

The Papakura Sentinel



Number 62

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Sentinel belatedly wishes all PDHS members, Papakura Museum staff and volunteers and *Sentinel* readers a very happy Christmas (in retrospect), a nice relaxing holiday and a great start to the New Year. Apologies to those who were hanging out for some great New Year reading and were disappointed. Editor wasn't at his best. But January is still summer holidays, and we hope you will enjoy your reading.

Museum and Society have had a very productive and satisfying year; after all the disruption of the previous two, the old energy is back and turbocharged, we haven't missed a meeting since March, we've had great speakers, the Museum has made great progress with new projects and some exciting exhibitions. And there were those two anniversaries. We look forward to even greater things in 2023.

Along with the ordinary maintenance in the Museum, we have had new displays, and with funding and artefacts for the Rings Redoubt, we will have a wonderful addition to the Military Gallery and especially the Waikato War. Alan is a trained archaeologist and will be in his element as he works to set up the display based on the archaeological survey of the site undertaken in the last decade. All the artefacts have been donated to the Museum and they tell an interesting story. Alan and Iain Wakefield report in this issue of *Sentinel*.

We wish Ione Cussen the best as she retires from the team. Alan Knowles will be back as our Curator, and among other things will be remodelling a wall for Mana Whenua, so that the story of Te Akitai and Ngati Tamaoho, the major iwi in this area, is told. We expect to be working with them on this project. And we are making big steps to update teaching resources and provide activities for the Aotearoa New Zealand History Curriculum.

'Lens on Papakura', an exhibition by our team using Papakura resources, was a great success, and was followed by an exhibition provided with passion and pride by the Ukrainian community. And we encourage you all to visit 'Soaring', an exhibition Alan worked on with great enthusiasm in partnership with the Auckland Gliding Club (which flies out of Drury), which will be of great interest during the summer months. We will also be repeating the Heritage Walk over the summer. Anyone interested in joining a walk should get in touch with the Museum or with your editor. (Text 0272159221). *Best wishes, Ed.*

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An Impressive Acquisition



Pictured is a tailor-made, hand-stitched replica of the uniform worn by members of the 65th (2nd Yorkshire North Riding) Regiment of Foot. It was donated in November by a former member of a reenactment group. The red jacket was 'dress uniform' — on active service a blue serge jacket was worn. The replica compares very favourably with the photograph above, taken circa 1861. [Alexander Turnbull Library: PA1-q-250-03; Urquhart Album — compiled by Lieutenant C J Urquhart, of the 65th Regiment]

The regiment's official nickname was the Royal Tigers, earned from their service in India, and the regimental badge [left]. Māori called 'hickety pips' derived from the Māori pronunciation of 65th. The first two companies to arrive in New Zealand took part in the last engagement of the 1st NZ War at Horokiri, north of Wellington, in August 1846. Up to 700 of the Regiment were quartered at Taranaki for more than five years. In April 1861, all but about eighty men returned to Auckland where they were quartered at the Albert Barracks. From there, 1861-1862, the regiment was engaged in road construction (along with other Regiments) building the Great South Road south from Auckland.



Locally the Regiment played a significant role in the early stages of the Waikato War. On July 13, 1863, 250 men (under the command of Captain [Richard] Swift) completed the task of building a redoubt overlooking the Waikato River, in just four days. The Redoubt was named in honour of Princess Alexandra of Denmark, who on 10 March 1863, had married Albert, Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VII. On 22 July 1863, at Kiri-Kiri, there had been a skirmish in which six officers and 81 men, under Lieut. Col Wyatt, were involved. There were about fifty soldiers located at Drury. At Cameron Town, 7 September 1863, two men from the 65th were awarded the Victoria Cross: MacKenna [McKenna], Edward, Colour Sergeant, 65th Regiment, near Cameron Town, Waikato Heads; and Lance-Corporal Ryan. At Rangiriri on 20 November 1863, ten officers and 376 men of the 65th, under Lieut. Colonel Wyatt, were present. The Regiment embarked for England, from Auckland, in October 1865. Over the period the regiment served in this country, over 1,100 men retired from the ranks and settled in New Zealand, many of them in the Taranaki area. In Drury there are reminders of that time in our history, by way of two street names. Tucked behind Drury School, off Sutton Road, are Murray St. (for Colonel G F Murray) and York St. (for the County of York).

Soldiering up the hill - the story of Kirikiri Redoubt

Did you know that when we drive over the lip of the hills above Papakura on Clevedon Road we drive over part of one of the fortifications built in 1863 as part of the Waikato War? Read on.

Iain Wakefield and Alan Knowles

An exciting new display for Papakura Museum that will be installed in 2023 is the assemblage of artefacts that were recovered from the excavation of Kirikiri/Ring's Redoubt located at the top of Papakura-Clevedon Road and donated to the museum by Cabra Developments. Redoubts are relatively rare sites across New Zealand; many of those built as part of the Taranaki campaigns survive quite well; while in contrast, the majority of those related to the Waikato campaign are either in poor condition or in an indeterminate state buried beneath modern development. Therefore, Kirikiri/Ring's Redoubt is considered a rare site type within its regional setting. The redoubt is significant both as an individual archaeological site and as part of the interrelated group of sites that make up a heritage landscape relating to the Waikato Campaign of the New Zealand Wars.

The redoubt was built by Captain James Tarrant Ring with 200 men of the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment in July 1863 as a response to Māori raids throughout the Papakura area. It was one of the posts along the Wairoa (Papakura-Clevedon) Road intended to make it a defensible line and cover the end of the Māori tracks through the Hunua ranges. Fighting is recorded to have occurred on July 22nd, 1863, between troops from the redoubt and nearby Māori. Ring's Redoubt served as a link in the chain of fortifications (redoubts and stockades) constructed to protect European settlers and their landholdings north of Wairoa and the eastern flank of the Great South Road supply route to the Waikato. At least two sites were inter-visible at all points and there were also semaphore poles with flags in addition for communication.

