

Waimarama



Bare Island, Waimarama

Ivan Hughes

HAWKE'S BAY

the Real
Discover  New Zealand

Heritage Trail Waimarama

The hills and the plateau to the southeast of Hastings are places of great beauty and historical interest. Rising from sea level to 640m, mudstones capped with limestone have been uplifted, tilted and otherwise affected by the subducting (going under) Pacific Plate to leave a complicated and fascinating landscape. Sliding slopes overlooking the Pacific Ocean, once forested and now predominantly under grass, carry streams from a high rainfall area (2,000mm on the plateau) to lower areas with only 800mm average annual rainfall. Traversing areas of limestone, these streams have good flow characteristics, and have carved interesting channels and even fragile arches are to be found.

The first Europeans to visit Hawke Bay (named after Sir Edward Hawke, First Lord of the Admiralty) were aboard Captain Cook's 'Endeavour' which anchored offshore in 1769. While never actually setting foot on this coast, they did trade with the Maori people who had been in the area since about the 12th Century. The first Europeans to land were the whalers who set up coastal stations. About 1836 the graziers and land speculators started arriving followed by labourers and craftsmen, all of whom left their mark on the landscape.

The Waimarama Heritage Trail is just over 120km long and can be driven in 3 hours. However, to enjoy it fully, one or more days could be taken to visit all the sites and to enjoy all the walks. The Trail includes a small section of non-sealed road. Vehicle fuel is available in Hastings, Havelock North and Waimarama.

If you take any of the walks you are advised to carry valuables with you and to lock your vehicle.



Hastings i SITE, Visitor Information Centre

Ivan Hughes

Brochures referred to in the text are available from Visitor Information Centres. All distances are from the Hastings i SITE (Visitor Information Centre) on corner of Heretaunga and Russell streets, located across from the rail crossing with its unique water feature.

Note: Odometers may vary slightly between vehicles.

Distances shown in red are from the last progressive total.

0.0km. From the VIC on Russell Street turn left at the lights onto Eastbourne Street. On the right, in Civic Square, may be viewed a number of Maori carvings (pou).

Continue to the end of the street, turn left onto Willowpark Road then right at the roundabout onto Heretaunga Street East, thence to the city boundary (1.8km) (1.8km). The trees on the left at the speed limit sign are the remainder of an avenue of oaks, extending to the Havelock North boundary, planted by Thomas Tanner in 1876. The Trail continues ahead along Havelock Road on rich Heretaunga Plains where plant propagation, market gardens, orchards and vineyards flourish.

1. The Havelock Hills (Viewed while driving along Havelock Road).

Ahead the highest peaks of Te Mata and Te Hau are part of Te Mata Trust Park and form the distinct silhouette of a 'Sleeping Giant'.



The New Zealand Souvenir Co Ltd.

According to Maori legend the Te Mata hillscape is a sleeping giant, the hill being the body of the Maori Chief, Te Mata, from Waimarama. This chief preyed upon the Heretaunga people who decided that their best strategy was to beguile him with their own chief's daughter. A girl of great beauty, she set him seemingly impossible tasks. These he accomplished until she asked him to eat his way through the hill that divided their people. His first great bite was his last! By this time, however, the maiden had fallen in love with the giant, and laying her cloak over his body she jumped from the summit in despair. Te Mata's body is seen today silhouetted along the skyline, still complete with its cloak of grass.

Approaching Havelock North, The Trail crosses the bridge (3.9km) (2.1km) over the Karamu Stream. This old bed of the Ngaruroro River once separated Hastings from Havelock North and today offers a pleasant walk along 'Parks' Reach' (Karamu Stream Walkway) to Crosses Road.

Immediately after the bridge bear left at the roundabout onto Karanema Drive and pass the Mary Doyle Trust Life Care Complex and the BP service station. Proceed straight through the next roundabout at Napier Road.

To the right is the colourful village centre, where it's distinctive clock tower also marks Havelock North i SITE. From here brochures are available for Havelock North Village Walk, Havelock North Architectural Drive and various local trails.

Continue on Karanema Drive. The road then bears left onto Te Mata Road. Continue past Hereworth School (on the right), to the roundabout (5.6km) (1.7km) at Simla Avenue. The Trail diverts up Simla Avenue and then follows the ridge up Te Mata Peak Road passing the Taruna Essential Education training centre at #33 (www.taruna.ac.nz) (6.9km) (1.3km) to.....



