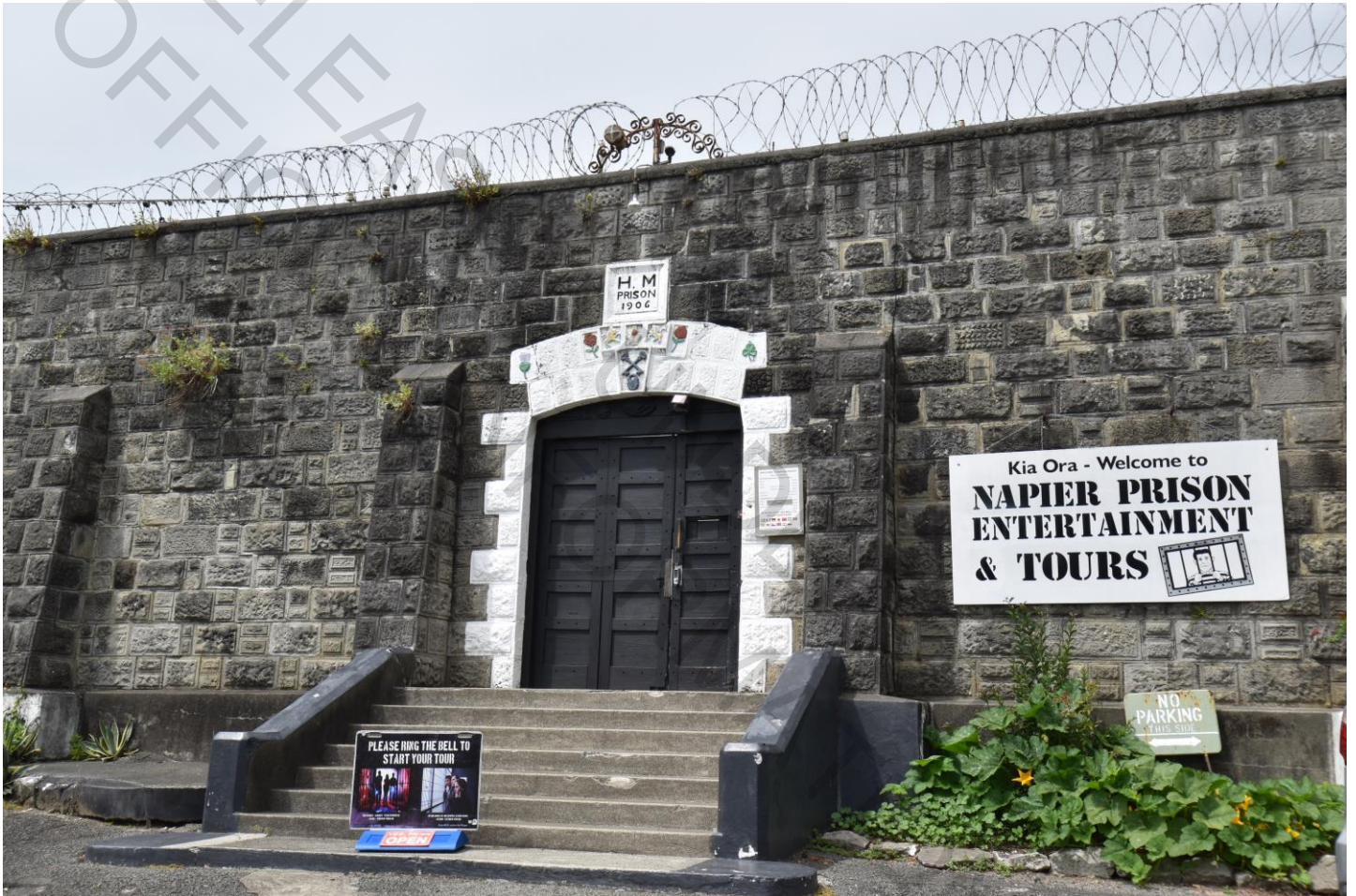




HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero – Review Report for a Historic Place **Napier Prison (Former), NAPIER (List No. 181, Category 1)**



Napier Prison (Former), Blyss Wagstaff, Heritage New Zealand, 21 January 2020

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Please note that entry on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangī Kōrero identifies only the heritage values of the property concerned, and should not be construed as advice on the state of the property, or as a comment of its soundness or safety, including in regard to earthquake risk, safety in the event of fire, or insanitary conditions.

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PURPOSE OF REVIEW

The purpose of this review is to consider whether there are grounds to vary the extent of the List entry for Napier Prison Wall (List No. 181, Category 1 historic place) to encompass the wider site of the former Napier Prison.

This review assessment concludes that the List entry extent should be varied as indicated above, as the wider Napier Prison site is considered to qualify for entry on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero as a Category 1 historic place on account of its outstanding heritage values. It is additionally proposed to change the name of the List entry to 'Napier Prison (Former)', to reflect the broadened extent.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Napier Prison (Former) atop Bluff Hill was built by the Hawke's Bay Provincial Government in 1862 and remained in operation for 131 years, despite successive calls for closure from the early 20th century. The former prison has outstanding historical significance for reflecting the early development of New Zealand's penal system and is the most complete example of a purpose-built prison from the provincial government era (1853 – 1876). It is of further special historical significance for including one of New Zealand's earliest lunatic asylums. Its special aesthetic qualities and completeness, authenticity and integrity make it one of our key heritage sites for educating the public about the development of New Zealand's penal system.

Napier Prison was constructed on Hukarere (Bluff Hill), a site of cultural significance to Māori. This land was part of the 1851 Ahuriri Block purchase and a decade later planning began to construct a new timber (tōtara) gaol on the site, to replace the woefully inadequate existing gaol/lock-up which no longer met the needs of the growing township. The new gaol was designed to accommodate 14 prisoners plus the gaoler and police, and was planned with future expansion in mind. It was in use from June 1862. The gaol was at capacity within a year and a further wing was added in 1863. A third wing was added in 1869 to serve as a lunatic asylum under the charge of the gaoler, as the previous situation of prisoners co-habiting alongside the mentally ill was deemed an 'abomination'. In 1875 a new, stand-alone asylum opened at the northern end of the prison site and in the mid-1890s prisoners started to quarry and prepare stone for the first of the prison's boundary and retaining walls from the newly opened prison quarry. These walls were constructed in the early 1900s and included the striking main prison wall with heavily rusticated stones. Three warder's cottages were also constructed in the early 1900s, two built from recycled timber from the demolished 1875 lunatic asylum.

By 1909 Napier Prison was described as the worst prison in New Zealand and there were calls for its closure. It remained open, though in 1919 its status was reduced to a police gaol, mostly housing short-stay prisoners. Despite its reduced status and the ever present threat of closure, the prison was maintained and in fact continued to evolve throughout the 20th century. Repairs were made after the prison suffered severe damage in the 1931 Napier earthquake and several new buildings were added in the 1950s and 1960s. Overcrowding was an issue during the 1970s and 1980s but the ageing prison cells remained in use until December 1993 when the last prisoners and staff were transferred to Mangaroa Prison. In 2002 the former prison opened as a backpackers and prison tour operation; the

backpackers closed in 2009 but the tours still run and escape room experiences are now also offered. In 2020 the former Napier Prison remains a popular tourist attraction in the city.

1. IDENTIFICATION¹

1.1. Name of Place

Name:

Napier Prison (Former)

Other Names:

Napier Prison

Napier Gaol (Former)

Napier Jail (Former)

1.2. Location Information

Address

55-57 Coote Road²

Bluff Hill

NAPIER

Hawke's Bay

Additional Location Information

N/A

Local Authority

Napier City Council

1.3. Legal Description

Lot 1 DP 22991 (RT HBP3/1127), Legal Road, Hawkes Bay Land District

¹ This section is supplemented by visual aids in Appendix 1 of the report.

² '55 Coote Road' is commonly given as the address for Napier Prison (Former), but the land parcel is associated with both 55 and 57 Coote Road (source: QuickMap Detailed Property Report for Lot 1 DP 22991 (RT HBP3/1127), Wellington Land District, 2 May 2020).

1.4. Extent of List Entry

Extent includes the land described as Lot 1 DP 22991 (RT HBP3/1127) and part of the land described as Legal Road, Hawkes Bay Land District, and the buildings and structures associated with Napier Prison (Former) thereon. (Refer to map in Appendix 1 of the List entry report for further information).

1.5. Eligibility

There is sufficient information included in this report to identify this place. This place is physically eligible for consideration as a historic place. It consists of a combination of land, buildings and structures that are fixed to land which lies within the territorial limits of New Zealand.

1.6. Existing Heritage Recognition

Local Authority and Regional Authority Plan Scheduling

Napier Prison Wall: Scheduled in City of Napier District Plan, Operative 21 November 2011, (as amended), Appendix 13: Heritage Items, Ref No. 19, Heritage Group 1. Demolition and relocation are discretionary activities.

Lower Prison Wall: Scheduled in City of Napier District Plan, Operative 21 November 2011, (as amended), Appendix 13: Heritage Items, Ref No. 20, Heritage Group 2. Demolition and relocation are discretionary activities.

Other Protection Mechanism

The 1905 Napier Prison Wall has been declared as an archaeological site by Heritage New Zealand (NZ Gazette 2004, p.1861).

New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Recording Scheme

This place has been recorded by the New Zealand Archaeological Association. The reference is V21/300: Napier Prison.

2. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

2.1. Historical Information

Early Māori History

‘Ka mau tā Māui ki tōna ringaringa e kone e taea te rūru’

‘What Māui has got in his hand he cannot throw away’

This whakataukī (proverb) refers to the response of Māui when his brothers begged him to release the fish he had caught.³

Tribal traditions, whakapapa and archaeological evidence all indicate many centuries of Māori occupation in Ahuriri (Napier), centrally located within the wider area of Te Matau-a-Māui (Hawke’s Bay).⁴ Te Matau-a-Māui translates to the ‘fish hook of Māui’ and is an allegorical reference to the legendary explorer and ancestor Māui who fished up Te Ika-a-Māui (the North Island) using a hook fashioned from his grandmother’s jawbone.⁵ The hook transformed into the coastline of Te Matau-a-Māui, with Te Kauwae-a-Māui (Cape Kidnappers) at the tip.⁶

Early Māori tribes in the region descended from Māui and down through Toi-kai-rākau, and included Ngāti Hotu, Ngāti Mahu and Whatumamoa.⁷ When Ngāti Kahungunu arrived in the region in the sixteenth century, Whatumamoa, Rangitāne, Ngāti Awa and elements of Ngāti Tara were living in Pētane, Te Whanganui-a-Orotū (the Napier Inner Harbour, also known as

³ A.E. Brougham and A.W. Reed, *The Reed Book of Māori Proverbs*, Reed Publishing, Auckland, 2003 (reprint of 1986 paperback edition), p.108.

⁴ Waitangi Tribunal, *The Mohaka Ki Ahuriri Report*, Wai 201, Wellington, Legislation Direct, 2004, p.48, https://forms.justice.govt.nz/search/Documents/WT/wt_DOC_68598011/Wai201.pdf accessed 28 January 2020; Kerryn Pollock, 'Hawke’s Bay region - Māori settlement and occupation', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2015a, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/hawkes-bay-region/page-4>, accessed 28 January 2020; email from Napier Prison leaseholder Toro Waaka to Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand, 24 July 2020, filed on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

⁵ Kerryn Pollock, 'Hawke’s Bay region - Overview', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2015b, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/hawkes-bay-region/page-1>, accessed 3 August 2020; 'Revitalising Te Ika-a-Māui: Māori Migration and the Nation', *New Zealand Journal of History*, 43(2), 2009, pp.133-149.

⁶ Kerryn Pollock, 'Hawke’s Bay region - European contact', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2015c, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/zoomify/23891/naming-cape-kidnappers-te-kauwae-a-maui>, accessed 3 August 2020; 'Cape Kidnappers / Te Kauwae-a-Māui', *Land Information New Zealand*, <https://www.linz.govt.nz/regulatory/place-names/tuia-%E2%80%93-encounters-250/cape-kidnappers-te-kauwae-m%C4%81ui>, accessed 3 August 2020.

⁷ Waitangi Tribunal, 2004, p.48.

Ahuriri Harbour) and Waiohiki.⁸ These groups are all ancestors of the current hapū within Te Matau-a-Māui.⁹

Ngāti Kahungunu became the dominant tribal group in the region through both warfare and strategic marriage though large numbers left the area in the 1820s due to armed raids from both the west and north, and most sought refuge at Māhia.¹⁰ They started 'filtering back' to Ahuriri-Heretaunga in the 1830s and 1840s with the Treaty of Waitangi providing the prospect of 'being able to return to their ancestral lands in peace'.¹¹ European traders, whalers and missionaries were living in the region by this time, and by 1851 small beach communities had taken up residence on both sides of Te Whanganui-a-Orutū (at Onepoto and on the western spit).¹² That same year Land Commissioner Donald McLean negotiated the purchase of the *circa* 265 000 acre Ahuriri Block which included Mataruahou (Napier Hill, formerly Scinde Island); the subject of some discussion during McLean's negotiations with iwi.¹³

Mataruahou referred to the mirror images of faces which appeared in the pools alongside the tracks over what was effectively an island.¹⁴ Mataruahou and other smaller islands surrounded Te Whanganui-a-Orutū which was highly prized by Māori for its plentiful resources including fish, shellfish and birds, making it an attractive place for early settlement.¹⁵ The area is recognised as a place of cultural, historical and spiritual significance for Māori, as demonstrated by the proposed name change back to

⁸ *ibid.*; 'Napier's Early History', <https://www.napier.govt.nz/napier/about/history/early-napier/>, accessed 28 January 2020.

⁹ Email Waaka to Barnes-Wylie, 24 July 2020.

¹⁰ Waitangi Tribunal, 2004, pp.48, 51; Pollock, 2015b; Mere Whaanga, 'Ngāti Kahungunu - European contact', 2017, *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/ngati-kahungunu/page-6>, accessed 29 January 2020.

¹¹ Waitangi Tribunal, *Te Whanganui-A-Orutu Report 1995*, Wai 55, Wellington, GP Print, 2014 (electronic reproduction of second edition, 1997), p.32, https://forms.justice.govt.nz/search/Documents/WT/wt_DOC_68457298/Te%20Whanganui-a-Orutu%201995.pdf

¹² Waitangi Tribunal, 2014, p.34.

¹³ The Ahuriri Block extended from the Tūtaekurī River in the south to Mōhaka River in the north, and from the port inland to the Kaweka Range - see Waitangi Tribunal, 2004, pp.83, 89 for maps showing the block's boundaries. For further information on the negotiations concerning Mataruahou, see Waitangi Tribunal, 2014, pp.40-56; Waitangi Tribunal, 2004, pp.78-79, 81; Patrick Parsons and Elizabeth Pishief, 'Sites of Significance to Maori in Napier City: History, Culture, Archaeology', 2019, Heritage Services Hawke's Bay, Draft report prepared for Napier City Council, pp.90, 96.