Tribal associations

'Te Ākitai, Ngāi Tai, Ngāti Tamaoho and Ngāti Pou are iwi who formed part of a wider confederation known as Te Waiohua and have associations with the area.' (Shakles et al, 2021). Te Hunua traditionally applies to the hill country between the Hunua Falls and Papakura.

However, at the beginning of the New Zealand Wars of the 1860s, Pukekiwiriki pa and the neighbouring settlement of Te Aparangi were under the control of the principal chiefs Īhaka Takaanini te Tihi, a great grandson of Kiwi Tāmaki, and Mohi te Ahiatengu. The village of Te Aparangi at Red Hill 'was the village of the old chief Īhaka Takaanini and his people of Te Ākitai and Te Uri-a-Tapa, hapus of the Ngāti-Tamaoho', located on the Kirikiri Stream (Cowan 1922:1, 252). From Te Aparangi Māori supplied Papakura and the developing town of Auckland with vegetables and fruit from their gardens and orchards. At times Īhaka resided there with his people of Te Ākitai and Te Uri-a-Tapa, hapū of Ngāti Tamaoho and Mohi with the Whakapaka hapū of Ngāti Tamaoho (Tonson 1966:68), before being captured near Ring's Redoubt by British troops during the New Zealand Wars, and then being taken to Rakino Island (Murdoch 1988). This historically important kainga has yet to be re-identified archaeologically, but further historical research has been carried out to establish its location" (Shakles et al., 2021).

Fortifications

There were nearby fortifications along the Wairoa Valley and these included Smith's Inn (The Traveller's Rest) on the Wairoa Road. This was stockaded and functioned as the base for 100 men of Jackson's Forest Rangers. Further east towards Wairoa (now Clevedon), the Upper Wairoa Redoubt (above Henderson's Farm) lay between Ring's Redoubt and Galloway Redoubt on the Wairoa Road where a total of 200 total men (100 regulars and 100 men of the Waikato Militia) were based.

Situated at Galloway (or Wairoa) Redoubt on the west bank of the Wairoa River were British regulars (24 men of the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment and some men from the 65th (2nd Yorkshire North Riding) Regiment)

and 127 militia men (Auckland Volunteer Rifles and Waikato Militia).

Settlers' Stockade was located on the east bank of the Wairoa River on McNicol's farm and only contained militia (Wairoa Rifle Volunteers).

The Lower Wairoa Redoubt lay further east towards the mouth of the Wairoa River on its east bank, at Captain Salmon's farm. There were 200 men situated there -100 from the 70th (Surrey) Regiment and 100 from the Waikato Militia.

What were the fortifications in the New Zealand Wars?

Pā were the most numerous Māori fortifications and might include rectangular pits under huts or deeper bell-shaped pits. They could be made from earthworks or wood or both. There were several adjacent defensive lines which included firing trenches and rifle-pits. However, they were an easy target for artillery and required considerable resources and manpower to build. They might extend up to 20,000 square metres in area. Often several were built together as palisaded enclosures to provide firing positions and thus mutual barriers and protection.

Rifle-pits were also known as 'rifle trenches' or 'firing trenches'. They were located either within the pā or forward to or to the sides of the pā, or sometimes as stand-alone works. They may also have had protective stockades or earthworks with timber and earth coverings for protection from artillery fire.

Redoubts (British) became increasingly common in the 1860s. They had earthwork defences with a ditch to approximately 6 feet (1.8 metres) and an inner bank up to about 8 feet (2.2 metres) from the adjacent excavated soil. They were typically square or rectangular (largely depending on the terrain) with bastions at two or more corners, with a drawbridge at the entrance. Redoubts could be constructed very rapidly and might typically house one or two companies of soldiers (100-200 men) in 20-30 tents inside the perimeter. They were mostly campaign works.

Stockades were common. They were made of close-set timbers, loopholed for defensive fire with bastions on at least two corners, a drawbridge and often a ditch outside the stockade line. Each stockade could accommodate up to 80 men.

Blockhouses were also common. They were small detached defensive buildings, loopholed for defence and often enclosed in earthworks or a stockade. Almost all were of brick construction. They were designed to accommodate 20 men.

Less common European fortification types include fortified buildings, saps and earthworks.

Sequence of historical events

2 July 1863 – start of arrival of the 2nd Battalion of the 18th Regiment of Foot in Auckland from Portsmouth, England.

12 July 1863 – Lieutenant-General Cameron led the Imperial troops across the Mangatawhiri Stream.

17 July 1863 – Ngati Paoa forces attacked the 18th Regiment at Stone Depot beside Martin's Farm, Ramarama. Captain Ring was commanding the escort. Five men died and eleven were wounded in this engagement.

18 July 1863 - Captain James Ring and 200 'rank and file' of the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment moved from the Drury Camp to Kirikiri on the Wairoa Road (since renamed the Papakura-Clevedon Road), Papakura.

An account from the *Daily Southern Cross* newspaper, 1863 described events:

"The orders being to occupy the position from which the natives had been expelled on the 16th [July 1863], and to which a number of them had returned, the force advanced up the high ground to Moses's [Mohi's] encampment, in a crater-like hollow between the hills. About 20 natives retired as the troops advanced. Several shots were fired into the encampment by the men as they advanced, but they were not returned. Tents were pitched

on the high ground above the settlement and commanding it; and an entrenchment thrown up. Captain Ring with 160 men holds this post. The troops found a large supply of potatoes, flour, &c, which will enable the force at present there to exist without large supplies for some time. A large number of weapons were also captured. The commissariat carts were loaded with provisions, and accompanied by an escort, returned to Drury" (*Daily Southern Cross*, 1863).



Map identifying the locations of the Kirikiri Stream, Te Aparangi, Moses Encampment/Kirikiri kāinga, and the area where Ring's original entrenchment would have been located – in relation to Ring's Redoubt to the northwest. *Image courtesy of Clough and Associates*

Ring and his men soon moved to a more accessible spot slightly further north, where they established another fortification, subsequently known as Ring's Redoubt.