Te Mata Trust Park Gates

Ivan Hughes

2. Te Mata Trust Park (9.3km) (2.4km)

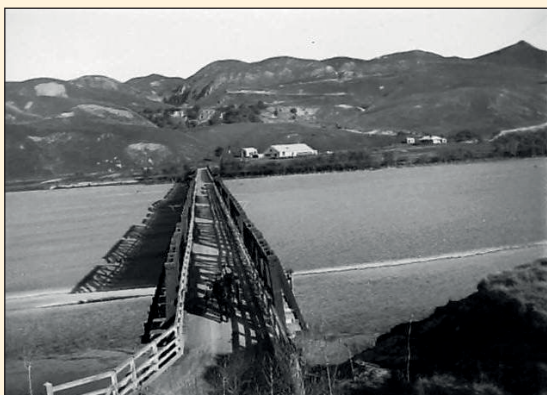
The walks that converge at the park entrance car park are strongly recommended as they pass through native and exotic tree plantings covering steep limestone and places of great beauty. Refer to Notice Boards and Te Mata Trust Park brochure. Driving on, the road passes The Peak restaurant (10.1km) (0.8km) and ends at the summit car park of Te Mata Peak (399m) (11.4km) (1.3km).

Here there is a plane table showing prominent landmarks and there are magnificent panoramic views that extend west to Mt Ruapehu and northeast to Portland Island off Mahia Peninsula.

Returning down the hill turn right to rejoin Te Mata Road. The Trail now continues past award-winning vineyards (refer



Havelock North Architectural Drive Heritage Trail) including Telegraph Hill, Black Barn and Te Mata Estate. Continue until the road joins Te Mata - Mangateretere Road (19.6km) (8.2km). Turn right onto Waimarama Road. Vistas open up of the lower Tukituki valley with vineyard and winery developments. View Craggy Range winery on the left. On the right, the tall limestone cliffs of Te Mata and Te Hau are popular with hang-gliders. Cross the Tukituki River over Red Bridge (25.1km) (5.5km), also known as Waimarama Bridge, which until the concrete structure was built in 1950, was a red painted, single lane, wooden bridge opened in 1904.



Red Bridge built 1904

Alexander Turnbull Library



Red Bridge built 1950

Alexander Turnbull Library

Turn right then veer left up the hill identifying the road corner with the route to Waimarama. The Kahuranaki Road continues right to Elsthorpe.

The Waimarama Road continues past a water-bird haven, Lake Lopez (28.1km) (3.0km) to then cross Maraetotara River (29.1km) (1.0km). Turn right immediately after the bridge and follow Maraetotara Road up the valley alongside the tree-lined stream to...



3. Maraetotara Falls and Heritage Walk (31.6km) (2.5km)

With an upper catchment of higher rainfall and limestone geology, the Maraetotara River has a good sustainable summer flow. In 1922, urged by Rev Robert Waugh, local Presbyterian minister with an engineering interest, the Havelock North Borough Council built a dam on top of Maraetotara Falls to raise the head for a piped intake to a hydro-electric power station constructed downstream. A tree-shaded walk leads 10 minutes upstream (with access back to the road) to the falls and 20 minutes downstream through limestone scenery past the old turbine house and a surge tower. Power lines from here once swung across the Tukituki River and through The Gap beside Te Mata Peak to a transformer in what is now the i SITE building in the village. (Refer Havelock North Architectural Drive Heritage Trail). Note police signs to lock your cars.



Maraetotara Falls

Ivan Hughes



Track to Falls, Maraetotara

Ivan Hughes

4. Mokopeka Hydro-Electric Power Station (33.0km) (1.4km) (Not visible from road).

The Mokopeka hydro-electric power station was built by John Chambers in 1892. He studied electricity by correspondence before ordering equipment from London.

The canal and dam were built by hand. At first a 14HP generator lit the farm and powered a workshop. By 1912 he had enlarged the plant to produce 17 kilowatts at a standard 110 volts with the old generator retired to occasionally drive a water pump. Today this power plant is still working as 'probably the oldest operational station in the world' (IPENZ plaque).

Continue on to pass the old Maraetotara School (40.4km) (7.4km) to...



Old Turbine House & Surge Chamber, Maraetotara - Ivan Hughes

5. Maraetotara Gorge Scenic Reserve (42.2km) (1.8km)

This Department of Conservation (DOC) Reserve is in a deep valley with a picnic area and view point close to the road. A rough track south of the view point leads down to native bush and a small natural limestone arch crossing a stream.

