



NEW ZEALAND  
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**NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**



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SMALES MOUNTAIN AREA II: A TENTATIVE SURVEY

by W.A. Taylor

Named after the Rev. Gideon Smales, Smales Mountain (Area I) was occupied by a hapu of the Ngati Whatua tribe until the pa on the site was destroyed by Waikatos in the early forties of the last century. Since then it has been in the possession of the Smales family who farmed the area.

Up to four years ago, the site (N 42/28) was among the most interesting pas on the Auckland Peninsula, but in 1959 half of the mountain was sold for quarrying purposes, with the result that, today, little remains of its terracing and defence work.

However, about half a mile away from the principal pa complex is a small volcanic cone (Area II) which was also terraced and fortified by earthworks in the form of trenches and ramparts.

Although this too has been partly quarried there are still a number of well preserved typological features remaining on its southern slopes: among them, what appear to be the sites of the pa's meeting house (position A: plan) and associated marae (B: plan).

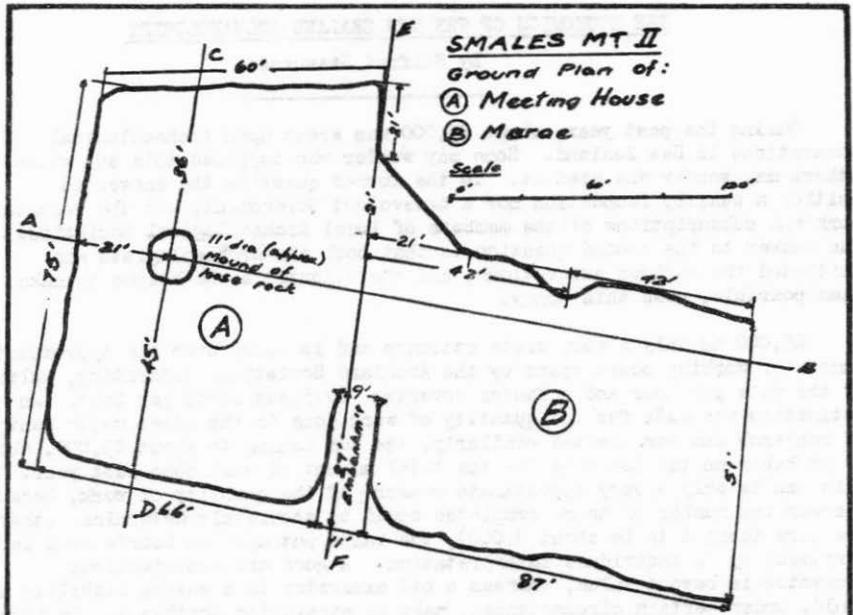
Partly excavated into the side of the cone (NZMS 1, Auckland 412-488 N 42) these features are complex in form and are, on average, four feet deep.

An embankment 27' x 6' x 8' high partially separates the two areas which, in places, were cut out of living rock.

There are several small shell middens, but no house or storage pits in the near vicinity of the features, although there are several terraces and pits on the top slopes of the cone.

As the initial survey of the area was principally concerned with the marae and meeting house sites, no excavation was carried out.

No surface artifacts were recovered either from the two areas (A-B) or the cone.



Cross Sections.

