

## **Additional information to help with the understanding of relationships and interactions at Te Waimate, from Alex Bell - Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga.**

From Calum McClean's 2022 Te Waimate Draft Garden Conservation plan:

- *“However, after the war the mission station had lost support among Māori and gradually fell into disrepair. By 1854 much of the farm was divided off as leases to different parties, including the Bedgood's and the families of Richard Davis and Henry Williams. (Manuscript copy Robert Vidal, Auckland to Central Committee, 10th February 1854, cited in NZHPT 1983, p15)”*
- *The Mission Station's decline in favour with Māori was further heightened by the death of a Māori girl in a fire at the Infants' School in 1840. Hone Heke's dissatisfaction with the situation led to removal of many of the Māori at the Mission, actively dissuading Māori from involvement with the Mission Station from this point onwards. (Page 34)*
- *The farm too was clearly facing a decline at around this time as cultivating the land had proved unexpectedly difficult. The soil turned out to be unsuitable for wheat and harvests were inconsistent. As previously noted, Māori in the area were becoming increasingly more interested in farming their own land rather than working on the mission farm. As early as 1838, Henry Williams reported to the CMS, 'It might be recommended also with great advantage that the Waimate should undergo a further reduction – that the Farming Establishment should be set aside, thereby relieving the Society of a great burden – but in the removal of either Mr. Davis or Mr. Clarke there may be difficulties...' (Page 32)*
- *The effects of external events such as land loss, the relocation of the capital to Auckland and accompanying loss of trade to Auckland and other developing settlements contributed to growing dissatisfaction of Māori and a corresponding decline in Māori/Pakeha relations in the 1842-1844 period. A local example of growing tension between Māori and Pakeha occurred in 1844, with the shooting of ducks by St John's College students on a lake deemed tapu. This act infuriated Heke and his followers, who strongly protested to Selwyn at the Mission Station (Page 40)*
- *Following Puketutu, in May 1845 Heke's forces raided the Mission Station for supplies, breaking into the Mill and taking flour. Heke also retrieved two cannons from the Millpond, which were later found by Colonial Militia abandoned at Ōhaeawai. (Page 40)*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> September 1844 at Te Waimate:**

“However, a meeting was arranged at the mission station at Waimate between Fitzroy and the chiefs of Ngāpuhi. At this meeting (2nd September 1844) the Governor was accompanied by the commander of the “Hazard” and Lieut.-Colonel Hulme. Tamati Waka brought the Governor to remove the troops and redress the native grievances in respect of the Customs duties, which had caused the trouble; he and the other chiefs on their part undertook to keep Heke in check and to protect the Europeans in the district. To these requests, Fitzroy agreed. He perceived the uselessness of aggressive action with his available force and ordered the troops back to their headquarters—the 99th to Sydney and the 80th to Auckland—and he promised that the Bay would be declared a free port.” *Source: James Cowan – the New Zealand Wars Part 1.*

“Meanwhile trouble was brewing in the North. Hone Heke chopped down the flagstaff for the first time in July. Heke was trying to force the Governor to communicate with him and pay attention to his grievances. Fitzroy didn't really comprehend Heke's intentions, and he insulted the Ngāpuhi chiefs by

re-erecting the flagstaff before responding to their communications. He sent to New South Wales for military support and decided to send a contingent of soldiers to the North to protect the flagstaff. The chiefs were determined to keep the soldiers out of the North and stepped up their diplomatic efforts.

To his credit, Fitzroy was prepared to listen to advice from the missionaries and several of the Ngāpuhi chiefs. He arrived in the North in August and attended the second of two very important meetings held at the Waimate Mission Station. He came unarmed, without soldiers, and with a genuine desire to negotiate peace.<sup>1</sup> An agreement was reached: certain Ngāpuhi chiefs promised to maintain the peace and to keep Heke under control and in return, Fitzroy agreed to keep the soldiers out of Northland". *Source: Department of Conservation via Ruapekapeka.co.nz*

There are several sketches of this meeting from the day at Te Waimate including:

[https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps\\_pid=IE57206558&dps\\_custom\\_att\\_1=emu](https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE57206558&dps_custom_att_1=emu)

There are also notes from Fitzroy, Selwyn and one letter attributed to Heke but probably written by his wife. An earlier meeting had been held at Māngungu on the same topic on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 1844

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/8755336?searchTerm=mangungu%20meeting>

**1848: Heke agrees to meet Governor Grey in Burrows House (the surviving mission house at Waimate) to mark the end of the Northern Landwars**

“To mark the occasion Heke presented Grey with his greenstone mere, not so much as a mark of respect and an emblem of peace, but as a token of acceptance of Grey's right to be in New Zealand and of Heke's expectation that the Queen's representative would honour the treaty. Symbolically, in Heke's eyes, by accepting the gift Grey was also accepting the responsibility of trusteeship. (*Source: Teara*)