This remnant bush, together with those at Mohi Bush and at the higher Maraetotara Scenic Reserve, serve as reminders of the old native forest that once covered this entire area. Pre European fire was an early factor in the forest's demise, as noted in local Maori legend. Subsequently a long history of storm damage followed by fire has been suggested by recent Hawke's Bay research. More recently timber milling has been a final act in the conversion to pasture by Europeans.



Maraetotara Gorge Scenic Reserve

Ivan Hughes

Driving up to the crest of the plateau, the Trail turns right onto Waipoapoa Road (45.6km) (3.4km). The Wairunga Golf Course (47.5km) (1.9km), opens over summer months with a \$10 green fee, see the honesty box. Phone (06) 874 6839 for reservations and permission to enter. From here there are wonderful views of Motu-o-Kura (Bare Island) and the Pacific Ocean. Some 200m further up the road is the entrance to.....



6. Mohi Bush Scenic Reserve (47.8km) (0.3km)

Turn left through gate to grassed parking area. The longer of two walking tracks (allow 90 minutes) passes through a fern-clad damp limestone gully. Regenerating native tawa is one feature of this once milled reserve. Shelter and toilets available.



Mohi Bush Scenic Reserve Ivan Hughes



Picnic Shelter, Mohi Bush Reserve

Ivan Hughes

Of note here is the giant (stinging) nettle, ongaonga, which can cause severe allergic reaction. It is the food plant of the Red Admiral butterfly. Almost wiped out by man's use of insecticides, this butterfly is making a comeback laying its eggs, one to a leaf, on the tips of stinging hairs. When the caterpillar hatches, it rolls the leaf over to make a protected home with stinging hairs pointing in all directions, and feeds at night while predators sleep.



Ongaonga (Stinging Nettle)
Mohi Bush - Ivan Hughes

Return down Waipoapoa Road to the intersection with Maraetotara and Okaihau roads (50.0km) (2.2km). Turn Right onto partly sealed Okaihau Road to the first slight right hand bend to....

7. Te Aratipi Station (50.9km) (0.9km)

This was the site of at least two historic Maori battles. By the time missionary William Colenso came on the scene in the mid-1840s, the pa sites throughout the Waimarama area were deserted with only 80 to 100 Maori surviving.

The Waimarama area has been inhabited since man first settled Hawke's Bay. In the 12th Century, Toi arrived and one of his descendants, Rangitane, defeated the original people and occupied this coast.

Then came the period of 'The Third Settlement' when the Takitimu waka (canoe), captained by Tamariki-Ariki-nui, deposited Tutirangui-Wetewetoea, Tunui, Tuaitiki and Taewha at Waimarama, before sailing south. Taewha was a tohunga (priest) of makutu (sorcery) and he established a school to the southwest, called Maungawharau. One of his best pupils was Mahu from Wairoa whose exit examination was to turn someone to stone using his newly acquired powers. Unwittingly this turned out to be his niece Kurapatiu who was cutting flax in the lagoon. In separate incidents others were also turned to stone, and on the Kouipu Ridge, especially in misty conditions, limestone features may appear as people climbing a hill, some carrying children.

About 1550, Te Aomatarahi invaded Hawke's Bay from the north and defeated the Rangitane people. Defending first their Matanginui Pa and later the Rangitoto Pa, both of which had natural stone defences, they effectively hurled rocks down on their attackers taking a great toll. But things went against them, and after retreating to reform on the crest of Hakakino they were finally defeated. The victors, Ngati Kahungunu, settled in the area taking the women and by the late 1700s it is estimated that a thousand people lived in the numerous villages scattered along the greater Waimarama area.

In post European times Waikato Maori attacked Hawke's Bay with superior weapons. Traditional fortifications were of no avail and most Kahungunu fled to Mahia, but the Waimarama people who stayed fought a successful rear-guard action back up to Te Aratipi.

Continue on to Cabbage Tree Flat Station #288 Okaihau Road (56.8km) (5.9km). (Some more unsealed road) to....

8. Matanginui Viewpoint (58.0km) (1.2km)

This is further along Okaihau Road just beyond a spectacular gap. Maori defences occupied the summits of the flanking hills. The northern pa had buttresses of shaped fitted stone, a fortress such as built by European Iron Age man. The other pa, Rangitoto, was located by the present site of the television translator.