¹⁴ 'Napier Hill change of name 'logical'', *Hawke's Bay Today*, https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=11527624, accessed 28 January 2020.

¹⁵ Waitangi Tribunal, 2004, pp.3, 18; pers. comm with Napier Prison leaseholder Toro Waaka, 24 July 2020, notes filed on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002. Note that the geography of the harbour and surrounding islands was irrevocably changed as a result of dramatic uplift from the 1931 Napier earthquake.

Mataruahou.¹⁶ A number of whare wānanga (houses of learning) were established on Mataruahou such as at Hukarere (Bluff Hill) at the north-eastern end.¹⁷ Here, tohunga (priests) would 'observe movements of the stars and prescribe times for planting, harvesting and fishing'.¹⁸ In particular, they would watch for the arrival of the star Whānui (Vega), a sign that it was time to harvest the kūmara: 'Ka rere a Whānui, ka tīmata te hauhake' (when Vega rises, the harvest starts).¹⁹ The harvesting was followed by a period of feasting and celebration. Whānui disappeared from the sky as Matariki appeared, signalling the commencing of the Māori winter.²⁰

The archaeological record indicates Māori terracing and a number of midden deposits on Hukarere.²¹ Hukarere was also the site of Tūhinapō, 'the most sacred spot in the district for here stood the altar at which were offered the first fruits of the season. None but the tohunga himself dared approach the spot'.²² The Tūhinapō astronomy wānanga extended throughout many of the iwi down the North Island's East Coast and into the South Island.²³ Mataruahou was also a tapū place in that it housed the caves of Io Pikopiko, an important atua (god) for maintaining the mauri ora (life force) of Hawke's Bay Māori.²⁴ It is known that

¹⁶ 'Napier Hill change of name 'logical'. The [Ahuriri Hapu Claims Settlement Bill](#) provides for the official name change from Napier Hill/Bluff Hill/Hospital Hill/Scinde Island to Mataruahou – see section 62 of the Bill in conjunction with section 6.28 of the Deed of Settlement. A pre-signing draft of the deed is available at: <https://www.govt.nz/assets/Documents/OTS/Ahuriri-Hapu/Ahuriri-Hapu-Deed-of-Settlement.pdf> accessed 28 January 2020.

¹⁷ Email from Napier Prison leaseholder Toro Waaka to Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand, 17 June 2020, filed on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002; interpretation panel at the former Napier Prison - see photo dated 21 January 2020 held on aforementioned file. This panel notes that the name Hukarere references the sea mist that slowly crept its way up the gully.

¹⁸ Parsons and Pishief, 2019, pp.88-89; interpretation panel at Napier Prison; pers. comm. with Napier Prison leaseholders Marion and Toro Waaka and Barry Wilson of Mana Ahuriri, Napier, 21 January 2020, notes filed on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁹ Pers. comm. with Napier Prison leaseholder Toro Waaka, 3 July 2020, notes filed on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002; Ross Calman, 'Leisure in traditional Māori society – ngā mahi a te rēhia - Festivals', 2013, *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/leisure-in-traditional-maori-society-nga-mahi-a-te-rehia/page-3>, accessed 3 July 2020.

²⁰ Email from Waaka to Barnes-Wylie, 24 July 2020.

²¹ Parsons and Pishief, 2019, pp.88-90.

²² *ibid.*, p.93. Parsons and Pishief locate Tūhinapō directly opposite the former Napier Prison site on Coote Road (where the former Army Drill Hall is located) though others place it on the prison site, near the two warder's houses (pers. comm. with Toro Waaka, 3 July 2020).

²³ Email from Waaka to Barnes-Wylie, 17 June 2020. Parsons and Pishief, 2019, p. 93 note that there were two other places named Tūhinapō in the Hawke's Bay region alone which served this same function. One was located at Rangaika to the south of Cape Kidnappers and the other was located close to the Wairoa River mouth.

²⁴ Email from Waaka to Barnes-Wylie, 17 June 2020.

there were pā and kāinga on the hill, such as Matapane Pā, Hukarere Pā and Pukemokimoki Pā (since destroyed by quarrying), and several midden have been recorded.²⁵

Laying out of Napier Township

Mataruahou was not considered an 'attractive or healthy site' for a township, effectively being 'a small semi-island between the sea and inner harbour, which was prone to flooding', with limited road access to the 'mainland'.²⁶ It was the perfect location for a port though, and three years after the Ahuriri Block purchase, newly appointed Commissioner of Crown Lands and Resident Magistrate Alfred Domett laid out the first plan of the township known as Napier.²⁷ Domett's plan was a 'representation of what should or could happen for the future' and included public facilities such as 'reserves and sites for a town hall, hospital, gaol, cemetery and schools'.²⁸ The 'Goal Reserve' (sic) and adjacent 'Slaughter House Reserve' were located on the corner of Coote Road and Marine Parade, in keeping with the policy of the time to 'segregate undesirable activities'.²⁹

*Napier's First Lock-up/Gaol*³⁰

Napier's first policeman Corporal Henry Groom arrived in Napier in May 1854, leasing a whare in Onepoto from Ngāti Kahungunu rangatira Karaitiana Takamoana.³¹ The whare also initially served as a lock-up, but in 1855 tenders were let for the construction of a police station/lock-up and the building was completed in February 1856 to a cost of £200.³² It was reportedly located on the corner of Faraday and Carlyle Streets.³³ The 'primitive' lock-up was

²⁵ Parsons and Pishief, 2019, p.86.

²⁶ Waitangi Tribunal, *Te Whanganui-A-Orutu Report* 1995, p.77; Pollock, 2015a.

²⁷ Though the town plan is attributed to Domett, he was not a surveyor. The plan would have been the work of surveyors working for the Crown in the area at that time – see John Annabell, 'Planning Napier 1850 to 1968', Doctor of Philosophy Thesis, Massey University, Manawatū, 2012, p.8, https://ref.coastalrestorationtrust.org.nz/site/assets/files/7203/02_whole_1.pdf, accessed 14 February 2020.

²⁸ Annabell, 2012, p.9.

²⁹ *ibid.*, p.10.

³⁰ Note that 'gaol' is used throughout the early history of the prison, as gaol was in common usage at the time. The word 'prison' is used later in the historical narrative, and seems to have been adopted from the late nineteenth century in New Zealand.

³¹ Michael Fowler, 'Napier Prison Early History', unpublished research notes supplied by Judith Larsen, Napier to Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand. Copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002. The notes are unreferenced but make note of correspondence to the Wellington Provincial Council as one of the sources. Hawke's Bay's first newspaper (the *Hawke's Bay Herald*) did not start until September 1857. Note: there was an earlier policeman appointed to the role but he was deemed unsuitable and sent back to Wellington.

³² Michael Fowler, 'Napier Prison Early History'; *Daily Southern Cross*, 27 February 1857, p.4.

³³ *ibid.*; tender notice for the removal of the lock-up 'from Faraday Street to the reserve at Herschel (sic) street', *Hawke's Bay Herald* ('HBH'), 29 April 1863, p.2. Another source states that there was apparently 'a little Police Station/Lock-up at the bottom of Coote Road' but this has not been verified by other sources. See unpublished research material on gaoler

one of the first public buildings erected in the fledgling township and security was rather lacking 'with nothing very formidable in the way of locks and bars'; prisoners were given notice to be back at 10pm or risk being locked out for the night.³⁴

In December 1856 the Wellington Provincial Government determined that the lock-up would also serve as the gaol but by 1859 the lock-up was deemed 'unfit' for this dual purpose, with its accommodation being 'barely adequate for the purposes of the first'.³⁵ In May 1859 the provincial government proposed a £125 addition to the lock-up to enable it to continue through until 1860 when measures were to be taken to erect a permanent gaol building.³⁶ Nothing had happened by 1860 though, at which point the existing gaol/lock-up was considered 'a scandalous place' - something more was now 'imperatively required'.³⁷

A New Gaol for Napier

Upon their establishment in 1853, provincial governments became responsible for the administration of prisons, subsequently building a number of New Zealand's earliest gaols.³⁸ In early 1861, the Hawke's Bay Provincial Council (which was formed in 1858 when Hawke's Bay separated from the Wellington Province) voted to set aside £800 for a new gaol building in Napier. The want of a purpose-built gaol 'had been long grievously felt' in Napier, and finally, it had become a reality.³⁹

Joseph Lucas Hodges compiled by Judith Larsen, Napier, supplied to Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand. Copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

³⁴ 'Chapter VII', *HBH*, 27 June 1868, p.5; 'Old Napier. Recollections of Bygone Days', *HBH*, 25 December 1903, p.1 (Supplement). On one occasion, a prisoner found Corporal Groom at the Royal Hotel and they ended up back at the lock-up 'where captor and captive sampled the medicine'. Corporal Groom was dismissed from the Police in 1861 on account of 'inebriety whilst on duty' (see *HBH*, 12 October 1861, p.3) but subsequently returned to active service.

³⁵ *Wellington Independent*, 7 January 1862, p.2. Adjoining the lock-up were two small buildings which provided temporary accommodation for immigrants to Napier, thought these were also considered utterly insufficient and their location adjacent to the lock-up was felt to bring the occupations into contact with 'improper characters' - see 'Wednesday, Nov. 23', *HBH*, 3 December 1859, p.5.

³⁶ 'Provincial Council', *HBH*, 30 May 1859, p.1. The Hawke's Bay Provincial Council was created in 1858 (originally the region was part of the Wellington province) - see Kerryn Pollock, 'Hawke's Bay region - Government, education and health', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2015d, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/photograph/23914/hawkes-bay-provincial-council>, accessed 14 February 2020.

³⁷ *HBH*, 23 February 1861, p.5.

³⁸ Peter Clayworth, 'Prisons - Early prisons, 1840-1879', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2012a, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/prisons/page-2> accessed 3 May 2020.

³⁹ *HBH*, 23 February 1861, p.5; 31 December 1861, pp.2-3.

In February 1861 Mr Joseph Lucas ('J. L.') Hodges was appointed Keeper of the Gaol at an annual salary of £120, 'pro forma' until the new gaol was completed.⁴⁰ Tender notices indicate that plans and specifications for the new gaol were available from the office of Edward G. Wright, Director of Works.⁴¹ The gaol was to be located atop Bluff Hill, a site considered 'not an inappropriate one for a prison, being the top of a precipitous cliff...'⁴² In August 1861 Messrs Ekholms and Lound were awarded the tender for excavating the foundations for the new gaol.⁴³ Carpenter William Miller successfully tendered for its construction, for the sum of £1050.⁴⁴ Construction was delayed slightly due to the difficulty with placing orders for timbers (tōtara) of 'unusual sizes', but the timber had arrived by late 1861.⁴⁵ The new gaol would afford accommodation for 14 prisoners, with quarters for the gaoler and police, and had been planned to allow for future expansion as necessary.⁴⁶ In January 1862 a proclamation was issued by Governor Sir George Grey, declaring the gaol (still under construction) a place of execution under the *Execution of Criminals Act 1858*.⁴⁷

The new gaol was 'near completion' in March 1862 and in April 1862 tenders were called for the making of furniture for it.⁴⁸ The gaol was complete and in occupation from June 1862, when it was declared a public gaol in the *Provincial Gazette*.⁴⁹ It was under the care of previously appointed gaoler J.L. Hodges who lived with his family in a 'handsome house' at the gaol.⁵⁰ Hodges only lasted a few months though, as once he learned that gaolers might need to serve as executioners (if an executioner couldn't be found), he tended his

⁴⁰ HBH, 9 February 1861, p.4; 'Local Intelligence', HBH, 16 March 1861, p.5. Newspaper articles indicate that Hodges worked at the existing lock-up/gaol in the interim.

⁴¹ For example, see HBH, 27 August 1861, p.1.

⁴² HBH, 31 December 1861, pp.2-3. On 1 February 1861 the site was actually Crown-granted to the Superintendent of the Province of Hawke's Bay 'in trust for a site for emigration barracks and for a native hostelry', but was subsequently used for the prison – see Section 30 of the Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act 1918, p.30, available at New Zealand Legislation, <http://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1918/0023/latest/whole.html#DLM190467>, accessed 10 March 2020.

⁴³ HBH, 27 July 1861, p.3; *Hawke's Bay Times* ('HBT'), 29 August 1861, p.5 (Supplement).

⁴⁴ HBH, 28 September 1861, p.1.

⁴⁵ HBH, 31 December 1861, p.3; List of materials for the new gaol and their costs, Provincial Government to William Miller, 22 May 1862, unpublished research material supplied by Judith Larsen, Napier to Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand. Copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

⁴⁶ HBH, 23 February 1861, p.5; 31 December 1861, pp.2-3.

⁴⁷ 'From: Sir G [George] Grey, Governor To: [Colonial Secretary] Date: 24 January 1862. Subject: Warrant appointing the Public Gaol of Napier in the Province of Hawke's Bay to be a place for the Execution of Criminals', Archives Ref No., ACGO 8333 IA1/225/[14], Record No. 1862/136, Archives New Zealand, Wellington.

⁴⁸ HBH, 25 March 1862, p.1; 26 April 1862, p.1. Messrs Dinwiddie and Bryson were awarded the tender – see HBT, 12 June 1862, p.5 (Supplement).

⁴⁹ 'From the Government Gazette', HBT, 31 July 1862, p.5 (Supplement). No contemporary descriptions of the prison have been located through research to date.

⁵⁰ Unpublished research material on gaoler Joseph Lucas Hodges compiled by Judith Larsen, Napier.

resignation and was later replaced by Thomas Barnaby.⁵¹ In November 1862 the rules and regulations of the new gaol were published in the *Provincial Gazette*.⁵² These rules covered various aspects of prison life from the cleanliness of prisoners and their cells to daily rations, offences and their punishment.⁵³ It was against prison regulations for example to sing, engage in loud conversations or make 'angry expressions' or noises.⁵⁴

The prison had clearly soon reached capacity as in April 1863 tenders were called for the addition of a new wing to the prison; Mr A. Bryson was the successful tenderer with the sum of £336.⁵⁵ The Provincial Council also gave £100 for the hiring of an additional turnkey for the gaol – a position that was found 'necessary owing to the number of prisoners'.⁵⁶ In May 1863, tenders were sought for the delivery of tōtara to fence the gaol yard, and in 1865 a cost of £70 was reported for fencing of the 'Gaol Reserve'.⁵⁷

From *circa* March-June 1866, the Napier Gaol temporarily housed a group of Hauhau prisoners including Te Kooti Arikirangi Te Tūruki. During his time in the gaol, Te Kooti made several unsuccessful requests to the Provincial Superintendent Sir Donald McLean to be tried in court, but he was sent without trial to Rēkohu/Wharekauri (Chatham Islands) on 5 June with the third group of Hauhau prisoners.⁵⁸

*Addition of the Lunatic Asylum and Lighthouse (1860s – 1870s)*⁵⁹

In April 1868 the prison was investigated as part of the Commission on Prisons and found to be clean and in good order, but with inadequate accommodation for the 'attainment of strict

⁵¹ *ibid.*; Letters re. the appointment of Thomas Barnaby as Gaoler in 1862 and resignation in 1868, Archives Ref No. AGGM 25027 W5932 4/k, Record No. R24080064, Archives New Zealand, Wellington.