Another newspaper account from 1863 describes the redoubt:

"Proceeding up the Wairoa Road for about two miles, we come to the redoubt, built and held by the 18th Regiment, under the command of Captain Ring. When this party first moved out from Drury camp, to take up a position at Kirikiri, tents were pitched on a bald spur on the range overlooking Moses's encampment, and on a site remarkably well chosen for defence. But soldiers must eat, and the hill camp was all but inaccessible for supplies. The present site was therefore chosen on the left side of the Wairoa Road, on an elevated piece of land, in line with the old camp, and commanding a view of the ranges and the surrounding country down to the Manukau. The post is held by 200 men and officers, but, owing to the heavy escort duty, and the detail for guards, not more than a working party of 50 men can well be spared at the redoubt at any given time. Yesterday, the western face of the redoubt was finished. It is 5 feet 3 inches inside, and 4 feet 9 inches outside. The ditch will be deepened. If to-day had been fine, I think the breast-work of the remaining sides would have been finished. As I saw it, however, it was tenable against any enemy without artillery. This post keeps the communication open with the advanced camps at the Wairoa, and forms a line in the chain of redoubts which will protect the country to the North of the Wairoa from being invaded by the enemy. The prospect from this camp is very fine indeed, extending down to the Manukau Heads" (*Daily Southern Cross*, 1863).

A settler named James Hunt was killed on 22 July 1863 by a band of 40 to 50 Māori attacking a group of four men cutting timber in the bush.

Additional men from the 65th Regiment (see article page 2) had been commanded by Colonel Wyatt and accompanied by Mr Anderson and Ensign Hay of the Militia. The force numbered 100 men. They were accompanied by troopers of Lieutenant Rait's Mounted Artillery. Two soldiers were killed.

21 August 1863 – first recorded use of the name Ring's Redoubt (*New Zealander*, 21 August 1863, p2).

21 Oct 1863 – 18th the (Royal Irish) Regiment departed the redoubt for the Waikato. (*Daily Southern Cross* 1863) The garrison was replaced by Captain Manie and a company of 100 men and Captain Freer and a company of 50 men of the 2nd Waikato Regiment of Militia.' (Shakles et al., 2021).

18 December 1863 – a company of the 43rd (Monmouthshire) Light Infantry Regiment under Ensign Morrow served as garrison until 5 March 1864.

25 January 1864 – a company of 50 men from the 1st Waikato Regiment under Lieutenant Hatchell augmented the 43rd Regiment.

5 March 1864 – Lieutenant Steele and 50 men of the 4th Waikato Regiment arrived as garrison. Later, Ensign Gairdner assumed garrison command.

8 July 1865 – Ring's Redoubt was abandoned as the 3rd Waikato Regiment under Ensign Bush (New Zealand Herald, 1865,) departed for its headquarters at Cambridge.

Subsequently Scottish settlers occupied the site after the military had abandoned it. The Scottish settlers had arrived on the *Viola* on 4 April 1865 from Glasgow. They lived at the redoubt for approximately three months.

Archaeological excavation and discussion

Excavation

Cabra Investments Ltd undertook the development of a residential subdivision on the site of Ring's/Kirikiri Redoubt at 935 Papakura-Clevedon Road. The Redoubt is a Category B scheduled historic heritage place, meaning that it is deemed to have considerable overall heritage significance to the locality or greater geographic area. The use of archaeological techniques such as geophysical survey, trenches, monitoring and subsequent artefact analyses have revealed a wealth of information and new data relating to the construction and use of Ring's Redoubt. Clough and Associates undertook the excavation from 2016 to 2018 and found over 6000 artefacts. The extent of the original defensive structure of Ring's Redoubt was also able to be estimated from an 1890 plan, geophysical magnetic survey, ground penetrating radar data and surviving features.

Features

Earthworks were undertaken in three stages and were used as the basis for the subsequent excavation. Archaeological excavation of the wider redoubt encampment and outer works relating to the occupation of Ring's Redoubt was carried out in the eastern Stage 2 and the Stage 3 earthworks areas. Archaeological features and deposits that were exposed during the Stage 2 earthworks were confined to the area at the head of a west-trending gully located to the west of the redoubt defences, while features related to the redoubt camp and associated structures were exposed during the Stage 3 earthworks to the west, north and east of the redoubt. The features exposed consisted primarily of ditches, postholes, and drains, although elements of structures were also found. There was no evidence of settlement activity associated with the Scottish settlers who subsequently occupied the site and, apart from a single munition and a few postholes, no other evidence of late 19th century activity within the excavated areas was discovered.

Despite the relative dearth of archaeological features in relation to the size of the investigation area, the artefact assemblage recovered was substantial, with the number of individual specimens totalling 6,177 pieces. Unfortunately, the properties of the soil across the excavation areas meant animal bone and organic material in general did not survive, and when on the rare occasion some bone was found, it was in a very poor state of preservation. The same applied to the metal artefacts, with the sole exception of lead items, which, once oxidised, remained stable in the ground. Copper alloy items, including those with regimental insignia, and ferrous items were corroded. The poor state of metal preservation on the site is most likely due to the location of the site on a ridge top, where during wet weather the soil will be wet but due to the ground sloping away the site will dry out relatively rapidly. This continual wetting and drying over the past 157 years have had an extremely detrimental effect upon both organic and metallic cultural material.

The investigation results indicate that to the east of the defensive ditch of the redoubt, a glacia ramp led up

to the ditch from the outer eastern side. This would have enabled the defenders to keep attacking forces under fire for longer. A large drainage ditch was recorded (which had been recut at least once) which ran around the north-eastern bastion of the redoubt, taking water away from the main defences. Immediately to the north of the redoubt, two sections of an enclosure ditch that would have served to enclose the camp were recorded, which can most likely be seen on Morrow's 1863 watercolour of the camp of the 43rd (Monmouthshire) Regiment. The enclosure ditch would have served a defensive purpose as the low earthen rampart on the inside of the ditch would have almost certainly been topped with a fence, and also would have drained water, keeping ground within the encampment area dry.