The views from Matanginui over the Pacific Ocean include Motu-o-Kura (Bare Island) and the present seaside resort of Waimarama.





Motu-o-Kura Island

Jim Watt



View of Waimarama

Ivan Hughes

9. Motu-o-Kura (the island of Kura)

This is where, in earlier days, the Waimarama people would take refuge during tribal attacks. With no water supply on the island the attacking force might wait for thirst to take its toll. However, rising to just such an occasion, Maori legend has a magnificent woman swimmer, Kura, diving to obtain fresh water from a seabed spring to the southwest of the island. This spring, Nga puha ake o te ora, or 'The Burp of Life', still exists today as a bubble of fresh water on the sea floor.



Okaihau/Waimarama roads junction

Ivan Hughes

At the bottom of the hill (59.5km) (1.5km), turn right to Waimarama to enjoy a beautiful surfing beach and a park-like domain. You could take a 5km detour up the no exit Te Apiti Road to #498, a 15th Century ancestral and archaeological site. For further information contact phone 021 057 0935.



10. Waimarama



Waimarama Store

Ivan Hughes

Turn left at the domain sign to the store (60.4km) (0.9km) where Waimarama walk brochures are available. Then right onto Moori Road (60.8km) (0.4km) to the Waimarama Domain where beach access, car parking, public toilets and the Surf Life Saving Patrol are available.



Phoenix Palms, Waimarama Domain

Ivan Hughes

Swim only between flags on beach, if patrol is on duty. Lock cars.

Proceed through the avenue of Phoenix palms to the beach-side Paparewa Reserve. Note that the domain gates are closed every day at dusk.

For use of boat ramp, phone caretaker Walter Broadman (06) 874 6731.

At the south end of the beach at the car park with beach access, (62.6km) (1.8km) is the start of a long rock-hopping



Waimarama Beach and Bare Island

Ivan Hughes

walk south along the coast to Karamea (Red Island), 'a rock-collector's delight'. Cray Bay at the halfway point is an interesting destination for the less agile. Allow 6-7 hours for a return walk. Time your visit to be at Karamea at low tide.

Note that tides are one hour earlier than Napier.

On the beach near the Kuku Rocks the Takitimu waka (canoe) was beached using skids of totara logs. Two stones remain that are said to be those that were used to anchor the canoe.

The landward one, Taupunga, is located up the beach nearer the present domain. The name 'Taupunga' is also that of the wharenuī (meeting house) at the present-day Waimarama Marae.

At the Kuku Rocks and before the days of road transport, European settlers loaded bales of wool from wagons onto whaleboats. These were then rowed out to a waiting coastal steamer belonging to Richardson's Shipping Company of Napier.



Returning back along Harper Road, (Note: Toilets at (63.2km)) to rejoin Waimarama Road at the bridge (65.0km) (2.4km).

Proceed past the fire station and stay on the main Waimarama Road, noting the turn-off to the cemetery (graves of well-known entertainer, Bruno Lawrence and the Gillies and Mohi families). Continue on and pass, on the right, the marae, school (down side



Waimarama Marae

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Waimarama School

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St Mark's Church,
Waimarama

Ivan Hughes

road) and the church of St. Mark, built 1917. Follow the road up the hill to a point where, looking back to Waimarama, there is a fine view of Motu-o-Kura (Bare Island) and the Waimarama coast.

Continue on Waimarama Road to Waipuka Road (71.4km) (6.4km) where you may take a 2.3km diversion to see a life-style development and grand views of the coastline. Continue to Ocean Beach Road (76.5km) (5.1km) and turn right. Continue to

11. Ocean Beach Lookout (80.7km) (4.2km)

With beach views to the north, and sighting of the private Cape Sanctuary Reserve, Ocean Beach is another fine surf beach with public toilets available.



Ocean Beach from Lookout

Ivan Hughes

Please take special care if you drive down the steep narrow road to the beach, 'down' traffic should give way to 'up' traffic).

Two beach walks are available:

- i. South along the beach to Waimarama (7.5km one way). Choose low tide. Allow 4.5 hours return.
- ii. North along the beach to Whakapau Bluff (8km one way; allow 4.5 hours return). Whakapau Bluff prevents easy access to the stretch of coast north to Cape Kidnappers, although locals know of an offshore reef/sandbar that can be waded to at low tide if no surf is running. Between the bluff and the cape is the site of William Morris' 1838 Rangaiika whaling station, the boiler from the wreck of the 'Go Ahead' (1887) and two rock arches.