⁵² *HBT*, 31 July 1862, p.5 (Supplement); 'Local Intelligence', *HBH*, 18 November 1862, p.5.

⁵³ 'Rules and Regulations of the Napier Gaol', *HBT*, 20 November 1862, pp.5-6 (Supplement).

⁵⁴ 'Rules and Regulations of the Napier Gaol', 1862.

⁵⁵ *HBT*, 1 May 1863, p.2, 12 June 1863, p.4. Messrs Miller and Lindsay also tendered for the work, but their tender was rejected.

⁵⁶ *HBH*, 8 April 1863, p.3, 'Estimate of Expenditure', *HBH*, 30 September 1865, p.2.

⁵⁷ *HBT*, 15 May 1863, p.2.

⁵⁸ Walter Hugh Ross and Bernard John Foster, 'TE KOOTI, Rikirangi Te Turuki', from an Encyclopaedia of New Zealand, edited by A.H. McLintock, originally published in 1966. *Te Ara – the Encyclopaedia of New Zealand*, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/1966/te-kooti-rikirangi-te-turuki>, accessed 9 March 2020; Judith Binney, 'Te Kooti Arikirangi Te Turuki', Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, first published in 1990, *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/1t45/te-kooti-rikirangi-te-turuki>, accessed 9 March 2020.

⁵⁹ The term 'asylum' was abandoned in law under the Mental Defectives Act 1911, and was replaced with 'mental hospital', and the term 'lunatic' was replaced with 'inmate' - see 'Warwick Brunton, 'Mental health services - Mental hospitals, 1910s to 1930s', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2018a, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/mental-health-services/page-3>, accessed 20 April 2020. 'Lunatic asylum' has been used here solely for the purposes of historical context.

penal discipline'.⁶⁰ One of the ongoing issues was the co-habitation of prisoners with the mentally ill, a situation described as an 'abomination', being a 'refined species of torture – unworthy of the age'.⁶¹ The Crown Colony government had made no provision for the mentally ill in the 1840s and so if they were not able to be cared for by family, gaol was their only other option.⁶² In the 1850s and 1860s provincial governments across New Zealand responded to this issue by building lunatic asylums.⁶³ In 1868 the Hawke's Bay Provincial Government decided to add a further wing to the gaol to serve as a lunatic asylum. It was built by the gaol's hard labour gang, and was under the charge of the gaoler.⁶⁴ In January 1869 the new 'West Wing' was declared a public asylum under *The Lunatics Act 1868*.⁶⁵ The prison's hard labour gang also constructed '250 feet of very substantial close board fencing', to enclose separate yards for female prisoners and asylum patients, male asylum patients, and a works yard for storing equipment and materials.⁶⁶

In his May 1870 report, gaoler William Miller noted that various improvement works had been undertaken using prison labour.⁶⁷ The hard labour gang was also employed outside the gaol, working primarily on the developing town's roads and streets, principally Coote Road on which the prison was located.⁶⁸ The use of prison labour to complete public works such as roads, reclamation, and drains was common in New Zealand at this time, particularly in Auckland, Wellington and Dunedin (which all had major prisons). As labour historian and archivist Jared Davidson writes, prison labour 'was cheap and convenient. But its use was as much about ideology as it was pragmatic'.⁶⁹

⁶⁰ *HBH*, 14 April 1868, p.2.

⁶¹ *HBH*, 4 February 1865, p.1.

⁶² Archives New Zealand, 'Research Guide 6 – Mental Health,' January 2010, p.1, <https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/assets/ResourceFinder/Archives-NZ-mental-health-research-guide-6.pdf>, accessed 9 March 2020.

⁶³ Archives New Zealand, 'Research Guide 6 – Mental Health'.

⁶⁴ 'Report on Gaol', *HBH*, 20 May 1870, p.3; 'Reports: Lunatic Asylums in the Colony', *Appendix to the Journals of the House of Representatives* ('AJHR'), 1872, G-27, p. 5.

⁶⁵ *HBH*, 2 January 1869, p.2; 'Report on Gaol', 1870. Subsequent plans of the prison label the wings differently, but it is thought that the 'west wing' in which the lunatic asylum was housed is the south wing as shown on the plan (Figure 2) under the 'Physical Description' section below.

⁶⁶ 'Report on Gaol', 1870.

⁶⁷ *HBT*, 23 May 1870, p.2. William Miller was appointed gaoler in June 1868 (replacing Thomas Barnaby), and held the role for 23 years, see *HBH*, 16 June 1868, p.2; 'Mr W. Miller's Retirement', *HBH*, 6 June 1891, p.3. Note that this is the same William Miller who built the gaol in 1862 – see *Gisborne Times*, 14 July 1905, p.3. Refer to his biography below under Section 2.2.

⁶⁸ For example, see 'Report on Roads and Bridges', *HBH*, 27 June 1868, p.5. This report notes that the 'gaol gang' had completed a cutting in Coote Road, which would soon be open for traffic. See also 'Provincial Council', *HBT*, 30 May 1871, p.2.

⁶⁹ Jared Davidson, 'The house that John Doe built: the hidden history of prison labour in New Zealand', *Overland*, 10 May

By December 1873 an octagonal timber lighthouse measuring 26 feet (7.9 metres) high and 13 feet (3.9 metres) in diameter at the base had been erected on a small plateau at the southern end of the gaol reserve.⁷⁰ The Provincial Council contented that this location would save on costs as the gaol officers on night duty could attend to the lighthouse's gas light.⁷¹ The gas light was lit for the first time on 9 March 1874.⁷²

In 1874 the construction of a new asylum separate from the gaol was considered a work that could 'no longer be delayed'.⁷³ A new asylum was subsequently constructed (largely by prison labour) at the northern end of the gaol reserve, in a position overlooked by the gaol.⁷⁴ Built of timber with an iron roof, the asylum building was u-shaped; male patients were housed in dormitories in the right wing, with female patients in the left wing. There was an enclosed courtyard between the wings, and other courts on each side, along with associated 'out-offices' and new underground concrete water tanks. The new asylum remained under the control of gaoler William Miller, but a resident warder and his wife were appointed to 'attend entirely to the Asylum', which opened in 1875.

Executions 1872 – 1889

'Kei raro te whare aituā, e hāmama i rungo ko te whare o te ora'

'The house of misfortune is below, gaping open above is the house of life'

An early whakataukī attributed to Ranginui which alludes to the cycle of life and death.⁷⁵

The first execution took place at Napier Gaol in 1872, 10 years after it was declared a place of execution, and 30 years after New Zealand's first execution.⁷⁶ In January 1872, Kereopa Te

2018, <https://overland.org.au/2018/05/the-house-john-doe-built-the-hidden-history-of-prison-labour-in-new-zealand/>, accessed 12 March 2020.

⁷⁰ *HBT*, 26 December 1873, p.62.

⁷¹ *HBT*, 26 December 1873, p.62; 'The Story of the Napier Lighthouse', *Bluff Hill Lighthouse B&B*, <http://www.bluffhilllighthouse.co.nz/>, accessed 9 March 2020. Many wanted the lighthouse to be built on the Lighthouse Reserve on Bluff Hill, as shown on Domett's town plan. See Figures 9-11 in Appendix 2 for images of the former lighthouse/lighthouse site.

⁷² *Grey River Argus*, 7 April 1874, p.2.

⁷³ *HBT*, 9 June 1874, p.246; 'Reports on the Lunatic Asylums in New Zealand', *AJHR*, 1874, H-2, p.3. The space occupied by the asylum was needed to accommodate the increase of prisoners incarcerated in the gaol as the population of Napier grew – see 'Reports on the Lunatic Asylums in New Zealand', *AJHR*, 1875, H-2, p.4.

⁷⁴ The information from here to the end of this paragraph is sourced from *AJHR*, 1875, H-2, p. 4; 'Reports on the Lunatic Asylums in New Zealand', *AJHR*, 1876, H-4, pp.7-8. The new asylum building is visible in historic photos of Napier Hill, such as Figures 9-10 in Appendix 2 below.

⁷⁵ A.E. Brougham and A.W. Reed, 2003, p.86.

Rau, a leader of the Pai Mārire religious movement, was hung after being convicted in the Napier Supreme Court for his involvement in the murder of Anglican missionary Carl Völkner in March 1865.⁷⁷ Kereopa spent his final night in the cell with Mother Aubert (Kereopa had been baptised as a Roman Catholic 30 years prior) and refused 'all refreshments and stimulants'.⁷⁸ At 8am on Friday 5 January he ascended the scaffold erected in the gaol yard, which had been boarded and screened so as to prevent any public viewing.⁷⁹ Kereopa was accompanied by Reverend Samuel Williams who gave a final prayer in Māori, but no other Māori were present, despite 'tickets' being sent to Ngāti Kahungunu rangatira Kariatiana Takamoana and Tareha.⁸⁰ After the hanging and a subsequent inquest, the body of Kereopa was removed by Tareha and later buried in the Ngāi Tahu Ahi urupā across from Waiohiki marae, approximately 12 kilometres to the southwest of Napier.⁸¹ 142 years later, Kereopa was officially pardoned for his role in Völkner's death as part of the Ngāti Rangiwēhewē Treaty Settlement.⁸²

The second execution at Napier Gaol took place 12 years later in 1884. In February 1884 Rowland Herbert Edwards of Ōpōtiki was charged with murdering his four children (newborn baby Maud, Arthur aged 3, Ella aged 5 and Robert aged 7) and wife Mary.⁸³ His subsequent one day trial in June 1884 was limited to the murder charge for his wife, and he was

⁷⁶ 'Capital punishment in New Zealand', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/the-death-penalty>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 5-Aug-2014, accessed 6 March 2020. The first execution occurred in 1842 when a young Māori man named Maketū Wharetōtara was hung – see 'The first execution', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/the-death-penalty/the-first-execution>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 13-Mar-2014, accessed 6 March 2020.

⁷⁷ Kereopa was the sixth person to be convicted and hung for their involvement in Völkner's murder – Mokomoko, Heremita Kahupaea, Hakaraia Te Rahui, Horomona Poropiti and Mikaere Kirimangu were all executed six years earlier in 1866. Kereopa was executed much later as he had evaded capture for several years and was not taken into custody until September 1871. See 'List of executions', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/culture/the-death-penalty/notable-executions>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 17-Aug-2018; 'The death of Carl Völkner', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/classroom/the-classroom/historic-events-activities/the-death-of-volkner-classroom-activities>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 9-Apr-2019, both accessed 6 March 2020.

⁷⁸ 'Execution of Kereopa', *Daily Southern Cross*, 24 January 1872, p.3; 'Kereopa Te Rau', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/media/photo/kereopa-te-rau>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 9-Apr-2019, accessed 6 March 2020; Jessie Munro, *The Story of Suzanne Aubert* (Second Edition), Bridget Williams Books, Wellington, 2009, p.123.

⁷⁹ 'Execution of Kereopa', 1872. Public executions were abolished in 1858 – see Hon. Justice David Collins, 'The Trial of the Tormented Rowland Edwards', *Victoria University of Wellington Law Review*, Vol. 50, No. 3, 2019, pp.457-478.

⁸⁰ 'Execution of Kereopa', 1872.

⁸¹ Munro, , 2009, p.123; Matthew Mullany, 'Mission Plan Change 12 Cultural Impact Assessment', n.d., p. 17, <https://www.napier.govt.nz/assets/Documents/District-Plan-Change-12/Plan-Change-12-Ngati-Parau-Cultural-Impact-Assessment.pdf>, accessed 6 March 2020. Kereopa had requested that Tareha remove his body.

⁸² 'Kereopa Te Rau', 2019.

⁸³ Tommy Livingston, 'Flashback: The Ormondville murders of 1884', *Dominion Post*, 21 January 2017, <https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/88311570/flashback-the-ormondville-murders-of-1884>, accessed 6 March 2020.

sentenced to death, though it has since been questioned whether ‘the elements of the defence of insanity were accurately explained to the jury’.⁸⁴ Edwards was hung at 8am on 15 July 1884, with a large number of people witnessing the execution from elevated positions above the gaol, despite privacy provisions being ‘rigorously adhered to’.⁸⁵ He was buried in the gaol yard, where a small stone inscribed with ‘R.H.E. July 15 1884’ marks his grave.⁸⁶

The last two executions took place at Napier Gaol in 1889. On 13 May 1889, 28 year old Haira Te Piri was hung following his conviction for the murder of storekeeper Frank Pook, his wife Jane and their baby Bertie at Mataahu on the East Coast.⁸⁷ The gallows had arrived in Napier on 8 May via the *S.S. Australia*, and were fixed in the yard so as to avoid any outside viewing.⁸⁸ The hangman was supposed to have been on a steamer which could not be tendered to bad weather, and so a prisoner was procured to undertake the execution instead.⁸⁹ The prisoner (who had been jailed for wife desertion) had the remainder of his imprisonment cancelled and was given free passage elsewhere in exchange for undertaking the execution.⁹⁰ Just prior to the execution at 8am, Te Piri requested to bid farewell to the other Māori prisoners at the gaol, and they filed into his cell one by one, shaking hands and greeting each other with a hongi, in what was described as a very emotional scene.⁹¹ Following the execution, Drs Hitchings and Mirbach performed an inquest on Te Piri at 2pm and he was then buried in the ‘gaol grounds’.⁹²

The final execution occurred a few months later when Makoare Wata was hung on 28 September after being convicted by the Napier Supreme Court of the murder of shepherd

⁸⁴ Collins, 2019, pp. 457, 477.

⁸⁵ ‘Execution of Edwards’, *HBH*, 16 July 1884, p.4.

⁸⁶ Livingston, 2017.

⁸⁷ ‘List of executions, 2018’; Joseph Mackay, *Historic Poverty Bay and the East Coast, N.I., N.Z.*, Gisborne, 1949, p.202, New Zealand Electronic Text Centre (NZETC), <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-MacHist-t1-body-d23.html>, accessed 9 March 2020, Creative Commons License 3.0; ‘Hairi Te Piri’s [sic] Confession’, *HBH*, 31 July 1889, p.3.

⁸⁸ ‘Town Edition’, *Daily Telegraph* (‘DT’), 9 May 1889, p.3; ‘The Last of the Pook Murderer’, *DT*, 13 May 1889, p.3.

⁸⁹ ‘The Last of the Pook Murderer’, 1889; ‘Town Edition’, *DT*, 13 May 1889, p.3.