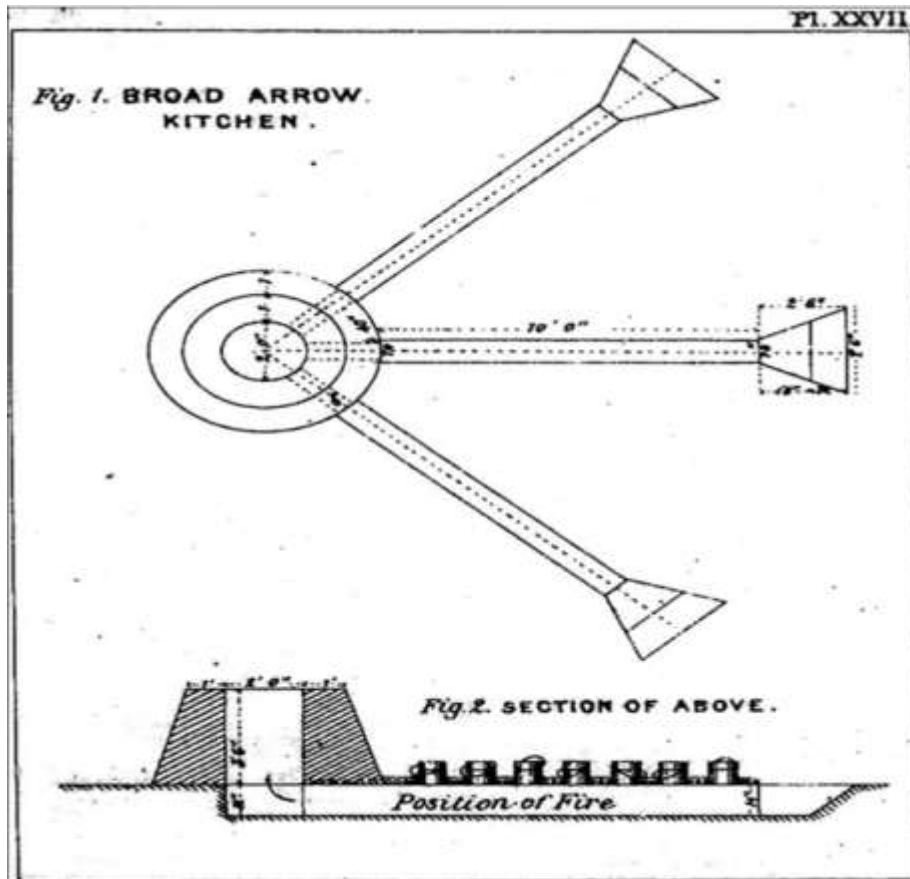
Watercolour of Ring's/Kirikiri Redoubt painted by Lt Colonel Arthur Morrow (1842-1937) 1863 and titled 'Camp H.M. 43rd Regt. Keri Keri (Papakura)'. A note on the bottom (not discernible at this scale) states 'Raupo whare, No.1 Royal Vol., Ring's Redoubt, Road to Wairoa'. *Source: Auckland War Memorial Museum PD42 (3)*

To the west of the redoubt, the excavation area was dominated by two large deposits related to an earthen platform, almost certainly that seen supporting the timber barracks building and described as a 'Raupo Whare' on Morrow's 1863 watercolour of the redoubt. There were large volumes of cultural material, much related directly to the military, with even more related to the consumption of alcohol, and some items that may have been obtained through looting. There were numerous postholes likely related to tent structures and tethering posts for horses. The most significant archaeological features in this area were all concerned with cooking and food preparation. These consisted of a cook house, cooking trenches (in a broad arrow pattern) and a probable bakery. At Ring's Redoubt the arrow consisted of two trenches, with a chimney at the apex; the fires were lit within the trenches and the kettles (large pots) placed on top, with the spaces between the kettles covered with stones, hoop-iron, or sticks plastered with clay or sods. These features are not well recorded in investigations of New Zealand War redoubts and commissariats, which makes them invaluable in understanding the layout of field encampments around redoubts as well as providing a glimpse into the daily routines and lives of the soldiers at the redoubt.

Artefacts

The artefact assemblage and archaeological features can tell us a great deal about the daily lives of soldiers at the redoubt. The militaria and numismatic (coin) assemblages produced by the archaeological investigation are for the most part what would be expected at a military site of the period. Most of the artefacts were munitions and regimental issue clothing. Less well represented were items attributable to equipment, with the numismatic assemblage being extremely modest, representing only 2.34% of the total. Other artefacts recovered from the excavation included ceramics, stoneware (such as ink bottles), glassware, clay tobacco pipes

and metals.



Schematic plan and cross section of a Broad Arrow field kitchen. Source: *Simmons 2013:130*



Muniton types recovered from the excavation and monitoring works at Ring's Redoubt: *Image courtesy of Clough and Associates.*

Description:

- a) examples of percussion cap primers; b) examples of .550" Minié style conical bullets for use with 1853 Pattern Enfield Rifle; c) .54" Minié style conical bullets for use with the Calisher and Terry carbine; d) .615" calibre musket ball for use with a Brown Bess style musket, probably with an 1800 Pattern Baker Rifle; e) the brass end of a ramrod for use with an Enfield Rifle; f) .442" calibre conical bullet for use with a 1851-54 Pattern Adams Revolver; g) .36" calibre pistol ball for use with Colt Navy Holster Revolver; h) examples of brass and cork tompions that were used for plugging the muzzle of an Enfield Rifle when not in use; i) probable steel trigger guard from a pistol; and j) a brass Boxer style cartridge case shell used with a .45 Long Colt Revolver centrefire spent cartridge .



