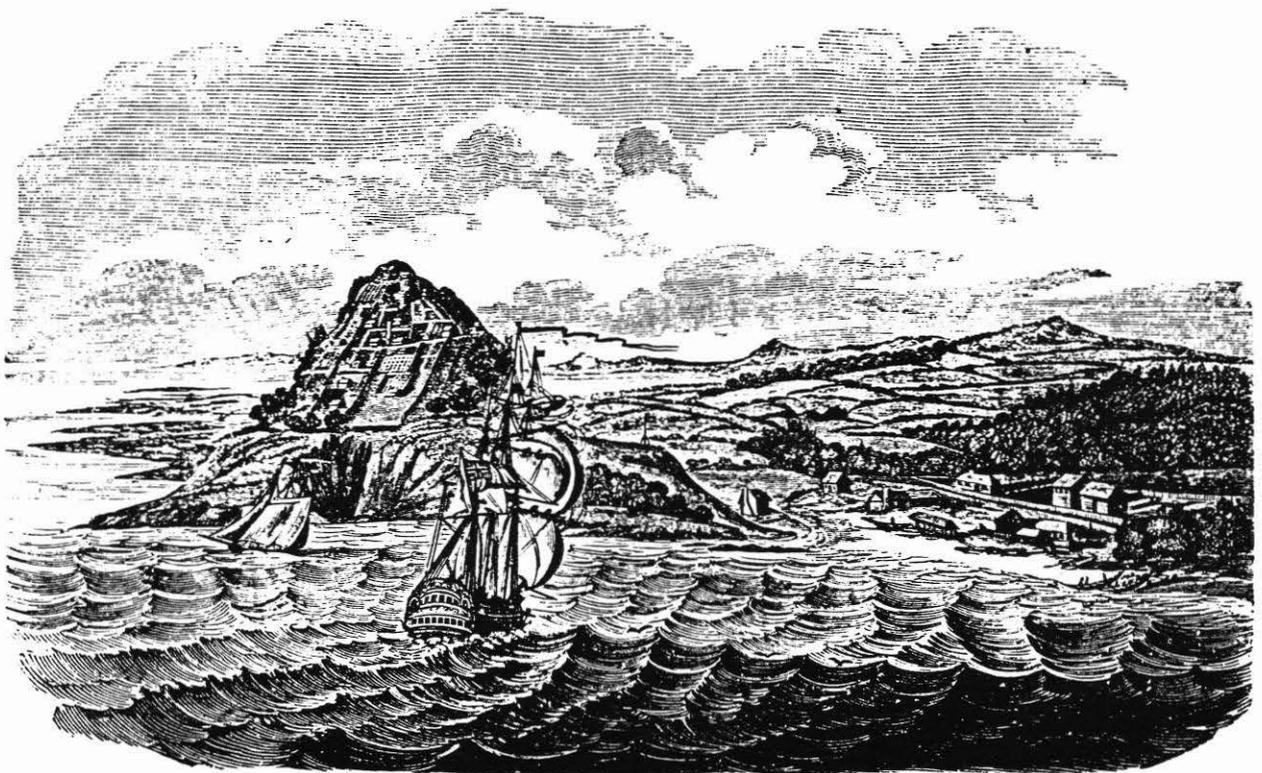
Disease and epidemics were another cause for depopulation, cutting a swath across that portion of the Bay of Islands Maori population having continuous European contact. An epidemic in which large numbers of Maoris died is noted for 1810 (Smith 1910:58). The first epidemic of whooping cough in New Zealand occurred at the Bay of Islands in the late 1820's (Pool 1977:124). James Kemp of the CMS Kerikeri Mission writes for 1829:

'During the last year, there has been a great mortality among the natives around us, both old and young. Many died...with the whooping cough... We are very often told, that, before we came to the land, they lived to a very great age; but, now, YOUNG as well as OLD die: and the reason which they assign is, that our coming to the land brought the different diseases among them'.

(Missionary Register 1830:114)

Rangihoua Village and Oihi Mission

The engraving of Rangihoua paa and Oihi Mission, published in the Missionary Register for June 1832 (Fig. 4), is a direct copy of an original painting entitled 'The missionary settlement Rangihoua on the north side of the Bay of Islands New Zealand 1821'⁵. The scene depicts an orderly arrangement of houses and allotments on the eastern slopes of Rangihoua paa, balanced by neat rows of missionary houses at the head of Rangihoua Bay to the east.



CHURCH MISSIONARY SETTLEMENT OF RANGIHOVA, IN NEW ZEALAND.

Fig.4 1832 Engraving of Church Missionary Settlement of Rangihora.

The trim nature of Rangihoua paa settlement, as depicted in this engraving, is succinctly summed up in Nicholas's impression of 1814:

'On the top of a hill...overlooking the harbour, was built the town of Rangehoo... Around this town (if it may be so called) were several plantations of potatoes, coomeras, and other vegetables, and the cultivation had such an appearance of neatness and regularity... Each plantation was carefully fenced in, and hanging down from the sides of steep hills'.

(Nicholas 1817,I:170)

Augustus Earle described the same scene thirteen years later in December 1827:

'The village of Ranghe Hue, belonging to Warri Pork, is situated on the summit of an immense and abrupt hill: the huts...in many places, as though they were overhanging the sea, the height being crowned with a mighty par. At the bottom of this hill, and in a beautiful valley, the cottages of the missionaries are situated, complete pictures of English comfort, content, and prosperity; they are close to a bright sandy beach: a beautiful green slope lies in their rear, and a clear and never-failing stream of water runs by the side of their enclosures.'

(Earle 1832:169)

Jules de Blosseville, a junior officer on the Corvette La Coquille, charted Rangihoua Bay on 10 April 1824 during the course of visiting Kerikeri in the Ship's boat (Fig. 5).⁶ Blosseville noted within Rangihoua paa:

'several huts built with planks and painted red contrary to the old custom, but their low shape has not changed...'