⁹⁰ ‘Town Edition’, *DT*, 13 May 1889, p.3. The prisoner was disguised to hide his identity, though was later revealed to be the acrobat St Clair, according to newspaper reports of the time – see *The Kumara Times*, 23 May 1889, p.2; ‘The Real Hangman’, *Wanganui Herald*, 29 May 1889, p.2.

⁹¹ *HBH*, 14 May 1889, p.2.

⁹² This aligns with a letter dated 7 September 1982 from S.R. McMaster, for the Secretary of Justice, Department of Justice to the District Commissioner of Works & Development re ‘Human Remains – Napier Prison’ which indicates that the Department’s records show three burials within the prison – one European and two Māori. The European burial is Rowland Edwards and the other Māori burial is Makoare Wata (see below). See ‘Napier Land District – Napier Prison Reserve’, 1913-1975, Archives Ref No. ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895, Archives New Zealand, Wellington.

Robert Gollan at Mahia, as well as arson.⁹³ Wata gave a final farewell to three of his children at 6am and was executed at 8am by notorious executioner Thomas Long.⁹⁴ The execution was attended by five members of the local police, Sheriff Birch, Reverend Parkinson, coroner Dr Hitchings and four members of the public 'who were admitted by ticket from the Sheriff' (despite public executions having been abolished some years prior).⁹⁵ Dr Hitchings held his inquest at 2pm and at 4.20pm Makoare was buried in the gaol yard by Reverend Parkinson.⁹⁶

Closure of the Lunatic Asylum and Additions to the Gaol (1880s – 1900s)

From mid- 1885 the lunatic asylum was used as a 'receiving ward' only – any patients requiring more than temporary treatment were transferred to the Wellington asylum.⁹⁷ The asylum was finally closed on 1 August 1886 when its 'existence could no longer be tolerated'.⁹⁸ The remaining patients were transferred by steamer to the Wellington asylum and an arrangement was made with the Prisons Department to hand over the Napier asylum and its 'accessories'.⁹⁹

In 1890 the Provincial Council purchased a quarry site opposite the gaol in Coote Road (on Town Section 715), with gaoler William Miller concurring that 'it would be a most suitable

⁹³ 'List of Executions', 2018; Mackay, *Historic Poverty Bay and the East Coast, N.I., N.I.*, p.207; 'The Mahia Murder', *HBH*, 1 July 1889, p.3.

⁹⁴ 'Execution of Makoare', *Marlborough Express*, 28 September 1889, p.2; Letter from Gaoler William to the Inspector of Prisons, Wellington re. the execution of Makoare Waka, Archives Ref No. AGGM 25027 W5932 4/k, Record No. R24080064. Tom Long was a 'nineteenth century celebrity' known throughout New Zealand, and had himself served time in Napier Gaol for drunkenness – see Greg Newbold, 'Violent crime - Murder and manslaughter', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2019, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/photograph/26489/tom-long-hangman>, accessed 3 May 2020.

⁹⁵ 'More hangman's tales', *Timespanner: A Journey through Avondale, Auckland and New Zealand history*, <https://timespanner.blogspot.com/2011/01/more-hangmans-tales.html>, accessed 9 March 2020; Letter from Gaoler William to the Inspector of Prisons, Wellington re. the execution of Makoare Waka, Archives Ref No. AGGM 25027 W5932 4/k, Record No. R24080064, Archives New Zealand, Wellington.

⁹⁶ Letter from Gaoler William to the Inspector of Prisons, Wellington re. the execution of Makoare Wata, Archives Ref No. AGGM 25027 W5932 4/k, Record No. R24080064. In 2007 descendants of Makoare Wata applied to Heritage New Zealand for an archaeological authority (and to the Ministry of Health for a disinterment licence) to exhume his remains but the authority application (2008/143) was subsequently withdrawn in late 2009. In circa 2008 the applicant also lodged a Waitangi Tribunal Claim (Wai 2172) in relation to the proposed disinterment; this claim was subsequently settled with the passing of the [Iwi and Hapū of Te Rohe o Te Wairoa Claims Settlement Act 2018](#) – refer to Section 14(3)(a). A review of the authority application file indicates differing information about the exact location where Makoare Wata was interred.

⁹⁷ *HBH*, 31 July 1885, p.2.

⁹⁸ Report on the Lunatic Asylums of the Colony, *AJHR*, 1887, H-9, pp.3, 11.

⁹⁹ *AJHR*, 1887, H-9, p.3; *DT*, 11 October 1886, p.2. The gaoler would continue to be paid £35 per year for his responsibilities and a condition of this arrangement was that the asylum would be available for remand cases, until such time as a remand ward could be provided at Napier Hospital.

one for Corporation requirements'.¹⁰⁰ Four years later, the gaol's hard labour gang commenced the quarrying and preparation of stone from the prison quarry for the gaol's much needed boundary wall.¹⁰¹ This preparatory work continued through until the early 1900s, and other walls around the gaol were constructed in the interim, such as the retaining wall which was built at the bottom of the reserve in 1901, and the 'substantial' retaining wall re-built in 1902 to prevent slips from the Native Girls' School next door to the prison buildings.¹⁰² Other improvement works in the early 1900s included the installation of a fire prevention service and gas lighting, including a light in each cell 'so that prisoners who care for reading have every opportunity of improving themselves'.¹⁰³ Around this time a building (comprising various service rooms and stores) alongside the original wooden wall of the prison was also demolished to make way for the new stone boundary wall.¹⁰⁴

Construction on the boundary wall finally commenced in 1904 and it was near completion by the end of the year, when it was 'pronounced by people competent to give an opinion as equal as anything of its kind in New Zealand'.¹⁰⁵ The wall was finally completed in 1905 and that same year the Inspector of Prisons highlighted the need for new warder's cottages at various prisons, including Napier.¹⁰⁶ In 1906 prisoners constructed a new warder's cottage at the prison, though its exact location is unclear.¹⁰⁷ Two additional 'neat cottages' were constructed the following year and were located outside the boundary wall on the former asylum site. They were built using timber recycled from the dismantled asylum.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁰ 'Borough Council', *DT*, 17 July 1890, p. 2; 'The Borough Council Again', *DT*, 13 May 1895, p.2.

¹⁰¹ Report on the Department of Justice, Prisons Branch, *AJHR*, 1895, H-20, p.3.

¹⁰² *HBH*, 23 April 1902, p.2; Report on the Department of Justice, Prisons Branch, *AJHR*, 1902, H-20, p.3 and *AJHR*, 1903, H-20, p.6. It is unclear exactly which part of wall was the one built 'at the bottom of the reserve'. The 1902 Prisons Branch Report refers to a 'concrete' wall erected at the foot of Coote Road, but this appears to refer to the stone (not concrete) wall prisoners built around the 'sea side' of the site next to the drill shed (on the corner of Coote Road and Marine Parade). This site was a telegraph reserve that had been granted for a parade ground – see 'The Drill-Shed Enclosure', *DT*, 16 July 1901, p.8; 'Town Edition', *DT*, 22 July 1901, p.8; 'The Drill-Shed Wall', *DT*, 28 August 1901, p.5.

¹⁰³ Public Works Statement, *AJHR*, 1902, D-1, p.59; *AJHR*, 1903, H-20, p.8; Report on the Department of Justice, Prisons Branch, *AJHR*, 1904, H-20, p.8;

¹⁰⁴ This building and the rooms therein can be seen on the Public Works Department Plans PWD 18155 2-2, F1 and F2 in Figure 6, Appendix 2. This plan is also available online (in two parts) via the *Archives New Zealand website*: https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE37662026; https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE37661997, accessed 6 January 2020.

¹⁰⁵ Report on the Department of Justice, Prisons Branch, *AJHR*, 1905, H-20, p.8.

¹⁰⁶ *ibid.*, 1906, H-20, p.8. This report for the year ending 1905 states that the 'boundary-wall is finished', though the plaque above the main entrance doors in the wall bears the inscription 'H.M. Prison 1906'.

¹⁰⁷ *ibid.*, 1907, H-20, p.8. Prior to the construction of the cottages, warders had to live as close as possible to the gaol, in case they were required for duty at night – see Elizabeth Pishief and Chris Cochran, 'Proposed new places and items for inclusion in the Heritage Schedule for Napier City: Part 1', report prepared for Napier City Council, 11 November 2019, p. 149. Extract for Napier Prison held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁰⁸ Report on the Department of Justice, Prisons Branch, *AJHR*, 1908, H-20, p.9.

A Call for Closure (1909 -1920)

Despite the various improvements made to Napier gaol in the early 1900s, by 1909 it was described as the worst prison in New Zealand by the Inspector of Prisons, occupying a 'beautiful site which could be utilised to much better advantage'.¹⁰⁹ The Inspector recommended closure of the prison as soon as alternative accommodation was found for the inmates, and echoed these sentiments in his 1913 report, describing the prison as 'hopelessly obsolete'.¹¹⁰ The prison remained open though, and was primarily used for local short-sentence prisoners. Among the prisoners at this time was Alice Parkinson, who was held there for several months during her Napier trial for the murder of her boyfriend Albert West, who had refused to marry her following the death of their illegitimate baby during labour.¹¹¹ The trial captivated the nation at the time and Alice's subsequent conviction of hard labour for life saw large public meetings and petitions calling for her release.¹¹²

In 1919 the prison's status was reduced to a police gaol, staffed by a Principal Warder and one officer, as opposed to a Gaoler and four officers.¹¹³ The ultimate aim was still to close the prison, and there was a proposal to dispose of the prison reserve to Napier Borough Council for £5000.¹¹⁴ All was progressing well and there were plans to complete the purchase on 31 March 1920.¹¹⁵ However, the Council had to take a poll of ratepayers in order to authorise a loan needed to purchase the site, and ratepayers vetoed the proposal.¹¹⁶ The Council was unable to proceed and the Prisons Department consequently decided to continue using the site for 'penal purposes'.¹¹⁷

¹⁰⁹ *ibid.*, 1910, H-20, p.2.

¹¹⁰ *ibid.*; Report on the Department of Justice, Prisons Branch, *AJHR*, 1913, H-20, p.5. The Inspector recommended that the site be sold with part of the proceeds to go towards purchase of land for a 'smaller prison in a less prominent locality', and initial investigations were made as to suitable locations for a new prison – see 1913 correspondence in 'Napier Land District – Napier Prison Reserve', 1913-1975, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹¹¹ Carol Markwell, 'Parkinson, Alice May', *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, first published in 1996. *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/3p9/parkinson-alice-may> accessed 3 May 2020; A Plea for Alice Parkinson, *Maoriland Worker*, Volume 6, Issue 232, 28 July 1915, p. 4.

¹¹² Markwell, 1996. Alice Parkinson was finally released in mid-1921.

¹¹³ Report on Prisons, *AJHR*, 1920, H-20, p.7.

¹¹⁴ *ibid.*, 1921, H-20, p.8; see also 1919-1921 correspondence in 'Napier Land District – Napier Prison Reserve', 1913-1975, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895. The land had previously been declared Crown land free from trusts and reservations and available for disposal under the Reserves and other Lands Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act 1918 – see Section 30 of the Disposal and Public Bodies Empowering Act 1918, p. 30, available at *New Zealand Legislation*, <http://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1918/0023/latest/whole.html#DLM190467>, accessed 10 March 2020.

¹¹⁵ 1919-1921 correspondence in 'Napier Land District – Napier Prison Reserve', 1913-1975, Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹¹⁷ *ibid.*

Further improvements were made to the prison throughout the 1920s, including the installation of electricity, construction of a retaining wall around 'an extensive slip on the side of the main entrance road', and construction of a 430-foot (131 metres) long stone retaining wall along the Marine Parade frontage of the prison reserve, which included 'steps and approaches' to the prison.¹¹⁸ This wall was 5.6 feet (1.7 metres) high, topped with cement, and averaged 0.6 metres wide at the base and 0.45 metres wide at the top.¹¹⁹ Prisoners also created a vegetable garden from an overgrown area of the reserve to enable the prison to become more self-sufficient.¹²⁰ The garden provided work for the prisoners, alongside the ongoing quarrying of road metal from the prison quarry.¹²¹ In 1928 prisoners also erected a retaining wall on the Clyde Road part of the prison reserve.¹²²

The Napier Earthquake of 3 February 1931

At 10.47am on 3 February 1931, the Hawke's Bay experienced a devastating earthquake, resulting in 256 deaths and thousands of injuries.¹²³ Some buildings collapsed immediately, while others such as Napier Prison sustained significant damage. The prison had sunken foundations, broken water and sewerage systems, deep fissures in the yards and damage to the warder's cottages, Superintendent's residence and prison kitchen facilities.¹²⁴ The various prison walls were particularly affected; the internal division walls were demolished, the eastern wall fronting Marine Parade was 'completely razed' and the front wall facing Coote Road was 'badly fractured'.¹²⁵ The damage to the prison walls was particularly concerning due to the security implications at a time when there were several dangerous prisoners locked up, with anyone being able to 'walk in and all about the prison at any hour

¹¹⁸ 'Public Works Statement', *AJHR*, 1924, D-1, p.72; 'Report on Prisons', *AJHR*, 1925, H-20, p.10; *ibid.*, 1926, H-20, p.13.

¹¹⁹ *AJHR*, 1925, H-20, p.10.

¹²⁰ 'Report on Prisons Department', *AJHR*, 1927, H-20, p.14; *ibid.*, 1928, H-20, pp.6, 14.

¹²¹ *AJHR*, 1928, H-20, pp.6, 14.

¹²² *ibid.*, p.12.

¹²³ 'Hawke's Bay earthquake strikes', URL: <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/hawkes-bay-earthquake-0>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 4-Aug-2017, accessed 10 March 2020.

¹²⁴ Report on Prisons Department, *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp. 14-15. Note that full details of the damage caused by the earthquake can be found in the file 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1, Archives New Zealand, Wellington (note: this is a restricted file requiring access permission from the Department of Corrections).

¹²⁵ Report on Prisons Department, *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp. 14-15. The 'eastern wall fronting Marine Parade' is understood to refer to the eastern section of the 1905 prison wall and the 'front wall facing Coote Road' is understood to refer to the northern elevation of the 1905 prison wall. See also the photos of damage to the prison walls in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

of the night without being detected'.¹²⁶ The cells received little damage in comparison – doors could still swing and lock, though floors dropped and walls were strained.¹²⁷

The prison muster at the time of the earthquake was 21 and there were 11 prisoners working in the quarry.¹²⁸ Several of the prisoners in the quarry were buried by earth and two received severe injuries - they were dug out by their fellow prisoners who also assisted with the rescue of a woman buried by earth in Coote Road.¹²⁹ One of the injured prisoners later died in hospital.¹³⁰ The prisoners spent the night of the earthquake out in the open prison yard but later moved with the gaoler to Public Works Department tents on a 'blind road' about 100 yards (91 metres) up from the prison, due to the frequency and intensity of the aftershocks.¹³¹ The day after the earthquake five prisoners were released on remission, eight were transferred to Wellington and the others (bar one) were later released from custody.¹³²

Tradesmen prisoners were sent from Wellington along with the necessary tools to repair the earthquake damage.¹³³ In his 1932 prisons report, the Inspector of Prisons noted that the eastern wall was completely rebuilt, the front wall was reconditioned and 'the whole of the wall' was buttressed on the inside.¹³⁴ Three of the internal division walls were rebuilt in brick with cement mortar and reinforced with wire bonding, and various prison buildings were repaired, including the warder's cottages and the Superintendent's residence.¹³⁵ Subsequent repairs included patching of the exercise yard floors, further sewerage repairs, and repainting of the prison buildings (exteriors), with a tradesman prisoner sent from

¹²⁶ Memorandum from the Gaoler of H.M. Prison, Napier to Controller-General of Prisons, 7 April 1931 and photo showing damage to the 'end wall' in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1. One of these prisoners was held in the padded cell of 'The Pound' – see the 'Physical Description' section below.