Ocean Beach looking south

Ivan Hughes



Early Settlers of Ocean Beach.

Francis and Annie Bee arrived at Port Nicholson, Maori name Poneke, now called Wellington Harbour, on the ship 'London' on 1st May 1842, landing on Petone Beach after a passage taking five and a half months (165 days).

The Bees settled in Wellington, setting up a bakery and attempting to establish a flour mill. They then bought the Nelson Inn, Wellington, managed successfully by Annie. Francis was keen to change his direction and after an unsuccessful venture to the goldfields of Australia, returned to Wellington where he used the savings from the hotel venture to purchase a flock of 200 merino sheep. He then drove this flock north along the east coast of the North Island to Ocean Beach where he leased 12,000 acres (4,856 hectares) of the Waipuka Block from the local Maori. Annie then joined Francis, sailing up the coast on the schooner 'Salopian' and landing on the desolate Ocean Beach. The farming was successful though tragedy struck when their young son, Frank, was drowned in the Waingongoro Stream and swept out to sea.

Farming of the Waipuka run continued for about ten years until the lease was due to run out and the family decided to move to Havelock (now Havelock North) where for a time they ran the Havelock Hotel sited where St Columba's Church is today.

12. Cape Sanctuary

Cape Sanctuary, of 2,500 hectares, is set apart by a 10.6km predator proof fence stretching across Cape Kidnappers from Clifton to Ocean Beach. It is New Zealand's largest privately owned and funded wildlife restoration project. The owners share a long-term vision, beyond their lifetimes, with many volunteers, to restore the coastal communities of land and sea birds, reptiles, invertebrates and plants that would once have existed there.

Returning to Waimarama Road (86.1km) (5.4km) the Trail passes on the left Maraetotara Road, which had been followed earlier and proceeds back westward over the Maraetotara River bridge toward the Tukituki River. At the Mount Erin (490m) viewpoint are further views of the Tukituki valley and Te Mata Peak. At the bottom of the hill, (90.0km) (3.9km) turn right, and just prior to the Red Bridge turn right again onto Tuki Tuki Road (91.0km) (1.0km). Proceed 1.5km to view, on your right, and only from the road.....



13. Belmont Homestead (92.5km) (1.5km)

Architecturally designed by William Gummer this was the original Craggy Range homestead built for William van Asch. The van Asch family moved from the upper Waitotara Valley and purchased 3,700 acres (1,497ha.) of Tuki Tuki Station in 1913. Gummer had designed 'Tauroa' for the Chambers, friends of William van Asch, (See Havelock North Architectural Trail) and was engaged by William to design a grand home for the van Asch family. The building was completed towards the end of 1918. Felix Campbell purchased the home in 1948 and renamed it 'Belmont' after the family home in Ireland. The present owners, son and daughter-in-law of Felix, make the facilities available for group functions. For arrangements phone (06) 874 7836.



Belmont Homestead

Ivan Hughes

14. Tuki Tuki Homestead (96.8km) (4.3km)

Originally built about 1878 by William Nelson as 'The Lawn' at Mangateretere during the 1890s the house was left empty with a reputation of being haunted by a female ghost. In 1900 it was purchased by Stewart Scrimgeour, loaded onto sledges and towed across the river to this site by two of Pilcher Brothers' steam traction engines - quite a feat for those days. Because ghosts cannot cross running water the house was no longer haunted. It became the home of Alan 'Tuki' McLean and subsequently the Brownlie family (Maurice, Cyril and Laurence of 1920s All Black fame) then the Coop family who, after it was destroyed by fire in 1994, built a similar but modern home designed by architectural designer, Rob Singleton, on the same site.



Tuki Tuki Homestead

Don Trask



The road climbs to 'The Havelock Hills Viewpoint' (98.0km) (1.2km), crosses a ridge and then a view opens to the west, of the fertile expanse of the Heretaunga Plain, which was mainly swamp in 1850.

Continue along Tuki Tuki Road, note the Waiana Station dry stone fences on left at (98.5km) (0.5km), and turn right onto Raymond Road (102.7km) (4.2km) to...