(Sharp 1971:112)

Jules le Jeune, La Coquille's expedition artist, accompanying Blosseville that day in the Ship's boat, sketched a profile view of a large coastal paa, with house structures descending the

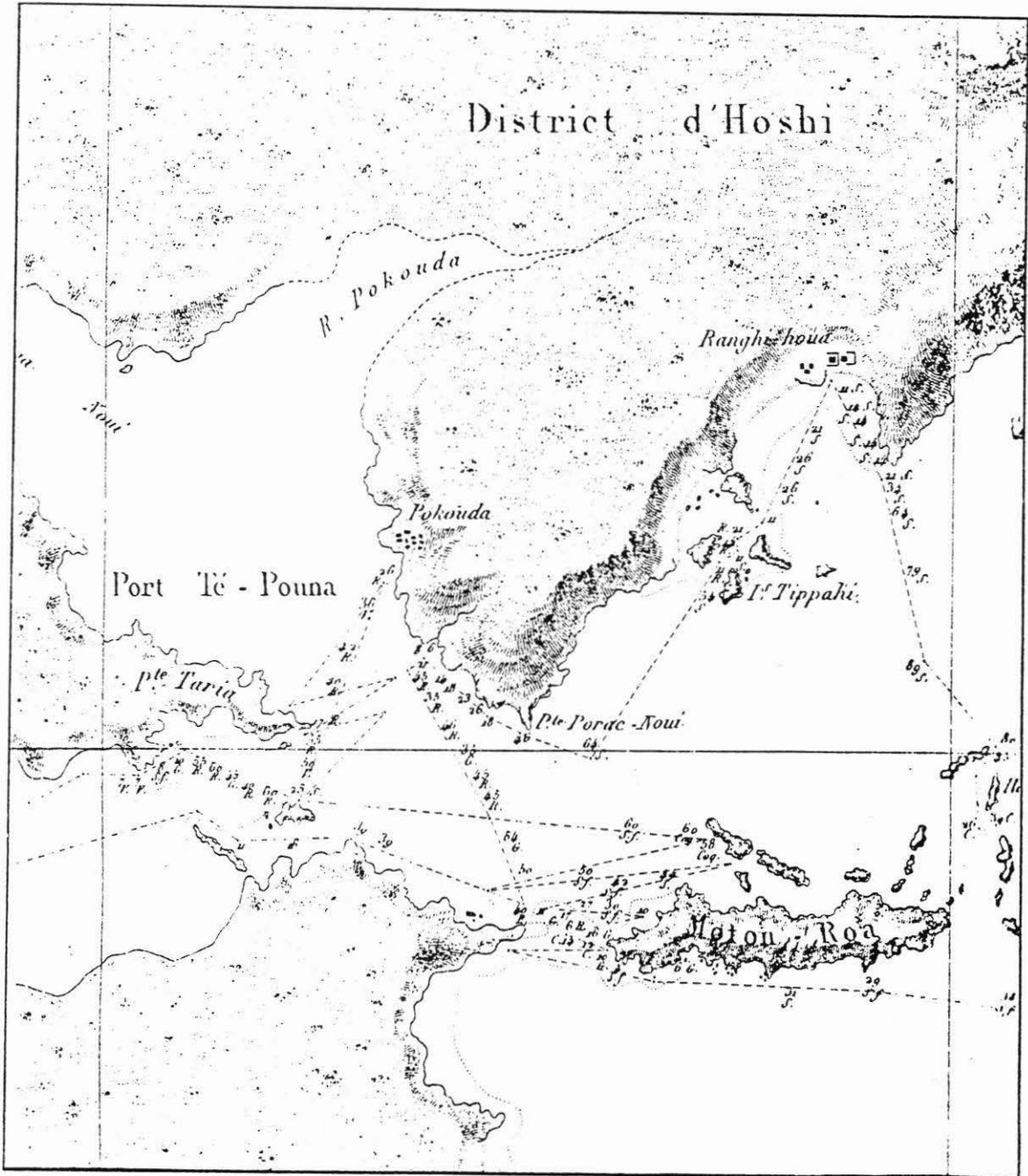
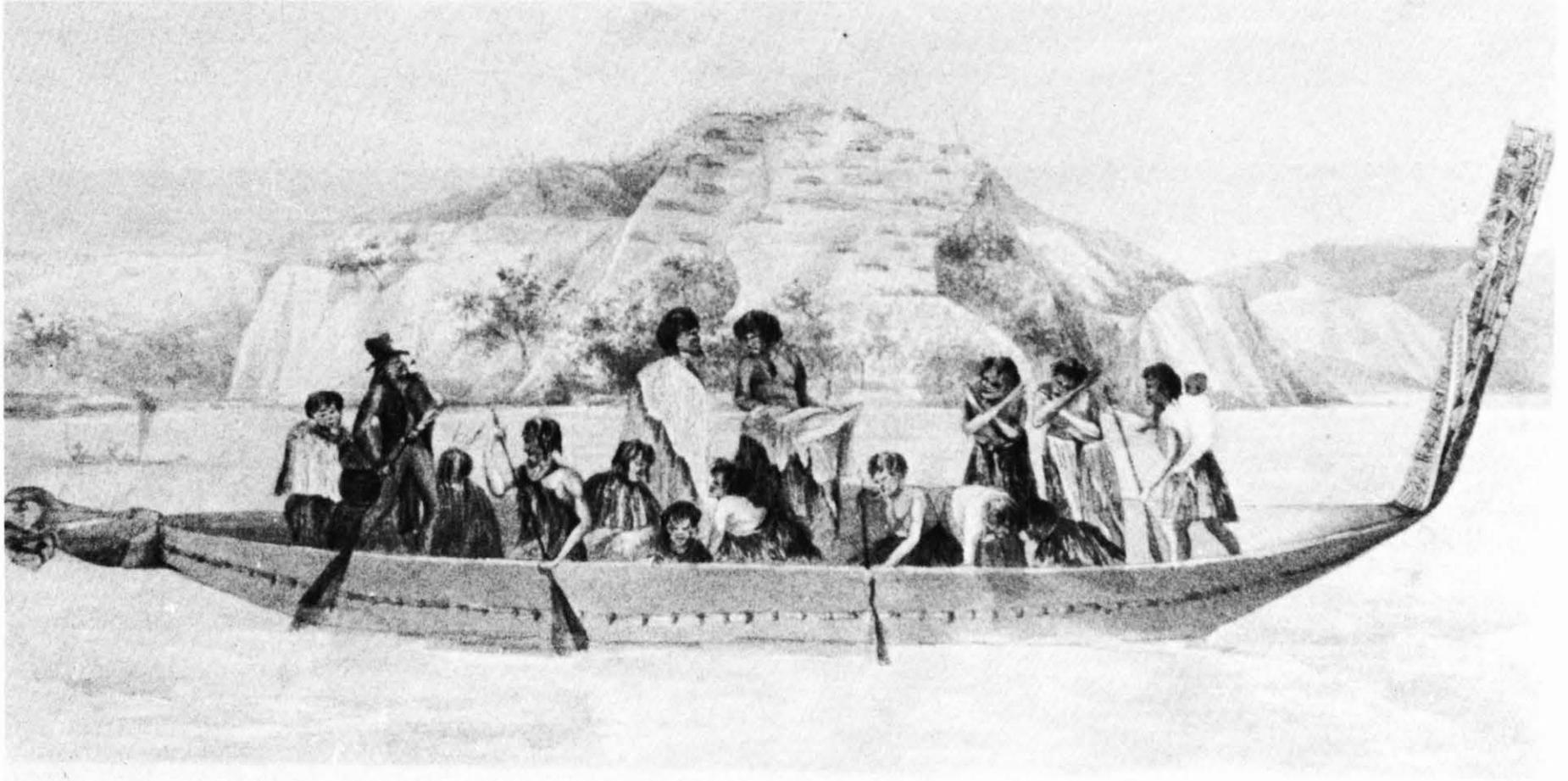