¹²⁷ Memorandums from the District Engineer to Permanent Head, P.W. Wellington on 5 March 1931 and 1 April 1931 in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

¹²⁸ Report on Prisons Department, *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp. 14-15; memorandum from the Gaoler to the Controller-General of Prisons, 15 February 1931 (but mislabelled 15 January 1931) in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

¹²⁹ Memorandum from the Gaoler to the Controller-General of Prisons, 15 February 1931 (but mislabelled 15 January 1931) and memorandum from the Controller-General of Prisons to the Honourable Minister of Justice, 9 February 1931 in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

¹³⁰ Report on Prisons Department, *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp. 14-15.

¹³¹ Memorandum from the Gaoler to the Controller-General of Prisons, 16 February 1931 in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

¹³² Report on Prisons Department, *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp. 14-15.

¹³³ *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp.14-15; correspondence from W. Benson, Warder Instr., H.M. Prison, Napier to the Controller-General of Prisons, 10 June 1931 in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

¹³⁴ *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, pp.14-15. This is referring to the eastern and northern elevations of the 1905 main prison wall.

¹³⁵ *ibid.*; see also correspondence from W. Benson, Warder Instr., Napier Prison to the Controller-General of Prisons, 23 June 1931 and 13 September 1931 in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

Wellington to specifically undertake the task.¹³⁶ All the old paint was burnt off and boards were replaced where damaged, resulting in a finish described as 'fresh and clean...it is hard to realize [sic] the buildings are so old'.¹³⁷ In total, the earthquake repairs cost £170.¹³⁸

In the years immediately following the earthquake, the prison quarry continued to be the main focus of prison labour (and revenue); though the 1935 Prisons Department report noted that there had been a steep drop off in demand for stone since the post-earthquake restoration of Napier had been completed.¹³⁹

Further Repairs and Alterations (mid-1930s – 1940s)

The ageing nature of the Napier Prison meant that there were always maintenance and development works to be undertaken, and prisoners continued to provide the labour. Their work was reputedly not of as high standard as would be required by an outside contractor, but the prison buildings were 'so old and of such poor standard (approx. 80 years) that this should not matter greatly'.¹⁴⁰ Key works undertaken in the mid-1930s-1940s included installation of a wireless system; considerable maintenance of, and repairs to, the three warden's cottages, 'extensive repairs' to the prison buildings, and erection of new or replacement walls around the complex, such as the two stone retaining walls 'at the back of the prison'.¹⁴¹ In 1948 the lighthouse was 'successfully dismantled' for the Marine Department and in 1949 the prison quarry was extended with a new 36 foot (10.9 metre) section.¹⁴² Flower growing also commenced during the 1940s, proving rather profitable.¹⁴³ The installation of the wireless system opened up new entertainment opportunities for the prisoners, who were permitted to listen to 'sessions of news, sporting events, and variety programmes nightly, and Church broadcasts on Sunday'.¹⁴⁴ Prisoners were also entertained by visiting concert parties and picture screenings; the 1949 Prisons Report states that 18

¹³⁶ 'Report on Prisons Department', *AJHR*, 1933, H-20, p. 12.

¹³⁷ *ibid.*

¹³⁸ Memorandum from the Acting Controller General of Prisons to the Gaoler, H.M. Prison, Napier, 2 July 1931 in 'Re. damage to Napier Prison by earthquake', J40 Box 256, Record No. 1931/11/1.

¹³⁹ *AJHR*, 1933, H-20, p. 13.

¹⁴⁰ See 'Napier Prison and Cottages: Maintenance' memorandum from the District Engineer to the Government Architect, Public Works Department, 8 October 1947, in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁴¹ 'Report on Prisons', *AJHR*, 1938, H-20, p. 10; *ibid.*, 1939, H-20, p. 10; *ibid.*, 1946, H-20, p. 14; *ibid.*, 1948, H-20, pp. 14-15; *ibid.*, 1949, H-20, pp.17-18.

¹⁴² *ibid.*, 1949, H-20, pp.17-18; *ibid.*, 1950, H-20, p.21.

¹⁴³ *ibid.*, 1946, H-20, p.14; *ibid.*, 1947, H-20, pp.12-13.

¹⁴⁴ *ibid.*, 1948, H-20, pp. 13-14.

concert parties had visited the Napier Prison during the year and seven moving pictures were screened.¹⁴⁵ Regular divine services were conducted by a wide variety of denominations, and were well-attended by prisoners.¹⁴⁶

Formal Reservation as a Prison and New Prison Buildings (1950s-1960s)

On 28 June 1951 the prison site (defined as Town Section 715 and former Suburban Section 675) was finally gazetted as a prison reserve, almost 90 years after the prison first opened.¹⁴⁷

The 1950s also saw the construction of a new timber recreation hall, sited in the north-east corner of the prison (within the boundary wall).¹⁴⁸ The original brief was for a hall 40 feet (12.1 metres) long by 23 feet (7 metres) wide with a stage 12-14 feet (3.6 – 4.2 metres) deep at one end, with steps leading up to the stage from either side.¹⁴⁹ A new timber Superintendent's office was also built just south of the solitary confinement building ('the Pound'), designed by Government Architect Gordon Wilson.¹⁵⁰

In late 1961 the Department of Justice made the decision to build a new house to replace the old Superintendent's residence which formed part of the main prison complex.¹⁵¹ The new house was subsequently built by contract on the 'triangle of garden' at what is now 29 Clyde Road and the former Superintendent's residence within the main prison was repurposed as accommodation for inmates.¹⁵²

¹⁴⁵ *ibid.*, 1949, H-20, pp. 17-18.

¹⁴⁶ The 1949 Prisons report notes for example that the following denominations conducted services at the prison: Gospel Hall, Church of England, Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Congregational, Roman Catholic and the Salvation Army. There was also a Māori service. See 'Report on Prisons', *AJHR*, 1949, H-20, pp. 17-18.

¹⁴⁷ *NZ Gazette*, 1951, p.906.

¹⁴⁸ To date no plans have been located of the recreation hall, but it is likely to have been designed by Gordon Wilson who was Government Architect at that time (and who designed the Superintendent's Office at the prison).

¹⁴⁹ The entrance door was to open directly into the hall, and one toilet was required.

¹⁵⁰ See the 1958 plan GA. N116 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895. It is unclear exactly when the Superintendent's Office (with clothing store) was constructed. A subsequent plan of the prison notes the age as '1963', five years after the date of the architectural plan, but archival records indicate it may have been constructed in the late 1950s. See the Ministry of Works and Development's 'Buildings Layout Plan' from 1983 and 1950s correspondence in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁵¹ See 'Napier Prison: One New House' letter from the Secretary for Justice, Department of Justice to the Commissioner of Works, Ministry of Works, 7 September 1961 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁵² 29 Clyde Street (Lot 2 DP 22991, RT HBW4/1006) was created through the subdivision of Suburban Section 675 (part of the gazetted prison reserve) in March 1993. Property information indicates that the house was constructed circa 1963, e.g. see '29 Clyde Road, Bluff Hill, Napier 4110', QV.co.nz, <https://www.qv.co.nz/property/29-clyde-road-bluff-hill-napier-4110/1980821>, accessed 16 March 2020. It is shown in Figure 13 in Appendix 2, which dates to 1964.

In the early 1960s there was also a staged proposal for new buildings at the prison, with prisoners undertaking all the necessary carpentry work. Stage 1 involved construction of a new dining room.¹⁵³ At that time, prisoners were taking their meals in an open shelter in the yard and it was felt that a 'proper dining room' was essential.¹⁵⁴ The dining room was designed by Government Architect Fergus George Frederick ('F.G.F.') Sheppard and was completed in 1963.¹⁵⁵ It was an extension of the kitchen located at the western end of the southern cell block wing, but there was a sheltered verandah dividing the two buildings due to a drainage sumps next to the kitchen that could not be built over.¹⁵⁶

By January 1965 the former open shelter dining room had been converted to an ablution block as part of the subsequent building works.¹⁵⁷ Other building works completed in the mid to late 1960s included construction of two garages (for a vegetable store room and carpenter's shop) and an extension to the recreation hall.¹⁵⁸

Scoping for a New Prison and Development of Centennial Gardens (late 1960s – 1970s)

By 1968 the Department of Justice had started scoping alternative sites for a new Napier Prison due to the poor condition of the existing prison.¹⁵⁹ The Commissioner of Crown Lands identified three potential sites on the Department of Lands and Survey's Ahuriri Farm Settlement, but in the end the Department of Justice decided to look elsewhere.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵³ Construction of the dining room involved the demolition of toilets and two urinals against the wall. See 'Napier Prison: New Buildings' memorandum from the Secretary for Justice, Department of Justice to Commissioner of Works, Ministry of Works, 13 October 1961 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁵⁴ See 'Napier Prison: Dining Room' memorandum from the Commissioner of Works to Minister of Works, Ministry of Works, 1 May 1962 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁵⁵ See 1962 plan labelled '1089 P.1' by Government Architect Fergus George Frederick Sheppard and 'Napier Prison: Dining Room' memorandum from the District Commissioner of Works to Commissioner of Works, Ministry of Works, 21 October 1964 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895. See also the Ministry of Works and Development's 'Buildings Layout Plan' from 1983.

¹⁵⁶ See the 1962 plan labelled '1089 P.1' by Government Architect Fergus George Frederick Sheppard and 1961-1963 correspondence in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895. The construction of the dining room resulting in the demolition of two long-drop toilets and two urinals in the southwest corner of the prison.

¹⁵⁷ See architectural plan for 'Conversion of Old Dining Room To Shower Room' initialled by 'R.K.W.', 1164/W1, 20 September 1962 and 'Napier Prison: Ablution Block Alterations' memorandum from the District Commissioner of Works to Commissioner of Works, Ministry of Works, 13 January 1965 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁵⁸ See 1960s correspondence in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁵⁹ The information in this paragraph is sourced from 1968-1971 correspondence in Napier Land District – Napier Prison Reserve, 1913-1975, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁶⁰ A significant increase in the local prison population meant that a larger institution (and therefore more land) would be required and it was also going to take some time to build on the Ahuriri Farm Settlement due to the need to consolidate the ground for heavy buildings.

In 1973 the Napier City Council commenced development of their Centennial Gardens project at the former prison quarry (Town Section 715), to celebrate the centenary of Napier's establishment as a borough and city.¹⁶¹ The Centennial Gardens were officially opened on 16 October 1974, comprising a waterfall and hanging gardens complex.¹⁶² The transformation of the former quarry into hanging gardens was undertaken by prisoners and then later Council gardeners, with all soil moved onto the site.¹⁶³ 1974 was also the final year in which female prisoners were held at Napier Prison.¹⁶⁴

The Prison's Final Years (1980s to 1993)

As the 1980s commenced, there was still no final decision on the future of Napier Prison with the Justice Department and successive governments having 'delayed and deferred a final decision' for over a decade.¹⁶⁵ In October 1980, Mr Alan Millar, Central Districts' Regional Secretary for the Public Service Association was quoted as saying that the prison buildings were 'grossly substandard' and that degraded conditions 'will produce degraded human beings'.¹⁶⁶ These comments were echoed by the Secretary of Justice Mr John Robertson who visited the prison in February 1981 and described it as a 'blot on the country's penal programme'.¹⁶⁷

The Justice Department consequently asked the Ministry of Works to undertake a feasibility study looking at three options for a new Hawke's Bay prison. Two of the options involved construction of a new prison at Mangaroa, six kilometres south of Hastings, whilst the third

¹⁶¹ 'Botanic Gardens and other Napier gardens', Napier City Council, <https://www.napier.govt.nz/napier/gardens/botanical-gardens/>, accessed 16 March 2020. The prison had 'almost run out' of stone by the late 1960s and in 1973 the Department of Justice agreed to dispose of Town Section 715 to the Napier City Council (for part of their Centennial Gardens project) as they had 'concluded their activity' on the land. The land's prison reserve status was subsequently revoked on 14 March 1974 – see 'Proposed New Prison at Napier' memorandum from the Commissioner of Crown Lands to the Director-General of Lands, 30 May 1968 and 1973-1974 correspondence in Napier Land District – Napier Prison Reserve, 1913-1975, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895; *NZ Gazette*, 1974, p.470.

¹⁶² See interpretation panel at Centennial Gardens. A photograph of the panel is held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁶³ 'Botanic Gardens and other Napier gardens', Napier City Council.

¹⁶⁴ Pishief and Cochran, 2019, p.147. A women's prison opened at Paparua near Christchurch that same year – see Peter Clayworth, 'Prisons - Women in prison', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2012b, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/prisons/page-6> accessed 9 May 2020.

¹⁶⁵ 'Really no doubt on prison site', *DT*, 20 August 1981, in Napier Prison, 1980-1987, ACCM W5543 Box 16, Record No. AR 3/11/3, Archives New Zealand, Wellington.

¹⁶⁶ 'Prison paint can't cover all the cracks', *DT*, 4 October 1980 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁶⁷ 'Prison options under study', *DT*, 3 June 1981, p.4 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

option was a rebuild on the current Napier Prison site.¹⁶⁸ The Justice Department prepared a briefing paper for Cabinet, and in 1982 a further feasibility study was undertaken for the third option of redeveloping the current Napier Prison site.¹⁶⁹ However, in July 1983, the government announced their decision to construct a new prison at Mangaroa.¹⁷⁰

The Napier Prison was to remain open until the new Mangaroa prison was finished and it was reputedly always full during its final years of operation, with a high number of Mongrel Mob members inside, as well as members of rival gangs.¹⁷¹ Former prison guard John Dagg likened it to a 'railway station' with prisoners moving in and out daily. Some 'favourite' prisoners were kept on longer term though and worked in the gardens, in the kitchen or helped with building works around the prison, as throughout the prison's history.¹⁷² Prison labour was used for example to help build new exercise yards (the 'Cages') for remand prisoners in 1984-1985.¹⁷³ The state of the prison remained a cause for concern, especially overcrowding issues and substandard sanitary arrangements, the latter causing an 'unbelievable' stench in summer.¹⁷⁴ Incumbent Minister of Justice Sir Geoffrey Palmer was apparently in disbelief that a place like Napier Prison could exist; with former warder Robert Hohipuha noting that it had become 'an official embarrassment'.¹⁷⁵

Mangaroa Prison (now Hawke's Bay Prison) opened ahead of schedule in 1989 due to a 'prison-muster blowout' across New Zealand.¹⁷⁶ Napier Prison continued on for another four years though as a remand facility, to help alleviate crowding at Mangaroa, and there were even plans to redevelop the prison in 1992-1993.¹⁷⁷ In late 1993 though, the remaining 56

¹⁶⁸ 'Paper gives options for prison', *DT*, 19 August 1981, no page number noted, in Napier Prison, 1980-1987, ACCM W5543 Box 16, Record No. AR 3/11/3.