Complete black beer (left), unidentified alcohol bottle (centre) and a Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce (right) Image courtesy of Clough and Associates

Interpretation

Archaeologist Richard Shakles, 2021, deduced that the fighting took place 2 kilometres away from the redoubt itself:

“It is clear from examination of contemporary accounts and maps that the two (Ring’s original entrenchment and Ring’s Redoubt) were located some distance apart, and that the skirmishes occurred in the vicinity of the original entrenchment near Pukekiwiriki Pa, Te Aparangi and Moses Encampment, approximately 2km to the southeast of Ring’s Redoubt.” (*Shakles et al., 2021*).

The archaeological excavations established the presence of a number of rarely found features connected with cooking including large-scale cooking trenches to enable the feeding of up to 500 men. The remains of the cookhouse, bakery and cooking trenches are particularly interesting as they give us an idea of how and where the cooking took place. The lack of refuse material within and around the cooking features clearly indicates that rubbish was disposed of elsewhere and away from the cooking areas. The very large quantity of black beer bottles indicates that soldiers procured beer rather than sherry and wine for consumption in the redoubt. Much of the beer would have been served from a store situated within the redoubt defences. It is noteworthy that such a large assemblage of alcohol bottle glass was recovered during the investigations of the encampment, as the large rubbish pits/trenches that would almost certainly have been at the redoubt were not found. Had they been one can only wonder at how large the alcohol-related assemblage would have become!

Food such as preserved oysters would have formed a part of the soldiers’ diets (oyster jars were recovered from the site) as well as other preserved food (meat, in the main poorer cuts that were used in broths, and some fish). Overall, the soldiers are likely to have consumed a much wider range of food than is reflected in the artefact assemblage, with most of the food-related vessels recovered restricted to those that contained condiments. That more remains of comestibles were not found is likely to be due to large rubbish dumps not being located within the investigation areas. The soil conditions were not conducive to the preservation of organic material and of bone in particular. As no identifiable faunal material was recovered during the investigation, archaeologists were unable to make any inferences on the nature and composition of the daily diet of the soldiers stationed at the redoubt. Pharmaceutical bottles indicate that the soldiers used common remedies that were readily available in the surrounding area.

The regimental paraphernalia retrieved consist of items derived from both uniform and issued kit. The artefacts recovered included projectiles and percussion caps that reference the weapons that were part of the daily professional life of the soldiers. Artefacts such as regimental buttons demonstrate the presence of soldiers from at least three other regiments at the redoubt, in addition to the soldiers of the 18th (Royal Irish) Regiment of Foot. The number of regimental artefacts associated with the soldiers’ uniforms, such as great-coat and tunic buttons, is relatively small, and is likely to be a result of the fact that at the time any uniform and kit items lost by a soldier would have to be replaced, with the cost taken directly from soldiers’ wages. It is also possible that some copper alloy regimental items have been lost from poor soil conditions which had corroded all metals other than lead.

Clerical work undertaken at the redoubt is evidenced by the stoneware ink bottles, writing slate fragments

and the dip pen. Clerical tasks would have been undertaken by officers and would have consisted in the main of conveying and responding to orders and requests for the resupply of military equipment as well as provisions of food. Other clerical work undertaken would be recording the daily goings on of the operations of the redoubt such as strength returns, and drill work. However, it is also likely that both the senior and junior officers would have written to friends and relatives overseas.

Papakura Museum Display

The archaeological investigation of the wider Ring's/Kirikiri Redoubt encampment has shed light on the lives of soldiers who had come from one side of the world to another to fight a war. Even after the passage of over 150 years, the impacts and consequences of the Waikato Campaign are still felt today.

Cabra Developments very generously donated the recovered artefacts to Papakura Museum which will form the basis for a new display in the military gallery in 2023. The display is being developed by Museum Curator Alan Knowles with input from Iain Wakefield and Rob Finlay. A new display case is currently being built that will enable the assemblage to be displayed to its full potential and newly worded panels with images will complement the display. Interactive elements include a touch screen that will enable the visitor to explore all aspects of Ring's Redoubt. It is anticipated that the display will be a major focus for Papakura Museum, attracting plenty of visitors (including school groups) that will serve to tell the story about this significant period in our nation's history.

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Kirikiri

The second half-century

Rob Finlay

We have been telling the stories of the settlement of Scottish families that was established in the rural 'wilderness' of eastern Papakura in 1865. Thirty five years later, by 1900, all too many had died, and most of the rest were dispersed outside the bounds of Kirikiri throughout New Zealand, Australia, in South Africa. But a core remained, and some of those who had made it to 1900 survived to live out a very respectable natural lifespan, with several generations following in the local area to mid-century.

In this instalment, the focus is on the lives in the early twentieth century. Sadly it begins with World War 1, when grandsons and sons of those original settlers served in the New Zealand armed forces overseas. The Great War was proof that the settler families saw themselves as British New Zealanders. Descendants of Scots and Ulster settlers, now intermixed generously with English and other stock, went overseas to fight in a war for a far country they saw as the Mother Country, yet they went proudly as New Zealanders, Kiwis. In many cases—too many— they did not return, or returned damaged in body or mind, and we record here only those who had been living in Papakura and whose loss was keenly felt in this community.

Two died on 4 October 1917 at Ypres on the Passchendaele front. James Laurence McKinstry, #18838, 28-year-old son of James and Margaret McKinstry was killed in action, and William Henry Henderson, #32006, son of Henry and Margaret nee Walker, died of wounds.

The following year saw three more losses among the Kirikiri families. On 28 March, Good Friday, L Corp William F. Derbyshire, eldest son of Charles and Elizabeth (nee McLeod), was killed in action on the Somme.

Walter James Henderson, #42329, Auckland Regiment, 1st Battalion, younger brother of William Henry, was killed in action at Havrincourt, France, 29 Sept 1918, aged 22

Less than a month before the war ended, on 13 October, Thomas Campbell, #46288, aged 34, died of wounds at Brockenhurst hospital after amputation of both legs following the second battle of Bapaume.