Fig.5 1827 Chart of Rangihora Paa and Oihi Mission.

slopes, and a foreground of Maoris in a canoe (Fig. 6). The Maori hilltop settlement depicted in this sketch has not previously been identified. This is the eastern slopes of Rangihoua paa, as there were no other large inhabited hilltop paa on the northern peninsula of the Bay of Islands for the 1820's. Further evidence in support of Rangihoua is the track of the French Expedition's boat passing close offshore to the paa, while sailing westwards towards the 'Isles Tippahi'. (Fig. 5).

All the major habitation areas of the paa, as depicted by Earle in 'Tepoanah Bay of Islands New Zealand a Church Missionary Establishment' (Fig. 7), are confined to the highest portion of the Rangihoua hillside. Nineteenth Century writers confirm the upper hilltop as the main region of paa settlement (Cruise 1823:38; Earle 1832:169; Marshall 1836:8). The field survey substantiated this; 91% of all terraced area is on the hilltop west of the 50 metre contour, where the contour cuts the coastal cliffs (Fig. 2). The surface area of these terraces amounts to 4691m², out of a total terraced area for the entire paa of 5173m². Below the 50 metre contour, on the coastal ridge of the paa, is the remaining 9% of the terraced area. The coastal ridgeline between the 50-40 metre contours drops sharply, levelling off at a shallow double ditch at the eastern boundaries of the Rangihoua Maori Reserve (Fig. 2).

Between the 23-50 metre contours, there are no structures visible in Earle's drawing. The surveyed plan for this region notes 13 terraces comprising an area of 310m², (6% of total terraced area), with a large transverse ditch cutting at the 27 metre mark (Fig. 2). At the height of 23 metres, where the lower ditch (painted by Earle) cuts the ridgeline, two whata, two small huts and some isolated poles are drawn. These are located on a surveyed terrace of 95m², above the rocky spur of Tapu Point,⁷ which protrudes south eastwards into Rangihoua Bay.



— Habitants de la Nouvelle Zélande, avec une vue de leur plus forte ou Moutoua — 1824.

Fig.6 Watercolour 1824, of Rangihoua by Jules le Jeune.

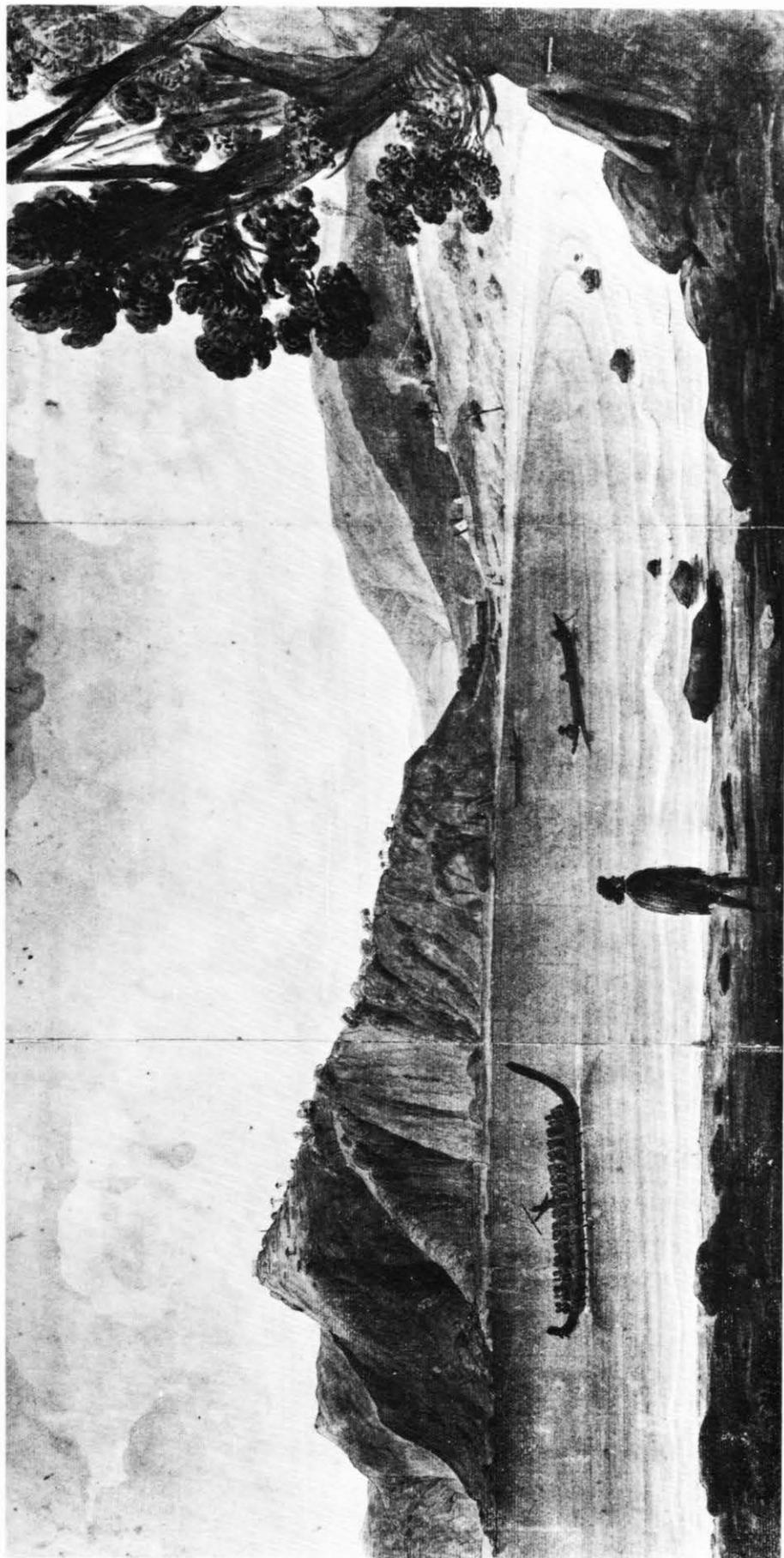


Fig.7 Augustus Earle's 'Tepoanah Bay of Islands...'