¹⁶⁹ See 1982 correspondence in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁷⁰ 'Prison site prime real estate', *Herald Tribune*, 19 July 1983, no page number noted, in Napier Prison, 1981-1984, ACCM W5543 Box 7, Record No. AR 4/11/9, Archives New Zealand, Wellington.

¹⁷¹ 'Former Napier Prison guard says inmates could have 'farted' and the walls would have fallen down', *Hawke's Bay Today*, 8 April 2019, https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12220389, accessed 17 March 2019; 'Gangs Inside' interpretation panel on display at Napier Prison (Former), see photo held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁷² 'Former Napier Prison guard says inmates could have 'farted' and the walls would have fallen down'.

¹⁷³ See 1984-1985 correspondence in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

¹⁷⁴ 'Locked in stone', *The Dominion*, 29 January 2000, p.17. Provided by Hawke's Bay Museum Library and copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁷⁵ *ibid.*

¹⁷⁶ 'Warder's affair rocks jail', *Hawke's Bay Today*, 23 December 2004, https://www.nzherald.co.nz/hawkes-bay-today/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503462&objectid=10918468, accessed 16 March 2020.

¹⁷⁷ 'Prison revamp possible', *DT*, 4 November 1993, no page number; 'Napier jail to be mothballed', *Herald Tribune*, 4 November 1993, no page number. Copies held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002. Note that in

inmates and 19 staff at Napier Prison were transferred to a newly built 60-bed block at Mangaroa Prison, and the site's 131 year history as a prison finally came to an end.¹⁷⁸

Conversion to Backpackers and Tourist Attraction; Use as a Film Set

The former Napier Prison site was mothballed and subsequently disposed of to the Office of Treaty Settlements for possible use in Treaty settlement claims.¹⁷⁹ It remained a place of great interest to the community though, as evidenced by the nearly 4000 people who attended an open weekend in March 1998.¹⁸⁰ Apart from a short period of use as an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting venue, the site remained vacant from its closure until 2002 when Marion and Toro Waaka entered into a lease agreement with the Crown and converted the former prison into a backpackers and prison tours operation.¹⁸¹ Minor alterations were undertaken and vandalised areas were cleaned and repaired.¹⁸²

In 2005 the reality television show *Redemption Hill* was filmed at the prison, during which the 10 teenage participants were given 'a taste of prison life' and helped to create a new garden in the south-eastern corner of the site.¹⁸³ The backpackers' hostel closed in 2009, but tours still run and three escape room experiences are currently provided.¹⁸⁴ In early 2018 the Choice TV series *Heritage Rescue* filmed at the prison, undertaking improvements such as re-painting of the entranceway and installation of new display cabinets and interpretation panels.¹⁸⁵ The Napier Prison site is part of the cultural redress package provided for by the

March 1993, the prison property was subdivided into Lots 1 and 2 DP 22991 – the latter comprising the warder's cottage and land at the southern end (where the 1873 lighthouse was also located). Refer to RT HBK3/46 (cancelled).

¹⁷⁸ 'Prison revamp possible', 1993.

¹⁷⁹ 'Napier jail to be mothballed', 1993. See also facsimile from the Department of Corrections to New Zealand Historic Places Trust Chief Executive William Tramosch, 7 January 2002, on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁸⁰ 'Thousands queue to see prison', *DT*, 2 March 1998, no page number. Copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁸¹ 'The Prison', <https://www.napierprison.com/the-prison/>, accessed 19 March 2020; 'Spectrum for 28 December 2014', RNZ, <https://www.rnz.co.nz/national/programmes/spectrum/audio/20162120/spectrum-for-28-december-2014>, accessed 19 March 2020. Note that the lease agreement excludes the two former warder's cottages outside the main prison complex which are privately tenanted. Both the cottages and former prison complex site (i.e. 55-57 Coote Road) are held in the Treaty Landbank managed by Land Information New Zealand ('LINZ').

¹⁸² See 2002-2003 correspondence between Marion and Toro Waaka and the New Zealand Historic Places Trust on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁸³ '13. The Garden' interpretation panel on display at Napier Prison; see photo held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁸⁴ 'Napier's history now available in many languages', *Dominion Post*, 4 July 2011, C2, copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002; *Napier Prison Tours* website, <https://www.napierprison.com/>, accessed 19 March 2020. The prison site can also be booked for functions.

¹⁸⁵ 'Choice TV's 'Heritage Rescue' programme gives Napier Prison a makeover', *NZ Herald*, 5 March 2018, https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=12006208, accessed 3 May 2020.

Ahuriri Hapū Deed of Settlement which is currently passing through settlement legislation, but for now is managed under the existing lease arrangement.¹⁸⁶ In 2020 Napier Prison (Former) remains a popular tourist attraction in the city.

Associated List Entries

N/A

2.2. Physical Information¹⁸⁷

Current Description

Context

The former Napier Prison is located on Hukarere/Bluff Hill at the north-east end of Mataruahou/Napier Hill. It is accessed via a steep driveway off Coote Road, one of Napier's early roads featuring a number of worker's cottages, bungalows and villas, and is located opposite Centennial Gardens which were constructed on the former prison quarry site. Other heritage sites in the immediate area include the Drill Hall (V21/415), which was re-erected across from the prison circa 1889/1890, and a well (V21/155) recorded underneath the south-east corner of the hall which is thought to have been associated with the immigration barracks erected on the site in the early 1860s.¹⁸⁸ The sacred Māori site of Tūhinapō was also located on Hukarere in earlier times.¹⁸⁹

¹⁸⁶ See the Deed of Settlement – Attachments, pre-signing draft dated 13 October 2016, <https://www.govt.nz/assets/Documents/OTS/Ahuriri-Hapu/Ahuriri-Hapu-Deed-of-Settlement-Attachments.pdf> accessed 9 May 2020

¹⁸⁷ All photographs in this section were taken by Blyss Wagstaff, Heritage New Zealand on 21 January 2020, unless otherwise noted.

¹⁸⁸ New Zealand Archaeological Association Site Record Form for V21/155, Archsite (<https://archsite.eaglegis.co.nz/NZAA/>), accessed 9 May 2020. As at May 2020, the Drill Hill (List No. 1134) is a proposal for entry on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero.

¹⁸⁹ Parsons and Pishief, 2019, p.93; pers. comm. with Napier Prison leaseholder Toro Waaka, 3 July 2020.

Overall Layout of Napier Prison (Former)



Figure 1: Napier Prison (Former), Napier City Council GIS, 23 January 2020 (aerial imagery dates to 2018). Note: the red line demarcates the parcel boundary for Lot 1 DP 22991, not the extent of List entry.

Key:

1	Former Prison Quarry/Centennial Gardens (not within the extent of List entry)
2	Lower Prison Wall
3	Former Warder's Cottages and Other Outbuildings
4	Shed/Garage
5	Napier Prison Wall (1905)
6	Western and Southern Prison Walls
7	Main Prison Complex - see Figure 2 below for further detail
8	Former Warder's Cottage (1963) and Lighthouse site (not within the extent of List entry)

2) Lower Prison Wall

The former prison's lower wall extends for circa 300 metres along the Marine Parade frontage of the site, continuing around the sweeping corner into Coote Road and then up to, and alongside, the prison driveway.¹⁹⁰ Constructed of sandstone blocks from the former prison quarry, the wall is of varying heights and construction methods, and shows evidence of recent repair in places.

The 1920s Marine Parade section of the wall is squared rubble masonry and was originally faced with concrete that has eroded away over time, revealing the masonry beneath.¹⁹¹ Concrete gateposts and steps demarcate the overgrown entrance to the switchback path that once led from Marine Parade up to the prison.¹⁹² There is also a second opening in this section of the wall as it approaches the corner of Coote Road.

The Coote Road section of the wall is random rubble masonry with clear evidence of repointing.¹⁹³ It is generally one metre or higher, with the exception of the low section edging the grassed area near the corner with Marine Parade, which has just two courses of stonework. Partway along the wall (as it approaches the prison entrance) is a small mail box or possible shelf for receiving milk.

The lower wall continues up the right-hand side of the prison entrance until it meets the main prison complex, a distance of *circa* 130 metres. This final section of wall is a mixture of random rubble and squared rubble masonry, and again shows evidence of repointing.

¹⁹⁰ Note that stone walling continues past the former prison site and up Coote Road, but only the section of wall which falls within the former prison property on Coote Road or within the Legal Road is included within the extent of List entry.

¹⁹¹ The 1932 Prisons Department report notes that the 'eastern wall facing Marine Parade' was completely razed and rebuilt after the 1931 Napier earthquake. but quotes a distance of *circa* 1.5 chains (30 metres). It is not exactly clear which wall this is referring to – part of the 1920s retaining wall on the Marine Parade boundary of the prison reserve or the eastern section of the 1906 prison wall, which is only circa 15 metres in length. See *AJHR*, 1932, H-20, p.15.

¹⁹² The path is shown on some plans of the prison complex – see the Ministry of Work's 'As Built Drainage' plan and 'H.M. Prison Napier and Reserve' plan in maps and plans of Napier Prison compiled by Judith Larsen, Napier, to Joanna Barnes-Wylie, Heritage New Zealand. Copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002. See also Figures 12-13 in Appendix 2.

¹⁹³ The date for this section of the wall has not been verified through archival research to date.



Section of squared rubble masonry, Marine Parade



Section of random rubble masonry with repointing, Coote Road

3) Former Warder's Cottages and Other Outbuildings (1/57, 2/57 Coote Road)

To the left of the driveway up to the main prison gates are the two former warder's cottages and associated outbuildings (i.e. garages and stores/sheds).¹⁹⁴ There is also an old toilet to the side of the entrance road, now partially obscured by vegetation. As previously noted, these two cottages were built circa 1907 using recycled timber from the lunatic asylum, with corrugated iron roofs. A surviving Public Works Department ('PWD') plan labelled 'Warder's Cottage' (which may well have informed the construction of both buildings) indicates that the cottage was designed as a double box cottage with hipped roof and small gabled centre

¹⁹⁴ The two former warder's cottages were not accessed during the Heritage New Zealand site visit on 21 January 2020 as they are private rentals not covered by the lease for the former prison site. However, LINZ provided Residential Inspection Reports dated 31 July 2019 to Heritage New Zealand though via email on 5 June 2020 – copies held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002 (with tenants' names redacted).

bay extending from the front (north) elevation, with two double-hung windows surrounded by simple stick-work.¹⁹⁵

The two cottages have undergone a number of changes since their original construction, including restoration after the 1931 Napier earthquake, and later modifications and additions in response to the evolving needs of the prison and its staff. The latter included the addition of a carport and garage for each cottage and other stores/sheds, as particularly evident with the front cottage (1/57 Coote Road) closest to the prison driveway, labelled on later prison plans as the 'Administration Building'.¹⁹⁶ The basic form of the original cottages is still readable today though. Internally, the original timber board and batten ceilings are still evident in some rooms along with panelled wooden doors.¹⁹⁷ The back cottage (2/57 Coote Road) appears to have retained more original features such as the hallway arch and areas of wooden flooring.¹⁹⁸ There are several courses of brickwork on the ground alongside the northern elevation of the front cottage, where a verandah was once located.¹⁹⁹ The verandah (somewhat modified) still exists along the eastern elevation of the back house.



Former warder's cottages and associated outbuildings (Napier City Council GIS, 30 March (aerial imagery dates to 1999))

¹⁹⁵ See Figure 7 in Appendix 2 for further detail. It is possible that the cottages were not built exactly to the PWD plan as a photo of the cottages just a few years after construction (see Figure 11 in Appendix 2 below) shows verandahs along the front of the cottages. These verandahs may have replaced the gable end as shown on the original plan. Figure 11 in Appendix 2 also shows that the lean-to of the rear cottage (the one facing Marine Parade) may have been detached.

¹⁹⁶ For example, see the Ministry of Works and Development's 'As Built Drainage' plan from 1985; copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁹⁷ See 'Residential Inspection Report conducted for 1/57 Coote Road, Napier' and 'Residential Inspection Report conducted for 2/57 Coote Road, Napier'; copies held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

¹⁹⁸ See 'Residential Inspection Report conducted for 2/57 Coote Road, Napier'.

¹⁹⁹ See 'Residential Inspection Report conducted for 1/57 Coote Road, Napier' and Figure 7 in Appendix 2 for evidence of the original verandah.



Former warder's cottages and associated outbuildings (Napier City Council GIS, 30 March 2020 (aerial imagery dates to 2018). Note: 1/57 Coote Road is to the left with 2/57 Coote Road to the right.



Side elevation of Former Warder's Cottage facing prison driveway

4) Shed/Garage

Further outbuildings are located to the right of the main prison entrance. Closest to the entrance doors (directly adjacent to a small flight of stairs) is a masonry construction shed with double timber doors and corrugated iron gable roof with an off-centre ridge line which creates a small 'lean-to' area adjacent to a double garage. The double garage is constructed of timber with gable roofed of corrugated iron and timber doors. These buildings are variously labelled on Ministry of Works plans of the prison complex; a 1960s plan describes them as a 'shed' and 'car shed' whilst a 1980s plan annotates them as 'carpenters' workshops'.²⁰⁰ Their exact date of construction is unknown; an 1898 PWD plan of the prison

²⁰⁰ See the 1964 plan labelled 'Napier Prison Potato Shed. Sections and Plans', A.M.D.O 1360 by Government Architect Fergus George Frederick Sheppard in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895; the

‘as existing’ shows a smithy and woodshed in this general location, but it is difficult to reconcile the building depicted in an 1897 historic photograph of the prison with the existing masonry shed (see Figures 6 and 10 in Appendix 2).



Shed and garage next to prison entrance gates

5) Napier Prison Wall (1905)

Of all the prison buildings and structures, the 1905 prison wall has been frequently cited as the most significant in terms of heritage values. The wall extends along the front (north) of the prison entrance for a distance of 51.5 metres, and along the side (east) of the prison facing Marine Parade for *circa* 14.5 metres.²⁰¹ The wall is 0.5 metres thick and approximately 5.5 metres high. It is constructed of sandstone in a squared rubble design, and is heavily rusticated with the individual stones worked by the prisoners to different textures and patterns, creating a as ‘rich mosaic of texture and colour’.²⁰² A number of the stones were also incised by the prisoners with initials or personalised designs such as a sailing ship, horses, dolphins and stonemason’s tools.