Laurence McKinstry was the sixth child in his family, one of four sons in a family of 11 children. He was apprenticed as a baker in Parnell and had lived in Taranaki, but prior to enlisting in April 1916 was a baker for Willis Bros of Papakura. He was a vestryman and choir member in the Anglican Church. At his farewell, he was highly commended by the Rev W C Wood and chairman of the Town Board D B Stewart for responding to the call of duty. He sailed for the front in July 1916. After a short stay at Sling Camp he was in camp at Etaples by 21 Oct. On 5 Nov 1916 he was with the 1st Batt. Auck. Inf. Reg. in the field. On 7 Sep 1917 he was detached to No 2 Army Rest Camp. James re-joined the 1st Batt and two weeks later was killed.

The news when it came was yet another devastating blow for James and Margaret McKinstry. One child had died at 8 months in 1893. However, between 1914 and 1919 they lost two daughters (Mary 21 and Isabella



Sons and grandsons

Left: James Laurence McKinstry; Centre: Walter James Henderson; Right: Thomas Campbell grave; Above: William Derbyshire. Photos Kara Oosterman, Papakura Museum.

Bates, 30 years) and all four sons (18, 28, 30 and 33 years, the other three to tuberculosis). Two of the sons were married. One, Alexander Lee was the father of five young children and another the father of two. They also lost an 8 year old granddaughter in 1917. [Thanks to Kara Oosterman for photos and information.]

Interwar years

Of those who had been adults in 1865 and had remained in the area, the last survivors included Catherine Smith who died in 1918, Elizabeth Haresnape nee McDonald, in 1919, Jane McKinstry and William Fulton, who both died in 1920, Gavin McMurray - in 1930 aged 90, Andrew McLean - in 1931 aged 94. Andrew's second wife, Mary, formerly Owen, who had been part of the Ruapekapeka 'colony' in Northland, died in 1933. Among those who had arrived in their teens or as children and had married in New Zealand, Eliza Lawson Richardson nee McLean, lived to 1933, John McCrae died in 1936 aged 90, James McKinstry in 1942, Thomas D Campbell in 1945 aged 91. Others like Eliza Richardson's sister Esther Walker, who died in 1945 aged 81 and Elizabeth Derbyshire nee McLeod, who died in 1962 aged 91, were born soon after 1865. Almost all had moved off their Kirikiri farms into town sections, either on the ¼ acre Kirikiri sections or on land subsequently bought in Papakura Village. They were the last connection with the pioneer Kirikiri settlement.

Two local newspapers, *Pukekohe and Waiuku Times* (1912-1921) and *Franklin Times* (1920-1945), provided obituaries for some of these survivors. Later generations held the old settlers in awe. Their stories of emigration and struggle to become successful members of society were recorded, often focussing on the hardships of arrival, life in raupo whare, hard physical toil: stories remembered in the generations that had known them, and all but forgotten thereafter. Stories of children and grandchildren, many with new surnames, or who had left Kirikiri and Papakura, were scattered on the winds. In recent years, family historians have attempted to regather them, and their challenge has been like mine, gleaning remaining memories and attempting to colour between the dots with information available from other sources.

Those who remained after them were mainly the youngest or oldest sons who inherited land or business, or daughters who married locally, and their children.

Not all newspaper notices were for deaths. The Golden Wedding celebration of **James and Margaret McKinstry** was held at the home of their daughter Mrs A Johnston, Hunua Road in 1931. The *Franklin Times* recorded the names of guests, reading as a roll call of close friends, family and in-laws. They included McKinstrys and the T G McClymonts (living in Auckland), Walkers, McNeils, McLennans, Smiths (all *Viola* or *Reso-*

lute names), and also Johnstons, Cosseys (there had been six weddings between the two families), Pollards and Davies, sometimes in duplicate and triplicate. The article stated: 'Mr and Mrs McKinstry have lived in the district ever since they came to the Dominion. They arrived in the same year, though on different vessels, at the age of nine and four years respectively.' (She was a McNeil). By 1931, there were no sons to succeed them, but the family lived on through surviving daughters. It would have been a bitter-sweet celebration.

Alexander Lee McKinstry had had a small farm and contracted to maintain roads. When he died in 1915 his widow, Harriet (nee Cossey), continued on the small farm near the corner of Dominion and Red Hill Roads. Later she married neighbour **Hugh McLennan**, a second generation Kirikiri settler like her previous husband. Only one of the McLennan daughters survived birth, but herself was childless. Harriet died, aged 62, in 1945, still at Dominion Road. She was survived by three McKinstry children and the one McLennan daughter. Her son Eric inherited the land. He had been living in Takanini in 1837, but by 1942, when he signed up for the armed forces, he offered his high quality poultry laying stock on Settlement Road for sale. Hugh died in 1952. A brother, Kenneth was still on the Papakura Borough electoral roll in 1950 although living in Ponsonby. (The Army had bought out the other McLennans. Thus ended both McLennan families' connection with Papakura.)

The Smiths (#58, April 2022) did very well in the nineteenth century, starting off with the 10 acres that became The Oaks and ending with 90 acres in Kirikiri, as well as the Pahurehure run-off called Argyle between South and Beach Roads. Clark had determinedly focused all his attention on farming, and had been rewarded.

Everything changed when Clark died in 1902 at his Smiths Ave house; Catherine lived till 1918. The eldest son, Samuel, had sold his Ardmore farm and moved to Hikutaia, and his brother Alex was to inherit the land on the death of his mother. But Alex predeceased her, dying intestate aged 39 in 1913. His northern Irish Protestant mother and his Southern Irish Catholic widow Katie with their three boys lived in the Smiths Ave house for some time before the former left to live with her daughter Nancy Stoupe in Pukekohe and then Onehunga. Katie inherited in 1918 and died in 1932, but by that time, the Smith holdings were run down.