Across Oihi Creek, canoes are shown drawn up on the beach below the Oihi Mission Station. Immediately above the beach are two gabled European houses and an isolated shed. These structures are aligned with the terraces in the vicinity of Marsden Cross monument (Fig.8).

The watercolour (Fig. 7) shows three European houses, well fenced in, bringing to mind the wry comments of visitors to Oihi: Ensign McCrae in 1820 (Chapman 1928:17), and Lieutenant Blosseville in 1824 (Sharp 1971:III). Both servicemen describe the missionaries' need to defend their property by picket fences and locked wicket gates. This form of security by the missionaries at Oihi in the 1820's was necessary against the plundering inquisitive tendencies of the local Maori population (Cruise 1824:54; Missionary Register 1826:159). On Oihi settlement's steeper slopes, Earle shows land cleared for European agriculture. These cultivations can perhaps be associated with the resident missionaries' early attempts at growing wheat (Elder 1934:219). When establishing the Oihi Mission settlement in early 1815, the lack of locally available timber for building was a severe problem. Marsden resorted to shipping kahikatea from the Kawakawa River, some 21 kilometres distant. With the Brig Active away collecting timber, the European sawyers and smiths, assisted by local Maoris, built a thatched hut about 18m long and 5m wide on the Oihi hillside for reception of the missionary settlers and their families (Elder 1932:94). Archaeological evidence for a sawpit on the field plan (Fig. 8) consists of a pit dug into the nearest available high ground east of Marsden Cross. This could be the artisans' pit used in January 1815 to pitsaw timber for the new settlement.

Pathways

Augustus Earle painted a footpath entering Rangihoua paa in the shadow of elevated food stores whata on the northern slopes

(Fig. 3). This footpath can still be detected today, following the 60 metre contour, and is delineated in red on the site plan (Fig. 9).

In the field survey at the junction of the 30-35 metre contour, sections of foot-track break off abruptly to link with terraces on the paa above. The survey plan demonstrates a major pathway entering the paa at the 60 metre contour on the eastern slopes, leading onto a 182m² terrace (Fig. 2). Pathways ascending the hill from this terrace are linked by a series of small earthen ramps and shallow depressed hollows. Nicholas describes the paa entrance as fortified and passing

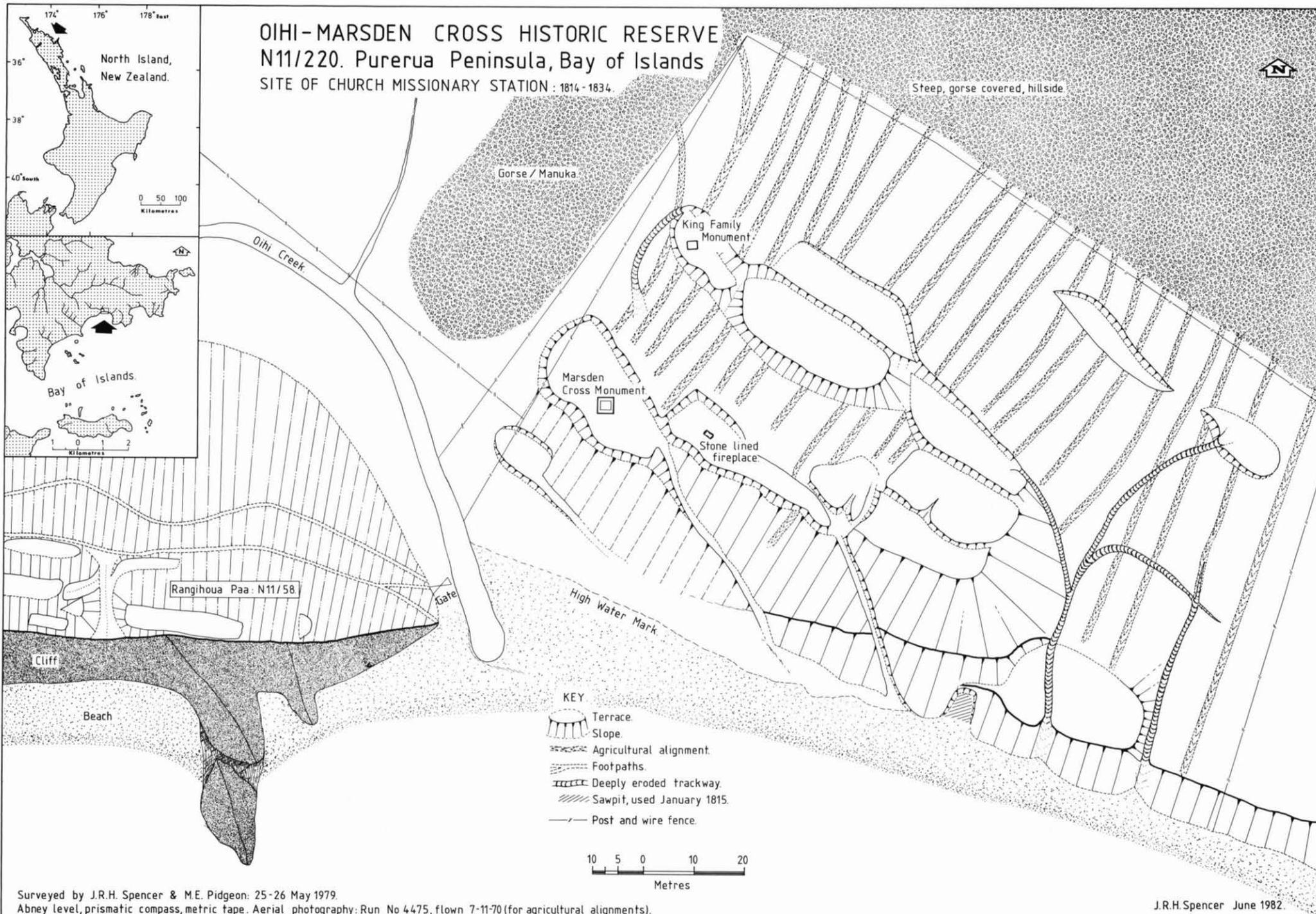
'some huts built on each side of several little lanes, or rather pathways, for they were made barely wide enough for one person to pass through at a time'.