Te Mata View

Don Trask

15. Clive Grange (103.2 km) (0.5km)

On the right amongst the trees was a house built by James MacFarlane in 1904. This was a grand home, the lower floor consisting of bricks fired on the property. By this time the earlier Clive Grange homestead owned by Sir George Whitmore in Haumoana had been cut off from the old Joseph Rhodes' property and MacFarlane also named his new house 'Clive Grange'. In later years this was owned by the Paxie family but was left unoccupied, though furnished, for some years and burnt down on 25 January, 1975.



MacFarlane's 'Clive Grange'

Alexander Turnbull Library

Also on the right at the top of a hill (103.7km) (0.5km) is the home built for Dr Raymond, for whom Raymond Maternity Annex in Waipawa and this road were named.

An interesting innovation is the Parkhill subdivision, on the right, where private house sites have been introduced into the midst of a vineyard.

Turn right at the Haumoana School (104.4km) (0.7km) onto Parkhill Road then right onto Home Road where you will observe the extent of the subdivision. At the loop (105.9km) (1.5km) return to Haumoana School then continue ahead on Parkhill Road.

Note the vineyards and intensely cropped land. At the next intersection turn left then right to cross Black Bridge, formerly known as Tukituki or Grange Bridge which, until the concrete

structure was built in 1956, was a black painted, single lane, wooden bridge opened in 1888. At the next roundabout (111.9km) (6.0km) turn left onto Lawn Road.

Almost immediately on the left is the entrance to Matahiwi Marae (112.1km) (0.2km). Follow a long driveway back towards the Tukituki River. This is one of 17 marae in the Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga district.

16. Matahiwi Marae (112.6km) (0.5km)

This marae was originally sited closer to the mouth of the Tukituki River but flooding caused it to be relocated to this site. In 1936 the section that Matahiwi now occupies was gazetted as a Cemetery and Building Reserve. This was a Greenfield project. The first building was erected in 1965, then in 1977, with John Hadfield as chief carver, a beautifully carved meeting house (wharenui) was commenced and opened by the late Maori Queen, Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu, in 1980 to replace an earlier one destroyed by fire in 1946. The wharekai (eating house) was built by workers from Whakatu freezing works after it closed in October 1986. The opening of the wharekai was celebrated in 1988. The marae tells the story of Maui, his four older brothers and his mother and father. The top of the central pole depicts the Hook of Maui (Te Matau-a-Maui) which is the Maori name of nearby Cape Kidnappers. The first Matahiwi was the original burial place of the famous chief Kurupo Te Moananui in 1861.

Visitors are welcome by arrangement.

Please contact the custodian,

Georgina Taylor, phone (06) 870 0741 or

Mr T. Mulligan, e-mail tommulligan@extra.co.nz



Matahiwi Marae

Don Trask

Return to the road and turn left. Further along on the right is an older home...

17. Exmoor (114.2km) (1.6km)

Once home of the Tucker and Agnew families until it was converted to a government horticultural research centre in 1971, 'Exmoor' is now again in private ownership. An amazing camera museum collection is based here.

Visitors are welcome by arrangement, phone (06) 21 109 06

18. The Lawn (115.0km) (0.8km)

On the right, at #185 was the original 32 roomed house built by William Nelson and named 'The Lawn' after his ancestral home in Warwick, Warwickshire, England. The house was originally sited a short distance to the west against the advice of Mr Powdrell a local resident, who warned Nelson the area was subject to flooding. A flood shortly after necessitated a shift to this site. The same house was relocated across the Tukituki River as the original Tuki Tuki Homestead. (See previous reference at 96.8km Site 14).

Proceed to the next roundabout (115.7km) (0.7km) and turn right onto Pilcher Road then left onto State Highway 2 at Mangateretere School (116.7km) (1.0km). Continue towards Hastings to, on left.....



'The Lawn'

Faulknor Family

19. Waipatu Marae (119.1km) (2.4km)

Waipatu Marae, opposite Bennett Road, is the site of the first Maori Parliament sitting in 1892. The wharenui (meeting house), which is called Heretaunga, first stood at Pakipaki before being moved to Pakowhai and in 1875 to its present site at Waipatu. The ancestor and tekoteko (carved figurehead) of the wharenui is Tamatea Arikiniui the commander of the Takitimu waka (canoe) which was built in Samoa, sailed to Tonga, Fiji, Tahiti and the Cook Islands before arriving in Aotearoa about 300 years later. The three hapu (secondary tribes) of Waipatu are Ngati Hori, Ngati Hawea and Ngati Hinemoa. It has an urupa, (cemetery) an Anglican Church - St Matthew's, Kaumatua (older person) flats, tennis and netball courts, Aunty's (organic community) Garden, a Kohanga Reo (pre-school) and home of Tamatea Rugby and Netball Clubs.