First she had given or sold (there is some disagreement about what actually happened) part of the Pahurehure farm to the Catholic church—it is now St Mary's School. Katie's second marriage did not work out well, and her brother-in-law Pat Sweeney ran the farm. In 1932 the farm was in a mess.

Jack, the oldest, sold out his inheritance in land to his brothers but lived on the Clark Road farm (where the Mobil station is today), Jim inherited the Smith's Ave farm, Bill the Clark road farm, but left it in Jack's care when he went off to World War 2. [Information from Nancy Hawks, Clark and Catherine Smith and their descendants, January 2018, emails Dec 2021 and Jan 2022]

Croskerys (#60, August 22, p 16) were neighbours of the Smiths, and connected by marriage with Stewarts, Neillies and Nicols. Bill Croskery inherited his family land on either side of Croskery Road. He had also bought and leased land on his own account.

Bill and Margaret had two sons, Kenneth Jennings (1911) and William Douglas James (1917), and a daughter Rose Ellen (1923), a different family experience for Margaret who had grown up as the oldest of 15.

In addition to farming their land, Bill was a very public spirited and practical person who loved helping others. 'Using his horse and dray and his bare hands he cleared, ploughed and sowed Massey Park' at the age of 17, 'cleared the Presbyterian tennis court, Catholic cemetery, croquet club and numerous town board sections' without ever accepting a penny, helped to lay many Papakura roads and mowed the verges of many residents, and took a keen interest in sports, especially rugby, athletics and anything to do with horses, including pony clubs (and polo, according to his obituary). He was also a member of Oddfellows Lodge, the Beautifying Society and Historical Society. (Obit, an unnamed local paper, 1969)

Photos often show him with horses. John Bates remembers that he had a Clydesdale and a Shire, and a steel mower, and 'did all the streets'. When ploughing he often had an attentive audience. Jim Reeves walks be-



Bill and Margaret with William, Rose Ellen, and Kenneth



The Croskery farm. Below: Working. Photos Elaine Croskery.



hind him in the photo right. There is a story that on one occasion when he was working outside the cemetery, he ploughed up a skull: he put it on the fence with a hat on. The police removed it.

Both brothers were married and living in Papakura in 1950. Ken had married Ellen (Nellie) Ross in 1937, and they had two children Kenneth and Elaine. They were living close to McKinstry's on Dominion Road. He used to bike to the family farm on Croskery Road. When they were first married they worked for Mr Urquhart at Karaka. William and his wife were living on Settlement Road.

[Photos and information provided by Elaine Croskery, PDHS]

The family descended from **Robert and Margaret Stewart (#60, Aug '22, pp 10-14)** lived over Settlement Road from the Smiths, and had improved their lot under the stewardship of the youngest son Douglas Brown Stewart, his industrious Irish wife Ellen and large family of 15 hard-working children. In a way this was the reverse of the Smith family's fortunes. By the time he died in 1928 aged 61, they had increased their holdings from the 10 blackberry-infested acres on Willis Ave that had been nearly sold in 1896 to a consolidated farm of 30 acres and some sections adjacent. In addition Douglas had served capably as Chairman of the Town Board, the family had contributed to the community in other ways, and the older children were gaining a good education. The oldest son Douglas Brown Jnr wrote memoirs for the family which I made use of in the previous article. He also wrote about his experience in the army in World War 1, and on his return he became the first of three brothers to enter the Presbyterian ministry. Other members of the family also lived in the area. In addition to the oldest daughter, Margaret Croskery, Mabel was married to William Alexander and Ellen Grace was married to Jack Lever whose mother was a Rhind.

Andrew and Catherine McLean had originally settled in Otau, and then in Thames and the Piako swamp, but after some years had joined the Kirikiri community, buying land previously held by the Hay

family just south of Hunua Road near Coulthard's Mill where one of their sons had tragically died in an accident. Both their daughters married locally, the oldest daughter Eliza marrying William Richardson in 1880, and Esther, perhaps the first child born in Otau after arrival, marrying neighbour James Walker Jr in 1886.

Andrew and Catherine McLean celebrated their diamond wedding on 26 September 1916 at the Methodist Sunday School Hall presided by Rev Potter. At the time there were 27 grandchildren and 12 great grand children.

Catherine died in 1918 at the age of 86, and in the same year Andrew married again. His new bride, Mary Owens had been a shipmate on the *Viola*. She and her husband James had become part of the Kawakawa and Ruapekapeka 'colony' along with Rusks and Rosses; the widowed Mary had run an isolated farm up north and raised eight children. One of Andrew's and Catherine's sons had married a Ross in Ruapekapeka, so he may have been a link enabling Andrew and Mary to rediscover each other. The couple maintained good health, and his mind was still sound when he died in 1930. The obituary reported him telling stories of his youthful involvement in the Fire Brigade in Glasgow in his last days, and 'he repeated in broad Scots, the 23rd Psalm.'

Mary lived another three years later, dying in Takanini.



The Richardson-McLean legacy.

Left: four generations with McLeans on the right, William Richardson and two further generations.

Right: McLeans in a car built for them by their son-in-law.

Photos Papakura Muse-



Two successful families carried on the McLean inheritance, locally, the Richardsons and Walkers.

Eliza Richardson, the Scotland-born elder daughter, a devout Methodist like her husband, died in the same year as her stepmother, three years after their Golden Wedding. Much has been written elsewhere (M A Smith, *Open all hours*) on the energy and enterprise of the Richardson family. She died in 1933, aged 75. They left four sons and five daughters, who were between them responsible for much of the enterprise and business (and historic photos) of Papakura in the first half of the twentieth century.

Esther's marriage into the Walker family sealed an alliance between two *Viola* families. James and Jessie Walker Snr had their farm on Hunua Road, and James, their oldest son, and Esther established themselves on the south of Hunua Road on a farm that came to be called Kelvin Grove (the title of a romantic Scottish song), where he bred milking shorthorns. (James' brother John Walker inherited his parents' farm.) At the death of James Jun in 1944, a year before Esther, the land passed to the youngest son Hector. Most of the other children also lived in Papakura, neighbouring Opaheke or Karaka. The barn on the farm became the venue for dances, with music provided by the Walker family.