Sloped buttresses help to give the wall ‘a great feeling of solidarity’ and are spaced along the wall at regular intervals, reaching two thirds of the way up the wall, which is capped along the top.²⁰³ The main prison door is located towards the eastern end of the wall and may in fact pre-date the wall as the exact door is depicted on the 1898 PWD plan of the prison, when the prison was surrounded by a wooden wall. The kauri doors (now stained black) with

Ministry of Works and Development’s ‘As Built Drainage’ plan from 1985.

²⁰¹ The rest of the eastern boundary is fenced.

²⁰² Pishief and Cochran, 2019, p.151.

²⁰³ ‘Prison Wall, Napier Prison, Corner of Coote Road and Marine Parade, Napier’, undated. Copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

hand forged nails are surrounded by painted quoins and surmounted by a stone hewn with two crossed keys and a padlock, painted black. Above this are stones with painted colour symbols representing the Royal Coat of Arms for the United Kingdom (roses, a thistle, clover, two lions and a crown). At the very top is a plaque reading 'H.M. Prison 1906'.²⁰⁴ On the inside of the prison wall, the door is topped with the same plaque, beneath which is a stone hewn with two crossed keys, a padlock and a sword and rifle, and above which is a stone hewn with a rose. A second smaller entrance door is located between the last two buttresses at the far western end of the wall.

Cracks are apparent in the wall, both on the interior and exterior, but overall its well-preserved condition is a testament to the stonemasonry skills of the prisoners who erected it, and those who also repaired it following the 1931 Napier earthquake.



Northern elevation of wall



Detail of main entrance (exterior)

²⁰⁴ Even though this plaque cites the date of 1906, archival research indicates that the wall was in fact completed in 1905 – see Historical Narrative section above for further detail.



Example of incised stones (possibly a simplified winged cross)



Eastern extension of wall



Detail of main entrance (interior)

6) *Western and Southern Walls*²⁰⁵

The main prison complex is bounded to the west and south by a high concrete block wall. This wall extends along the southern boundary and western boundaries, with the exception of the south-eastern corner of the prison site, where a small remnant of a random rubble masonry wall remains (refer to section 7-12 below for a photograph). Above the boundary wall is a lower concrete retaining wall which commences close to the south-western corner of the prison site, and extends along the western boundary.²⁰⁶ There is a further concrete retaining wall on the boundary with 12 Hukarere Road.

²⁰⁵ These walls can also be seen in other photos in the sections below.

²⁰⁶ There is a further retaining wall on the boundary with 12 Hukarere Road, which is not included as part of this List entry.



Section of southern boundary walls



Section of western boundary wall showing retaining walls above

7) Main Prison Complex

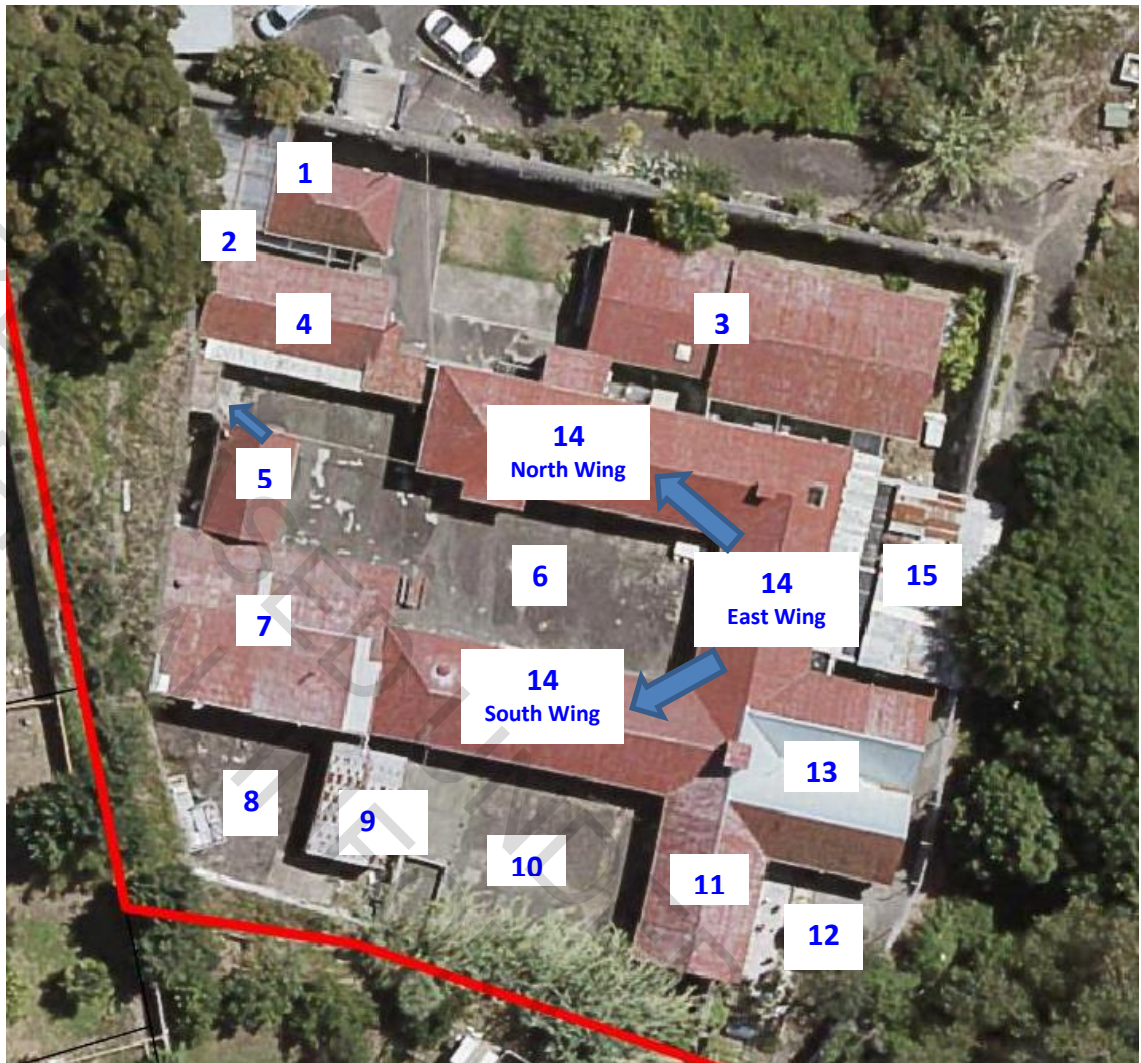


Figure 2: Detail of Figure 1 showing main prison buildings, Napier Prison (Former), Napier City Council GIS, 23 January 2020 (aerial imagery dates to 2018)

Key:

7-1	'The Pound' and Exercise Yard	7-9	Store/Workshop
7-2	Recessed Entrance in Prison Wall	7-10	Graveyard
7-3	Former Recreation Hall/Warder's Hut	7-11	'Eastern Extension'/Women's Wing
7-4	Superintendent's Office (Former)	7-12	Garden
7-5	Shower and Toilets	7-13	Superintendent's House (Former)
7-6	Main Exercise Yard	7-14	Main Cell Block
7-7	Dining Room/Mess Hall	7-15	'Cages'/Remand Open Exercise Yards
7-8	Hanging Yard/Trial Yard		

7-1) 'The Pound' (Solitary Confinement) and Exercise Yard

The main prison complex contains a number of different timber buildings and on entering through the main prison doors, the first building on your right is 'The Pound'. The Pound is believed to date to the prison's original construction in 1862 and had different uses over the years - in the late 1800s it housed the prison's clothing store, armoury and a padded cell, and was later used for solitary confinement (for up to two weeks) and as holding cells.²⁰⁷ The front of the simple timber building (facing the entrance yard) has a door and double-hung window and there is a second door out the southern side of the building, which leads to the caged exercise yard to the rear. Internally, the main room of the building has been fitted out with a shower and toilet (presumably from its time as holding cells) and there is a small display case of prison artefacts such as locks and keys. It is lined with timber and has a timber floor. There are heavy wooden doors through to the two rear rooms, which both have a small window with decorative grill. These rooms are also lined with timber and the back right room (the padded cell) is padded on the walls and floor. Names have been etched into the walls of the back left room.

The former exercise yard occupies the space between 'The Pound' and the prison wall (where the 1905 wall meets the western boundary wall). It is caged along the entrance and above, and there is a simple wooden bench along the rear wall. There is a roughly square patch of concrete on the floor which likely denotes the location of the former long-drop toilet which was here from the 19th century through until at least the early 1980s.²⁰⁸



Front door of the 'The Pound' from entrance yard

²⁰⁷ The date of '1862' is cited on the Ministry of Works and Development's 'Buildings Layout Plan' from 1983. The different uses of the building have been derived from plans of the prison, such as PWD 18155 (Figure 6, Appendix 2 below) and the aforementioned Ministry of Works and Development 'Buildings Layout Plan'.

²⁰⁸ The toilet is shown as 'E.C.' (earth closet) on the 1898 PWD plan 18155 (see Figure 6, Appendix 2 below) and is still visible in an aerial photograph from 6 December 1982 – see SN8139, Run Number C1, Photo Number 5, sourced from <http://retrolens.nz> and licensed by LINZ CC-BY 3.0.



Interior of 'The Pound' with shower and toilet to the right and cells (including padded cell) to the rear



Padded cell, 'The Pound'



Exercise yard to rear of 'The Pound'

7-2) *Recessed Entrance in Western Wall*

Adjacent to the caged exercise yard is a small recessed entrance in the western prison boundary wall, with an iron gate resting across the front. Dating to at least the late 1800s, the recessed entrance is of unknown function.²⁰⁹



7-3) *Recreation Hall (Former)*

The former recreation hall is located opposite 'The Pound' across the grassed entrance yard, in the northeast corner of the prison complex.²¹⁰ Both the original hall (1958) and front extension (1967) are of timber construction with wooden window joinery and gabled corrugated iron roofs with overhanging eaves, though the roof elevation of the front extension is lower.²¹¹ A small porch provides access to the two doors at the front of the building. Part of the building was later used as a warder's hut and for officers' staff rooms, and is currently used for staff accommodation.²¹²

²⁰⁹ The entrance is rumoured to have been later used for the solitary confinement of prisoners, as also implied by the current display of artefacts within. Note that the recessed entrance in the wall is shown in the 1898 PWD Plan 18155 (see Figure 6, Appendix 2 below.) There is a further recessed entrance in the wall in the south-western corner of the prison (see 7-12) below) and both recesses are noted as being of historical interest in a letter from Guy Natusch, Chairperson of the Hawke's Bay District Committee of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust to New Zealand Historic Places Trust Director Wayne Nelson on 10 December 1992, copy held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

²¹⁰ The interior of this building was not inspected during the Heritage New Zealand site visit of 21 January 2020 as it is the private residence of leaseholders Marion and Toro Waaka. Only the front elevation of the building was photographed.

²¹¹ It's possible that part of the front extension dates to the early 1980s when there was a proposal to add a further extension to accommodate toilet facilities (one male toilet and one female toilet). See 'Napier Prison: Renovations' memo from the Secretary for Justice to District Commissioner of Works, Ministry of Works and Development, 7 August 1980 in in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

²¹² For example, see the Ministry of Works and Development's 'Buildings Layout Plan' from 1983.



Looking across to the former Recreation Hall from outside former Superintendent's Office

7-4) *Superintendent's Office (Former)*

The former Superintendent's office and store is a simple timber building on raised concrete piles, with a gabled corrugated iron roof with slightly overhanging eaves. The main entrance was originally on the side facing 'The Pound' but the entrance door has been closed in and the lean-to porch roof removed.²¹³ The building is currently entered from the end facing out into the yard. To the right of the entrance door is a further window which seems to have been expanded from the original design and the building has also been extended to the left of the entrance, and the porch above the door has been widened. Internally, the two original rooms have been opened out into one larger room. The building was subsequently used as a visitors' room and as a 'detox' room where prisoners would be disinfected before beginning their time within the prison.²¹⁴ It is currently used as office space for the prison tours business, and is where visitors report to upon entry.

The former Superintendent's Office is connected by a covered porch to the northern wing of the prison, and there is an entrance in the porch through into the main exercise yard, with the toilets and shower block (7-5) on the right.

²¹³ For further detail on the building's original construction, see the 1958 plan GA. N116 in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

²¹⁴ See the Ministry of Works and Development's 'As Built Drainage' plan from 1985. Information about the building's use as a 'detox' room was provided during the self-guided audio tour of Napier Prison.



Former Superintendent's Office on left

7-5) *Toilets and Shower Block*

The toilet block is a small timber building with a flat corrugated iron roof and concrete floor, constructed hard against the western prison boundary wall. It comprises three toilet stalls with shortened doors, and the wash basin is located on the wall to the right of the toilet block. The toilet block is understood to date to 1963 when the neighbouring shower block was completed. The toilets are used today by prison visitors.

As previously noted, the shower block was created through the conversion of the former dining room (essentially an open shelter shed) in 1965.²¹⁵ The shower block has concrete and brick walls and a gabled corrugated iron roof. Internally it is divided into eight shower cubicles with hinged wooden privacy doors – four along the western side and two along the northern end. The hot water cupboard is positioned in the north-western corner and there is a stand of eight wash basins (four either side) in the centre of the room. The showers were used by guests when the former prison operated as a backpackers' hostel.

²¹⁵ For further detail on the building's conversion to a shower block, see the architectural plan for 'Conversion of Old Dining Room To Shower Room' initialled by 'R.K.W.', 1164/W1, 20 September 1962 in 'Napier Prison, 1946-1985', ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.



Toilets



Shower Block



Interior of Shower Block

7-6) *Main Exercise Yard*

The large sealed main exercise yard extends from the toilet and shower blocks to the eastern wing of the main cell block, and is bounded on either side by the northern and southern wings of the main cell block. It was originally even bigger, but has been reduced by the construction of subsequent prison buildings, such as the dining room. This area is likely to have been used as an exercise yard since the early years of the prison's history, and was where prisoners took their daily exercise, including games such as ping pong. The exercise yard was ruled by the Mongrel Mob during the prison's final years of occupation.²¹⁶



Looking east across main exercise yard

7-7) *Dining Room*

The former dining room (1963) is a rectangular building with timber-framed walls on three sides that were internally lined with hardboard and sheathed with flat asbestos panels.²¹⁷ Along the south elevation, the timber wall was constructed hard against an existing brick wall that comprised one side of the bootmaker's shop (with openings subsequently bricked up).²¹⁸ The building has a lean-to corrugated iron roof sloping downwards south to north.

The former dining hall was originally entered via the north elevation which featured two sets of double-glazed doors with asbestos panels and adjustable louvre windows, but this side was subsequently closed in with the addition of the television room (date unknown) and

²¹⁶ 'Locked in Stone', 2000.