(Nicholas 1817, I:174)

On the hillside of the former Oihi Mission Station, two pathways lead up from the beach to a terrace accommodating the present day monument of Marsden Cross, and one containing a stone lined fireplace. (Fig. 8). The trackways 30 metres to the east, linking the upper terraces with the beach, are deeply eroded. These correspond in part with former Maori agricultural alignments.

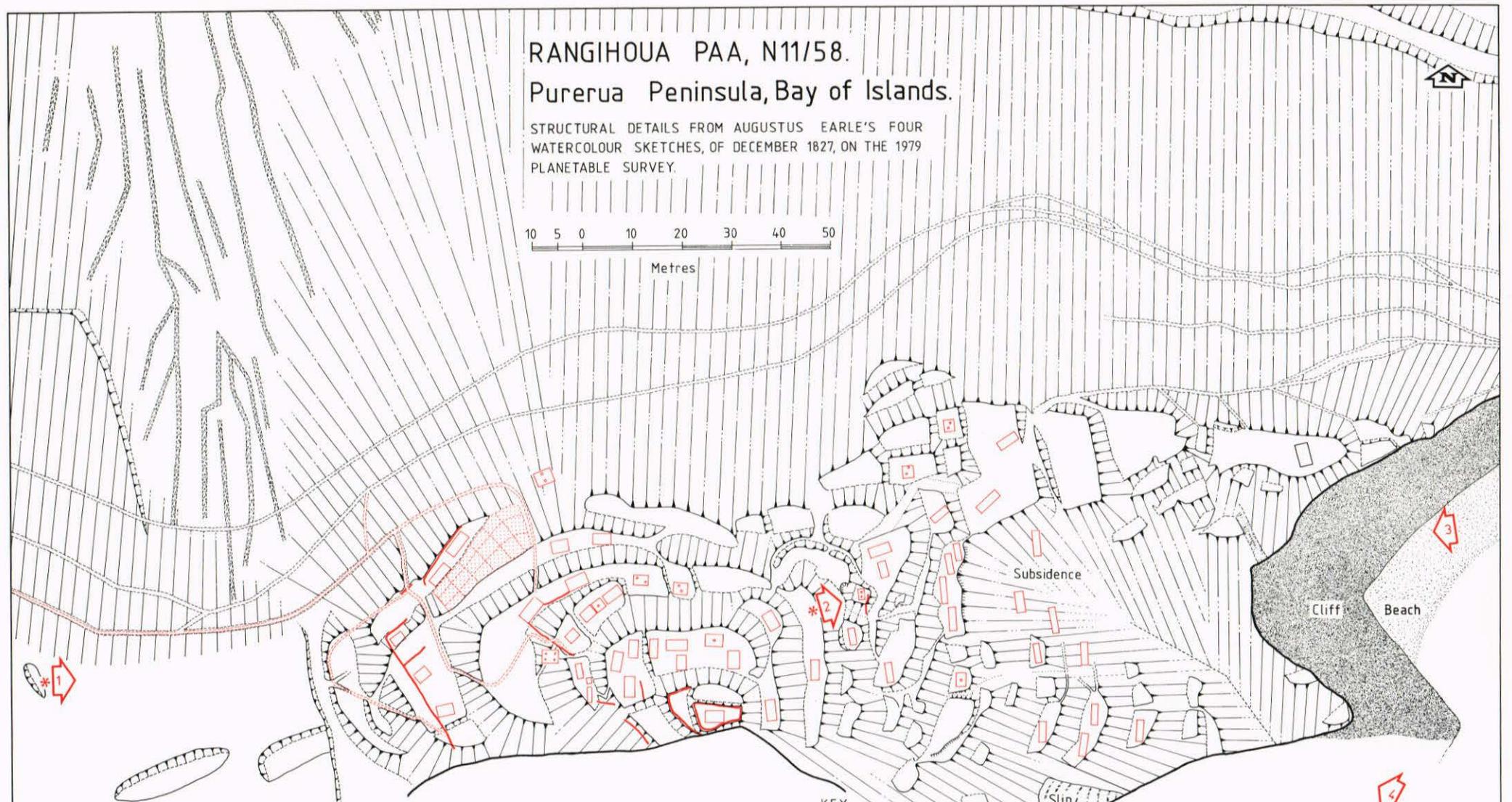
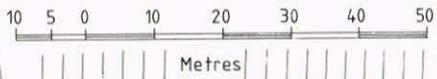
The footpaths noted on the present field survey are part of a walkway system that can be followed from Oihi to Te Puna, 800 metres to the west. Some of the pathways on the paa flanks are deeply indented into the hillside, especially below the 30 metre contour.

The footpath system rises at a gradient of 1:10 from the beach at the outlet of Oihi Stream. The pathway's beginnings are painted by Earle in 1827 as ascending the hillside behind European houses on his drawing NK 12/139 (Fig. 7). Today's walking tracks rise around the northern flanks of Rangihoua paa (Fig. 2) to a height of 70 metres at the head of the Rangihoua Valley watershed,



RANGIHOA PAA, N11/58. Purerua Peninsula, Bay of Islands.

STRUCTURAL DETAILS FROM AUGUSTUS EARLE'S FOUR
WATERCOLOUR SKETCHES, OF DECEMBER 1827, ON THE 1979
PLANETABLE SURVEY.



The arrows indicate direction of Earle's drawings in the contemporary landscape. An * denotes actual position from which the sketch was drawn.

- 1 'Ranghe Hue a New Zealand Fortified Village, The Residence of Warri-Pork' (NK 12/141)
- 2 'A Tabood Store-House at Range-hue, Bay of Islands New Zealand.' (NK 12/69)
- 3 'Ranghe hue, Bay of Islands, N. Zealand.' (NK 12/74)
- 4 'Tepoanah Bay of Islands New Zealand a Church Missionary Establishment' (NK 12/139)

(Drawings located in Rex Nan Kivell (NK) Collection, National Library of Australia.)

KEY

- Roofed/walled structure.
- Elevated storage platform.
- Fence.
- Garden.
- Footpaths.
- Terrace.
- Slope.
- Ditch.
- Footpaths.
- Agricultural alignments.

(Note: Size of structures are estimations only.)

overlooking the valley of Te Puna. Here, on the hillslopes above Te Puna, the trackway fades out.