Thomas Duncan Campbell and his wife Anne Hall, have featured several times. Readers will be familiar with Anne, the photographer who blessed us with wonderful photos of the Papakura district during the 1900s. (#52, April '21). Returning to Papakura in the mid-1880s, they owned land on Wairoa Road. Thomas was head sawyer at Coulthard's Mill and later provided stabling for horses close to the Station. Like T B

Stewart, he was on the Town Board for some years. He was a member of Lodge #56, and had a drivers license by 1926. They had four children. We have already told of their older son Thomas, a platelayer, who died in the last month of World War 1. Anne died in 1925, her husband living to the age of 91 and dying in 1945.

Their older daughter Mary or May was organist at the Presbyterian Church and a teacher in the Sunday School, when she married Arthur James Moody, a fireman and then train driver from Dunedin, in 1909. Her husband's work with the N.Z. Railways took them to Te Aroha for two years and Auckland for six years before they returned to Papakura to spend the rest of their lives in this district. They raised a large family at their home on Wairoa Road. One of their sons Harry Campbell Moody, born 1916, remained in Papakura working as an accountant, married and had children, and descendants still live in Papakura. May's younger sister, Annie, worked at Farmers as an accountant, and in 1929 married the widowed Thomas Duncckley from Shannon, who had set up a menswear shop in town which operated between 1928 and the 1950s (See *Open all hours.*) They lived in Opaheke Road and then Union Street. There is no indication they had children.

William Rhind, youngest son of James and Mary inherited and farmed Rose Brae at the top of Pukekiwiriki while operating a timber yard in Papakura. His oldest sister Mary had married William Neillie and brought up a family on Settlement Road by herself after he died in 1890.

Youngest sister Annie had married **Henry Lever** in a sparkling wedding reported on by the press (and in a previous issue of *Sentinel*), and they farmed on Hunua Road at the foot of the Gorge. Their youngest son Ted, formerly employed by PWD building bridges in Wellington district, returned to work on the farm and died here in 1943. In 1950 older son Robert Henry, reported wounded in World War 1, was a grocer's assistant living at 18 Broadway—there is a reference to the Broadway Lounge—with his wife Martha, who hosted the Papakura Women's Institute in her home, and their son Jack, a mechanic. Like the Richardsons, the younger Levers were stalwarts of the Methodist church in Papakura, and the women feature in music and sport.

When John McCrae, who had 30 acres on Red Hill, died in 1935, he had long been widowed and had no children. His will left his property to a nephew in Hunua and sister and niece in Cambridge.

Gavin McMurray sold his farm on Croskery and Dominion Road and moved to property on Onslow Road. He was the last trustee for the Orange Lodge. At his death at the age of 90 in 1930, he left two daughters; daughter Elizabeth, married to Matthew Gill Hutchinson, platelayer, lived in Onslow Road. They had one daughter Ella, who in 1933 married Norman Alexander of Clevedon, the couple making their home in Papakura.

McLeods and Derbyshires. Norman McLeod was a labourer in Papakura His younger sister Elizabeth and her husband Charles Derbyshire raised a large family, born in several homes in and outside of Papakura, working mainly in agriculture, but they bought land and their own house in Nelson Street in the 1920s. Charles died in Auckland Hospital in 1939, his widow long outlived him, and several children remained in Papakura. Son Stan was a drover.

More could be said, of Brisbanes, Nicols, McDonalds—all of whom had originally moved out of Papakura but remained part of the community and sometimes returned to work or retire here; of Patons and McCalls, originally children in the Otau *Viola* settlement who had made their home in Papakura. John Peat and Jesse McCall had lived in Moumoukai where their daughters were born, but came to Papakura for their education, and bought off Butterworth Ave. John McCall became a taxi owner, land agent and JP. But space is tight.

This issue ends with thanks and a plea: Thanks to all those descendants who have provided information on their Kirikiri, *Viola* and *Resolute* ancestors. I would love to hear from and meet people who identify with more of these families, especially Walkers, McLeods/Derbyshires, Rhinds/Levers, McKinstrys, but also McMurrays/Hutchinsons, Neillies, McDonalds, Brisbanes and Nicols.

Sources: A debt is owed to those named in the article. There is much information for this period in Michelle Smith's *Open all hours*. Citations are willingly provided on request.

NOTICES

MEETINGS: (held in the Papakura Library Meeting Room):

February meeting, Thursday 24 February at 1 pm. Guy Slocum, President of Auckland Airport Rotary, was the youngest pilot of the Royal Air Force at the age of 16, and served through the Cold War. His subject is **Crazy about aircraft**.

March meeting: Thursday 24 February at 1 pm

MUSEUM EXHIBITIONS:

December—April: Soaring—Auckland Gliding Club. Learn all about gliding.

March—June: Anne Frank exhibition with school focus.

TRIPS:

The Committee is considering plans for next year. Musick Point has been mentioned.

Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Library Meeting Rooms opposite the Museum, starting with the talk at 1 pm, continuing with business and afternoon tea (for a **\$2 gold coin** minimum). All are welcome. Phil Sai-Louie arranges our interesting speakers.

Events are advertised here, on the screen in the Museum window and on our blog and Facebook pages. Please check for updates and Museum news.

Trips are usually held on the fourth Saturday of each month two days after the meetings. The bus leaves from East Street behind the Access Point building at 10 am, unless otherwise stated. Cost is \$5 more for non-members, but anyone is welcome on a first come first aboard basis. Please register early and advise if unable to attend as numbers are limited.

To register for trips, please ring Dave at (09) 2984507

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The Papakura Sentinel is a bimonthly magazine of the Papakura & Districts Historical Society. Your contributions are welcomed. Please send directly to Terry or Rob by email: pdhs@papakuramuseum.org.nz



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