Continue on Karamu Road to, on right

St Matthew's Church, Waipatu Marae - Rev Numai Tomoana



Waipatu Marae

Don Trask

20. Hawke's Bay A&P Society Showgrounds (119.7km) (0.6km)

This is the home of the Hawke's Bay Agricultural & Pastoral Society Showgrounds at Tomoana.

In 1863 the then HB Agricultural Society's first show was held in Danvers' paddock in Havelock North. For a few years the society was involved with shows at Waipukurau, Meeanee and West Clive. In 1872 it became the HB Agricultural and Pastoral Society and the name and show month have since remained unchanged.

By 1874 the show was held at its own facilities in central Hastings where the present police station now stands. In 1878 the society purchased land where the present Hastings Racecourse is and for the next 46 years, with the exception of the war years, the show was staged here.

The society's next move was in 1911 when it purchased land from William Nelson at Tomoana. However, the shows continued at the racecourse until 1925 when it was decided to move to the present venue. Expansion at Tomoana continued and in 1933 a further parcel of land, including Waikoko Homestead and grounds, including the lake and gardens, were added.

The present grounds, consisting of approximately 100 acres (42 hectares) with its many buildings and facilities, are well-placed for accommodating events such as Festival of Lights, Farmers' Market, Horse of the Year and many community activities. Within the showgrounds is

21. 'Waikoko'

In 1884 William Nelson, whose first wife died tragically at 'The Lawn' in 1883, bought a property, 'Maxwell Lea', from Robert Wellwood, first mayor of Hastings – 1886-87, which he re-named 'Waikoko' and moved in with his second wife. The original entrance to Waikoko was off Karamu Road through a fine avenue of trees but was later moved to Kenilworth Road.



Magnificent gardens and a lake were developed and became a

Autumn Tones, Waikoko

Ivan Hughes

showpiece. Unfortunately the homestead, which was known for the remarkable wisteria vine growing over the front veranda, burnt down in 1976. This was also close by the former Tomoana freezing works established by Nelson.



Continue to....

Lake, Waikoko

Ivan Hughes

22. The Park Mega Centre (121.4km) (1.7km)

This was originally Nelson Park given by William Nelson for a sports ground serving the community primarily as a rugby and athletics centre. In 2007 the land was sold for commercial development and an alternative sports complex was developed on the western boundary of Hastings on Percival Road.

Continuing on Karamu Road North, turn right at the next lights onto St Aubyn Street.

At the corner (121.7km) (0.3km), on the left was the early fruit auctioneers Slater's where a large percentage of the local produce was gathered and sold. Between there and the next intersection a small building housed the Hastings District School, the first State school, forerunner of Hastings Central School and venue for the early Presbyterian Church services.

Continue on St Aubyn Street across the railway line and turn left onto King Street (122.0km) (0.3km).



William Nelson & 'Tiddles' memorials, William Nelson Park

Ivan Hughes

On the right is William Nelson Park dedicated to the Nelson name. It contains a bronze memorial of William Nelson and his dog Tiddles, a skate park and a children's playground.