Cultivations

Earle's drawing NK 12/141 (Fig. 3) depicts a garden plot on the northeast slopes of Rangihoua paa, to the rear of house structures. These could not be detected on the field survey, though the approximate location is indicated in red on Figure 9. The garden plot has a similar bearing to the surveyed agricultural alignment channels 40 metres to the west, covering a hillslope area of 7386m' (Fig. 2).

All four drawings by Augustus Earle portray numerous elevated storage platforms, whata, and raised storehouses, pataka. Only one pit was evident on the terraces of Rangihoua paa. This pit is located on a 202m' terrace on the eastern hilltop margins at the 50 metre contour level. The lack of storage pits, may suggest that storage of food was more common above ground, as seen in the graphic records by Earle of numerous whata and pataka. Further agricultural alignments are situated across the valley from the paa, on southerly facing slopes. This splayed network of agricultural channels with a slope length of 200 metres terminates on the valley floor north of Oihi Creek.

On the hillside of Marsden Cross, Maori gardens in the form of agricultural alignments are superimposed by later mission terraced settlement. The Maori garden alignments, visible as shallow depressions, have been plotted from aerial photography (Fig. 8).⁸

Houses and Other Structures

Nineteenth Century European visitors to Rangihoua paa have left precise descriptions of the dimensions of the houses.

Thomas Kendall, visiting the paa for the first time on 10 June 1814, wrote:

'It consists of several warees or small huts about five feet (1.53m) in height, seven (2.13m) in breadth, and eight or ten feet (2.44-3.05m) in length'.

(Elder 1934:59)

J. L. Nicholas, writing on 22 December 1814, described separate huts, each fronted by an individual courtyard:

'...in which was a shed or out-house, employed by the inhabitants for various purposes of domestic convenience. The entrance to these enclosures was by stiles ingeniously contrived...'

(Nicholas 1817, 1:174)

Ruatara's residence, described by Nicholas as his hut or 'palace', was located on the highest part of the hill:

'(It) differed but little from those of his subjects, and was distinguished only by its being built upon a larger scale, and having more ground enclosed around it. It measured about twenty feet (6.10m) long, fifteen (4.57m) broad, and eight feet (2.44m) in height, with a ridge-like roof, and built of sticks interwoven with rushes'.

(Nicholas 1817, 1:175)

In adjoining enclosures to Ruatara's 'palace' were storage sheds and his personal flagstaff. A scene painted by M.T. Clayton⁹ depicts Marsden's landing at Oihi in December 1814. Rangihoua paa is portrayed with Union Jack flying from a flagstaff on the summit of the hill, (Elder 1932:93) with the Brig Active anchored in the bay covered in festive bunting.

The drawing by Earle, 'Ranghe Hue a New Zealand Fortified Village, The Residence of Warri-Pork' shows raupo structures sheltering in the lee of the paa hilltop facing north to northeast. Strong easterly winds (HMS Alligator Remark Book 1834:143; New Zealand Pilot 1971:118) buffeted Rangihoua Bay.

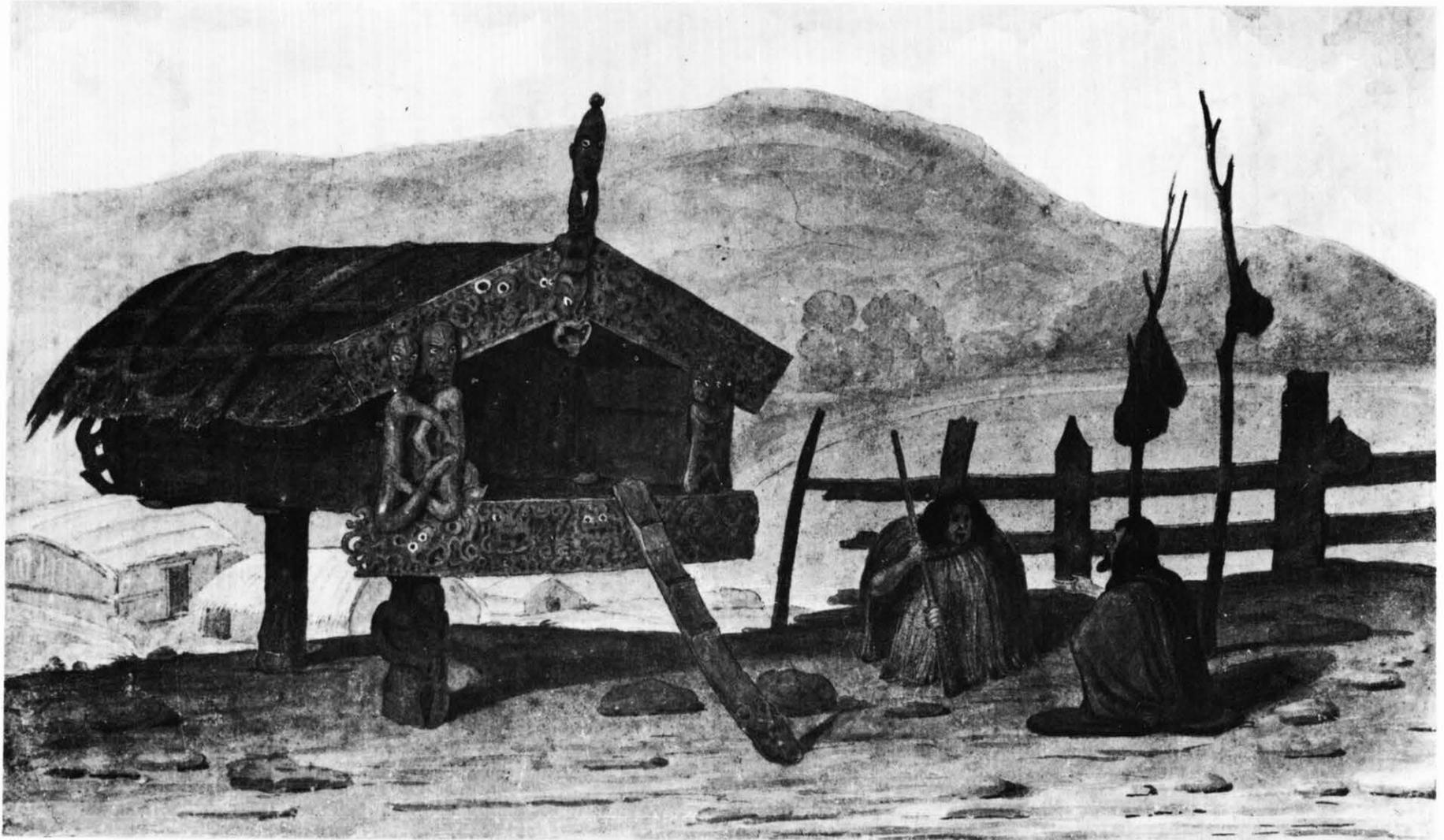


Fig.10 Augustus Earle's watercolour of store house at Rangihoua -
1793-1838.

Silhouetted on the northern slopes of the paa were numerous elevated storage platforms whata. A discussion of whata is in Fitzroy (1839:588).

Nicholas (1817, 1:315) recorded in this vicinity, stages 8 to 9 feet (2.4-2.7m) in height, used for storing potatoes freshly dug up from nearby plantations. William Yate (1835:155) comments how these elevated storage platforms were a striking feature on approaching a native village.

Earle's drawing 'A Tabood Store-House at Range-hue, Bay of Islands New Zealand' (Fig. 10) illustrates as a central theme, an ornately carved storehouse on posts, pataka, located on a small terrace on the eastern facing slopes of Rangihoua paa (Fig. 9). In the background, on the lower terraces descending towards Rangihoua Bay, are thatched huts on the raupo type (Phillips 1952; 78).

The field survey notes 52 terraces in this eastern region of the upper hilltop, between the 50-65 metre contours. The terraces have an area of 2225m², comprising 43% of the total terraced area for the paa. This terracing flanks the horns of a small enclosed valley on the eastern slopes, 1552m² in area. Today this badly slumped valley contains partially destroyed terraces which once existed across the eastern slopes. This is supported by Earle's drawings, which show raupo like structures covering the eastern hillside (Figs. 7, 10, 11). An indication of the former hut distribution is illustrated, superimposed on the field survey plan, as a red overlay in Figure 9.

The Reverend John Kinder painted a watercolour of the eastern flanks of Rangihoua paa (Fig. 12). This sketch is probably based on Kinder's initial photography (Fig. 1) of Rangihoua Bay taken in 1864 (Waikato Art Gallery:1970).



Fig.11 Augustus Earle's watercolour of Rangihoua paa.

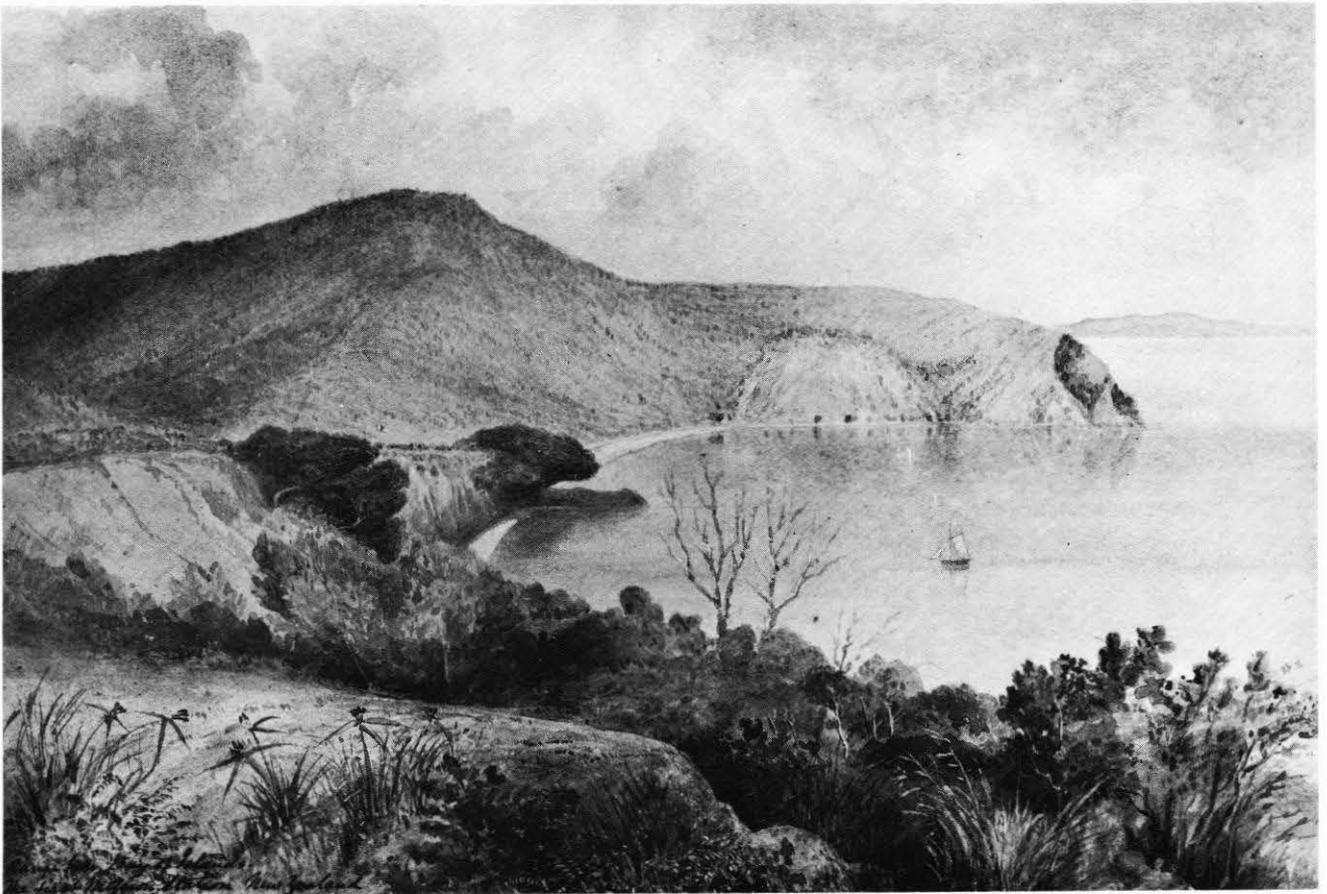


Fig.12 John Kinder's watercolour of the Oihi mission station.

Conclusions

Rangihoua Valley on the Purerua Peninsula contains the site of the former Oihi Mission Station. In 1814, this represented New Zealand's first established European settlement. The CMS Mission, situated here initially for protection, had a specific association with the Maori hilltop paa of Rangihoua.

In the two decades following 1814, the resident Maori population decreased rapidly as a result of Nga Puhi tribal political domination and increased mortality from European introduced diseases. By the early 1830's, Rangihoua paa was deserted, and had reverted to a tribal burial ground waahi tapu. Nearby, at Te Puna, missionary John King consolidated his land holdings and developed his farm (Fitzroy 1839:580) during this time.