William Nelson Park playground

Ivan Hughes

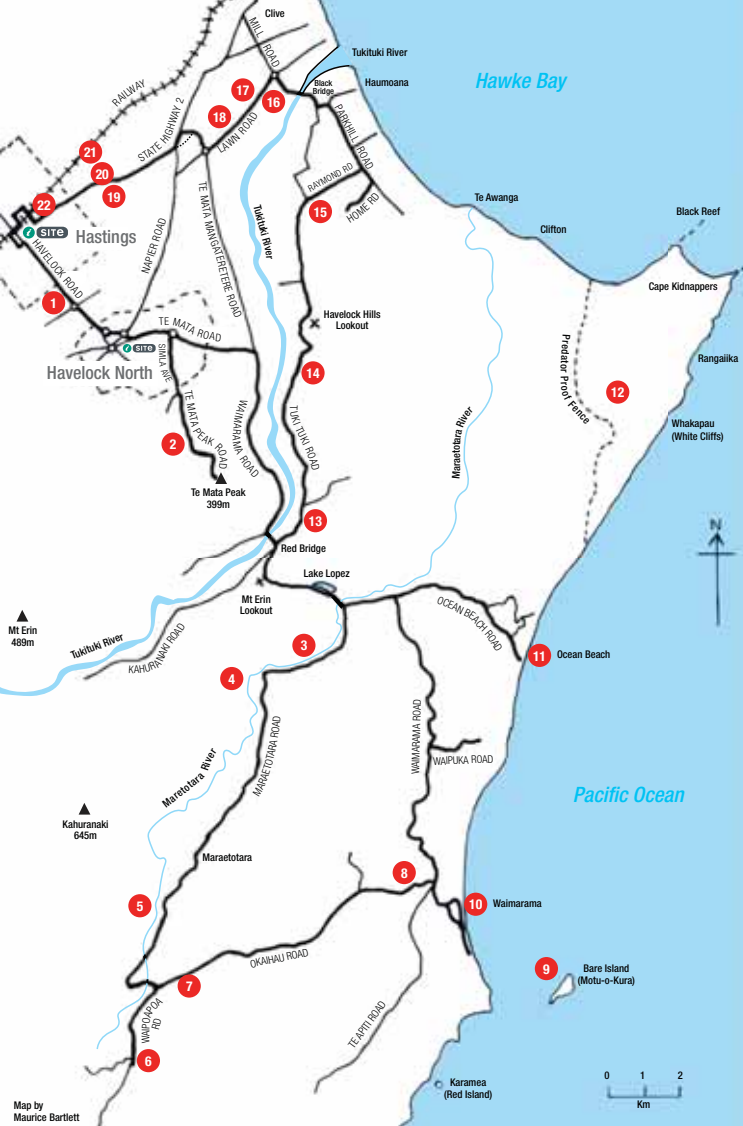
Continue on King Street and after two blocks turn left onto Queen Street. After crossing the railway line (122.5km) (0.5km) turn immediately right onto Russell Street.

The building on the corner, the Hastings Health Centre, was originally the Hastings Post Office which was considerably damaged during the 1931 Hawke's Bay Earthquake. (See the Hastings Urban Drive Heritage Trail). The early Hastings Railway Station and yards extended from this intersection back to St Aubyn Street.

Continue on Russell Street to the Hastings i SITE.

The Trail ends here (122.7km) (0.2km).





- | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Havelock Hills | 12. Cape Sanctuary |
| 2. Te Mata Trust Park | 13. Belmont Homestead |
| 3. Maraetotara Falls and Heritage Walk | 14. Tuki Tuki Homestead |
| 4. Mokopeka Hydro-Electric Power Station | 15. Clive Grange |
| 5. Maraetotara Gorge Scenic Reserve | 16. Matahiwi Marae |
| 6. Mohi Bush Scenic Reserve | 17. Exmoor |
| 7. Te Aratipi Station | 18. The Lawn |
| 8. Matanginui Viewpoint | 19. Waipatu Marae |
| 9. Motu-o-Kura (the island of Kura) | 20. A&P Showgrounds |
| 10. Waimarama | 21. Waikoko |
| 11. Ocean Beach Lookout | 22. The Park Mega Centre |



Entrance, Mohi Bush

Ivan Hughes



Maraetotara Falls Sign

Ivan Hughes



Maraetotara Falls Track
- Ivan Hughes



Mohi Bush Tracks
- Ivan Hughes



Old Penstock Pipes, Maraetotara

Ivan Hughes



Reflections, "Waikoko"
Ivan Hughes



Old Penstock Pipes,
Maraetotara Ivan Hughes



Nelson Memorial, "Waikoko" Ivan Hughes



Nelson Memorial, "Waikoko" Ivan Hughes



Surf Life Saving Lookout,
Waimarama Ivan Hughes



Agapanthus and Bare Island
Ivan Hughes

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Bibliography

City of the Plains - Mary Boyd
Hawke's Bay on Show - Ewan McGregor
Smoke Across the Bay - Margaret Wilson
William Nelson of Tomoana - R J Paterson

Abbreviation:

NZHPT - New Zealand Historic Places Trust

Other Hawke's Bay Heritage Trails

Available from:

i SITE Hastings
i SITE Napier
i SITE Havelock North
Havelock North Function Centre

Based partially on previous
Waimarama Heritage Trails pamphlets

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