By utilising Augustus Earle's watercolour drawings during the field survey of Rangihoua paa and Marsden Cross it became apparent that a close correlation existed between the pictorial content, as documented in the artist's drawings, and the present topographic and archaeological landscape. The correlation was seen for terracing, defensive ditches, pathways, as well as the general landscape drawings are a combined result of careful draughtsmanship of both topographic and cultural elements. Thus by comparison, the location of house structures, food stores and fencing, can be real, beheld as Earle saw them for one moment in time, in December 1827. Surprisingly, later fortifications in the form of heavy palisading in 1830 does not seem to have affected the basic form of the terrace and defensive earthworks, as seen by Earle three years before, or as an archaeological landscape 153 years later. Other 19th Century drawings utilized (Missionary Register, Le Jeune, Woore, Kinder, Clayton and Walsh), were of assistance in bringing to life the historical written accounts, but did not contain the topographical accuracy and cultural detail which have been rendered faithfully by Augustus Earle.

By superimposing the relative position of structures painted by Earle for Rangihoua paa on the current site plan of 1979, I have endeavoured to show the village layout, before its complete disappearance in the 1830's, of one specific traditionally based, Maori settlement, before the inroads of European colonisation.

FOOTNOTES

1. The 'Warri Pork' of Augustus Earle in 1827. Captain Robert Fitzroy (1839:580) meeting Wharepoaka at Te Puna in December 1835 describes him as a 'trusty friend' of Mr Kings. Wharepoaka was the main signatory of John King's land purchases on the Purerua Peninsula, for the period 1828-1836 (Turton 1877).
2. An original watercolour portrait of this chief exists in the Rex Nan Kivell Collection, National Library of Australia. The sketch entitled 'a Houdee O Gunna Chief of Ranghee Hoo. New Zealand' is attributed to John William Lewin (1770-1819). Published as an engraving by G. & W.B. Whittaker in London, May 1824 (NK 2090).
3. A photographic print, copied in 1934, is located at the Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington (A48/7), from an original drawing held by the Busby Family, Sydney, N.S.W. (Ramsden 1936:69). In more recent years Busby Family papers were located with Miss A.D. Merewether-Busby (Tapp 1958:v).
4. Bay of Islands Minute Book No 12, p 19. Kaikohe. I thank J.R. Lee of Kaikohe, for this information.
5. This rocky promontory is called Tapu Point by Archdeacon Philip Walsh (1843-1914) of Waimate, in a pencil sketch of Rangihoua Paa entitled: 'Tapu Point Rangihoua Jan 13/97'; in 'Waimate Sketchbook - Scenes in Northland' p.24, (E363), Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington. Walsh drew a view in similar position to the watercolour by Augustus Earle (NK 12/74, Fig.11), painted 70 years previously.
6. Auckland Institute and Museum Library, Auckland.
7. Aerial photography: New Zealand Aerial Mapping, Hastings. Run No.4475, flown 7 November 1970.
8. This painting (oil on panel, 22.4 x 32.6 cm) is held in the Rex Nan Kivell Collection (NK 131), National Library of Australia, Canberra.

9. 'Carte de la Baie des Isles (Nouvelle Zelande)'. Levee par MM. Berard, de Blois et de Blossenville, Officiers de la Marine. Expedition de la Corvette de S.M. la Coquille, Commandee par M.L.I., Duperrey, Capitaine de Fregate (Avril 1824). Ecrit par Hacq. Grave par Ambroise Tardieu. Chart No. 19 'Voyage autour du monde..... sur....La Coquille'. Atlas Hydrographie, Paris 1827.

FIGURES

- Fig.1 The Reverend John Kinder (1819-1903). 'Rangihou, Bay of Islands - 1864. First missionary settlement in N.Z. Here Mr Marsden first preached to the Natives on Christmas day 1814. Mr Kings grave on left hand of view....' Plate size of photograph 17.5 x 22.5 cm. Kinder Album, Volume I, page 60. Courtesy: Auckland Institute and Museum Library, Auckland.
- Fig.2 Field Plan of Rangihoua Paa, N11/58, Purerua Peninsula, Bay of Islands. Surveyed 28 November-30 December 1979.
- Fig.3 Augustus Earle (1793-1838). 'Ranghe Hue a New Zealand Fortified Village, The Residence of Warri Pork' Watercolour 24.2 x 59 cm. NK 12/141. In the Rex Nan Kivell Collection, National Library of Australia.
- Fig.4 'Church Missionary Settlement of Rangihoua, in New Zealand'. Engraving (10 x 16.5 cm) published in the Missionary Register for June 1832, facing p.278.
- Fig.5 Rangihoua Paa and Oihi Mission Station (District d'Hoshi), with Boat's track of crew from Corvette 'La Coquille' en route to Kerikeri, 10 April 1824. Engraved chart No. 19 (detail) from 'Carte de la Baie des Isles (Nouvelle Zelande)', Hydrographie Atlas 1827, Paris.
- Fig. 6 Jules le Jeune, artist of the La Coquille Expedition. 'Inhabitants of New Zealand, with a view of their fortified place or Paa - 10 April 1824'. Watercolour 16.0 x 24.5 cm. Atlas A4211. Courtesy: Bibliotheque Service Historique de la Marine, Pavillon de la Reine, Chateau de Vincennes, Vincennes, Paris.

- Fig.7 Augustus Earle (1793-1838). 'Tepoanah Bay of Islands New Zealand a Church Missionary Establishment'.
- Fig.8 Field Plan of Oihi-Marsden Cross Historic Reserve, N11/220, Purerua Peninsula, Bay of Islands. Surveyed 25-26 May 1979.
- Fig.9 Field Plan of Rangihoua Paa Hilltop, N11/58, Purerua Peninsula, Bay of Islands. The red overlay delineates cultural features present in Augustus Earle's paintings of December 1827.
- Fig.10 Augustus Earle (1793-1838). 'A Tabood Store-House at Range-hue, Bay of Islands New Zealand'. Watercolour 20.3 x 34.3 cm. NK 12/69. In the Rex Nan Kivell collection National Library of Australia.
- Fig.11 Augustus Earle (1793-1838). 'Ranghe hue, Bay of Islands, New Zealand'. Watercolour 11.5 x 18.5 cm. NK 12/74. In the Rex Nan Kivell collection, National Library of Australia.
- Fig.12 The Reverend John Kinder (1819-1903). 'Rangi Hou Bay of Islands, The First Mission Station New Zealand'. Watercolour 19.1 x 28.1 cm., 1937/15/7. Courtesy: Auckland City Art Gallery, Auckland.

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