²¹⁷ See the 1962 plan labelled '1089 P.1' by Government Architect Fergus George Frederick Sheppard in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

²¹⁸ See the 1962 plan labelled '1089 P.1' by Government Architect Fergus George Frederick Sheppard. One of the walls had to be renewed during construction of the dining room due to its poor condition but it is unclear whether this was the southern wall or western boundary wall.

there is now a single wooden entrance door from the eastern end. The rear (south) elevation still retains some of the original four louvre and fixed pane windows along the top of the wall. Internally, the former dining room has a linoleum floor and painted walls with murals and displays about prison food around the world. The adjoining former television room has French doors which open out into a covered porch area.



Looking towards former dining room entrance with adjoining television room (a later addition) on the right



Interior of former dining room looking towards western wall

7-8) *Hanging Yard*

A door in the southern wall of the covered porch between the former kitchen and dining room leads out a sealed yard in the southwestern corner of the prison; the former hanging yard. Gallows have been painted onto the stone wall to reflect the executions that took place here in the 1800s.



7-9) Store/Workshop

A store/workshop (9) divides the hanging yard from the adjacent graveyard. This is labelled on a 1983 Ministry of Works and Development plan of the prison as 'laundry', dating to '1898', but the 1898 PWD plan does not show a laundry in this location.²¹⁹ A later plan of the prison (date unknown) shows that there was a laundry building in this area, but this was located on the other side of the brick wall which once divided the trial yard from the drying yard.²²⁰ The remains of this brick wall can be seen today to the east of the store/workshop. There is also a concrete pad to the east of the store/workshop which may be the site of the former laundry.

Aerial photographs of the prison suggest that this building was constructed in the 1970s or early 1980s.²²¹ It is a rectangular building with metal cladding (possibly aluminium). Along the western elevation there is a roller garage door and metal entrance door with a sign above reading 'Kit Store', and there are windows in the northern and eastern elevations (though in most cases the fixed glass panes or louvres are missing).²²² The roof is gabled and clad in corrugated iron.

²¹⁹ See the Ministry of Works and Development's 'Buildings Layout Plan' from 1983 and Figure 6, Appendix 2.

²²⁰ See maps and plans of Napier Prison compiled by Judith Larsen, Napier. This laundry building likely replaced the one that was in the block of buildings demolished just inside the original northern wooden wall of the prison, prior to the construction of the 1905 stone wall – see Figure 6 in Appendix 2.

²²¹ Compare SN2356, Run C, Photo No. 6, 25 October 1970 with SN8139, Run C1, Photo No. 5, 6 December 1982, available from Retrolens, <http://retrolens.nz/>, accessed 7 May 2020.

²²² The southern end of the store/workshop was not inspected during the Heritage New Zealand site visit on 21 January 2020.



Partial view store/workshop (western elevation)

7-10) Graveyard

The prison graveyard is located to the east of the store/workshop in the former drying yard, and comprises a small gravelled area bounded by a low white picket fence. There is a single, small headstone for Rowland Herbert Edwards but as previously noted, three of the four prisoners executed at Napier Prison were subsequently buried in the 'gaol yard'. Former prison officer Rota Hohipuha believes that Māori prisoners took offence to the other two headstones and either dug them up, smashed them or threw them over the bank, noting that it was a matter of mana.²²³



Graveyard looking west

²²³ 'Locked in stone', 2000.



Headstone of Rowland Herbert Edwards

7-11) 'Eastern Extension'/Women's Wing

Female prisoners originally occupied the eastern end of the main cell block's north wing, but later moved to an extension at the southern end of the eastern wing, referred to as the 'eastern extension'. The exact date of the extension is unknown but it is shown on the PWD plan dated February 1898. This extension has horizontal timber weatherboards and a gabled corrugated iron roof.

Internally the eastern extension comprises a larger entrance room (formerly a mess room) which leads to a short corridor with two single cells either side. A timber door at the end (with barred window above) leads out to the southern boundary of the main prison complex, where a toilet was originally located. There is a second door to the west which leads out to the former drying yard, and an adjacent four pane window with bars on the inside. The floor is linoleum and the walls and ceiling are lined with timber weatherboards.²²⁴ The cell doors are steel mesh (likely a later modification) which helped improve air circulation, and each cell has a single four louvre glass window.

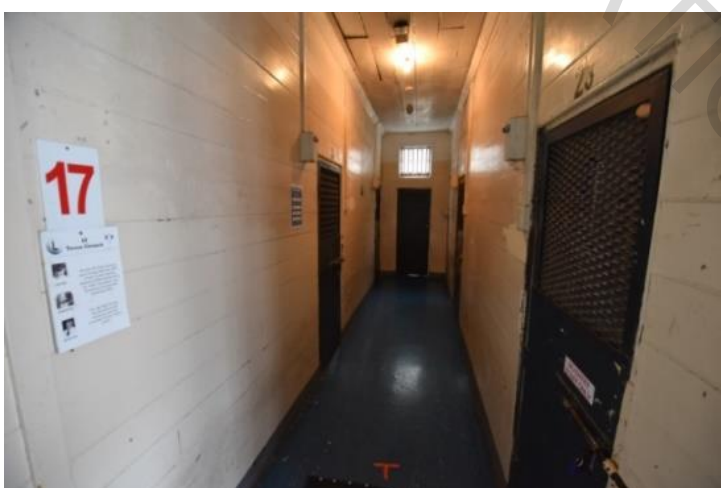
²²⁴ It is understood that the timber floors (scrubbed white by the prisoners with sandstone) were covered with linoleum in the 1980s, when the state of the Napier Prison had become an 'official embarrassment' – see 'Locked in Stone', 2000.



Looking east towards the eastern extension/women's wing



Inside the 'mess room' of the former women's wing/eastern extension



Looking southwards down eastern extension with cells either side

7-12) Garden

A small garden is located in the south-eastern corner of the main prison complex. The garden was created in 2005 by the participants in the Redemption Hill reality show, and is still maintained. The participants transformed an overgrown outdoor area with various plantings, painted paving stones, and a 'Redemption Hill' mural. There is also a small plaque which commemorates the opening of the garden by the Honourable Parekura Horomia M.P. on 23 July 2005. A random rubble masonry wall runs along the southern end of the garden, and it features a recessed entrance like that in the western boundary wall (see (2) above).

This area was originally a yard (associated with the Superintendent's House) which extended around behind the women's wing/eastern extension, but a concrete block wall now runs from the end of the eastern extension to the southern boundary wall, closing the garden off. Plans of the prison indicate that there were also various outbuildings in this corner throughout the prison's occupation, such as a wash-house, shed and workshop, so there is a strong probability of subsurface archaeological remains relating to these prior buildings.²²⁵



Garden looking south - note recessed entrance in southern retaining wall & concrete block wall to east. The Redemption Hill mural is to the left of the photo, where the wall has been painted.

²²⁵ For example, see PWD 18155 in Figure 6, Appendix 2 and see also maps and plans of Napier Prison compiled by Judith Larsen, Napier.

7-13) Superintendent's House (Former)

The former Superintendent's House is situated at the eastern end of the main cell block's south wing, with the front elevation facing Marine Parade. The house is understood to date to the prison's original construction in 1862, and it is visible on historic photos of the prison taken during the late 1870s-1890s.²²⁶ As with many of the other prison buildings, the former Superintendent's house has horizontal timber weatherboards and a gabled corrugated iron roof. The weatherboards have been painted/stained a reddish-brown colour though (as opposed to painted white or cream like most of the other prison buildings).

The building has undergone a number of modifications over the years, including conversion to cell accommodation and demolition of wings to the south and north, housing a kitchen and bedrooms respectively.²²⁷ There have also been changes to the front entrance of the house, along the eastern elevation.²²⁸ The house's internal linings differ from those found in the main cell block and eastern extension/women's wing, apart from the western entrance where a small area of flush boarding remains.²²⁹ The cells here usually housed between four and eight inmates, with the biggest room measuring 6.7 by 4.3 metres, and they were sometimes home to the prison's highest ranking gang members who were considered 'so dangerous that not even the wardens wanted anything to do with them'.²³⁰ Evidence of the cell accommodation includes the steel mesh doors on some rooms and the furniture and fittings which remain on display. Other rooms are currently used as part of the three escape room experiences provided at the former prison.

²²⁶ See the 'Historical Narrative' section above for reference to the Napier gaol being constructed with 'quarters' for the gaoler. See also the following photos in the MTG Hawke's Bay collection, Napier: <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/78085> and <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/77518>, accessed 7 April 2020.

²²⁷ Plans indicate that the house was extended slightly to the east to create two additional rooms off either side of the front porch (essentially creating a verandah along the frontage). The double gables are now positioned directly above the front door facing Marine Parade though, indicating further modification along the frontage of the house. See PWD 18155 – Figure 6 in Appendix 2 below and the Ministry of Works and Development's 'As Built Drainage' plan from 1985.

²²⁸ The kitchen must have been demolished some time after mid-1985 as is shown on the Ministry of Works and Development's 'As Built Drainage' plan from 1985. The bedroom wing was demolished during construction of the 'Cages' (outdoor exercise areas) in 1985 – see below for further detail.

²²⁹ The linings may have been modified when the house was converted to cell accommodation.

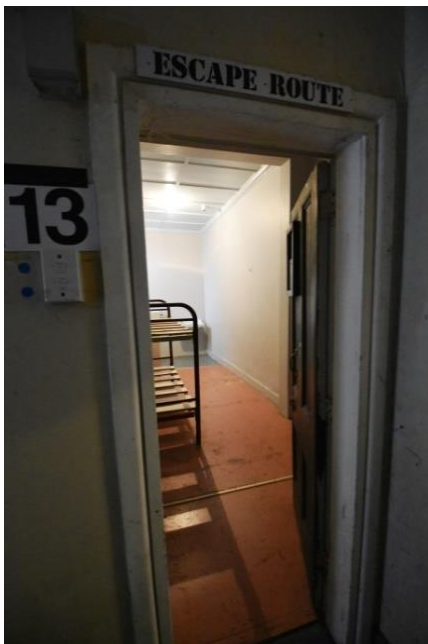
²³⁰ 'Gangs Inside' interpretation panel on display at Napier Prison (Former), see photo held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.



View of former Superintendent's House (on right) with likely location of kitchen in foreground



Interior view of former Superintendent's House, looking east to front entrance



One of the cells in the former Superintendent's House - note the wooden door (with viewing slot) and panelled ceiling

7-14) Main Cell Block²³¹

The 'u-shaped' main cell block is divided into three wings – north, east and south.²³² The cell block is a timber framed building with gabled corrugated iron roof, and a mixture of cladding, both vertical board and batten and horizontal timber weatherboards. The vertical board and batten appears on the walls facing into the main exercise yard, except the western end of the northern wing which is clad with horizontal timber weatherboards, along with the other external walls of the main cell block.

Internally, the three wings of the cell block have timber floors (since covered with linoleum in most areas), with timber-lined walls and ceilings -predominately flush boarding. Each wing comprises a row of cells on either side of a central corridor, which appears warped in places as you look along it – a long-lasting effect of the devastating 1931 Napier earthquake. Back in 1980 (prior to the laying of linoleum), the floor of the cell block corridor was described as a 'scenic highway – all lumps and bumps', due to deterioration of the original piles beneath.²³³

The cells in the main cell block are of varying sizes, with a typical cell measuring 2.7 metres long by 1.9 metres wide.²³⁴ The cells held two inmates (and sometimes four) in the latter years of the prison's occupation, with a few single cells reserved for the fire crew.²³⁵ The cells were very basically furnished, regardless of the number of inmates within. Besides a bunk bed (or beds), there was a chamber pot for use during lock down, but generally little else in the way of 'personal adornment' - a reflection of the fact that most inmates were only there

²³¹ Not all of the rooms in the main cell block were accessible during the Heritage New Zealand site visit on 21 January 2020 – the former guard and administration rooms and kitchen were not accessed for example. See the photo under the 'Main Exercise Yard' section above for a view of all three wings of the main u-shaped cell block.

²³² As previously noted, new wings were added to the initial 1862 gaol building in 1863 and 1869 (the latter addition housing the lunatic asylum). The east wing is thought to be the earliest (given its connection to the Superintendent's House), followed by the south wing (believed to be the 'West Wing' lunatic asylum). The 'eastern extension' may well represent the third 'wing' constructed in the 1860s as historic photos of the prison from the late 1870s only show the east and south wings - for example, see <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/78085> and <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/78077>, accessed 14 April 2020. Historic records indicate that the northern wing was constructed in the 1880s or 1890s, and may have been constructed in two parts, given the different cladding treatments. The north wing is also described as a 'new wing' in an undated plan of Napier Prison - see maps and plans of Napier Prison compiled by Judith Larsen, Napier.

²³³ 'Prison paint can't cover all the cracks', 1980.

²³⁴ 'Prison paint can't cover all the cracks', 1980.

²³⁵ Fire was a very real threat given the timber buildings within the main prison complex, and it was one that both staff and inmates in the main cell block took seriously. Hoses were connected to the hydrant each night and laid out in the main yard along with other fire-fighting equipment like axes, and there were weekly fire drills. See 'Locked in Stone', 2000.

for a short term.²³⁶ There was no heating in the cell block and one can only imagine the tough conditions for inmates in the depths of winter, and indeed the unbearable heat and smell in the height of summer.²³⁷ Each cell does have a small barred window though and the introduction of the steel mesh doors also helped with air circulation.²³⁸

A number of the cells have been left largely untouched to show the conditions for inmates during the prison's final years; bed frames and bases are generally all that remain. The graffiti and gang propaganda provides further insight into everyday life in the cells. This is mostly found on the north wing (remand wing). The majority of the graffiti is by the Mongrel Mob who had the largest presence inside the prison, but there is also graffiti representing Black Power, White Power and the Nomads. Gang members wrote on their bed bases, which have since been attached to the walls of cells 5, 6 and 8 in the north wing (with a further bed base on display in 'the Dome' –see below).

Former guard and administration rooms are located at the western end of the north wing, along with a well room. The well was exposed for public viewing in 2018, in association with filming of the *Heritage Rescue* television series.²³⁹ The former prison kitchen is situated at the western end of the south wing, and 'the Dome' is positioned at the intersection of the east and south wings. This former day room allows views down the corridors of the south and east wings (including eastern extension), and former Superintendent's House. It currently houses displays about the former prison, including material on gangs inside the prison.

²³⁶ 'Prison paint can't cover all the cracks'. There were a few longer term prisoners whose cells did have a more personal touch – these prisoners had responsibility for jobs such as cooking, gardening and laundry.

²³⁷ 'Locked in Stone', 2000; 'Prison paint can't cover all the cracks', 1980.

²³⁸ 'Locked in Stone', 2000.

²³⁹ Information from interpretation panel in the 'Well Room' - see photo on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002. The well is shown on PWD 18155 – see Figure 6, Appendix 2.



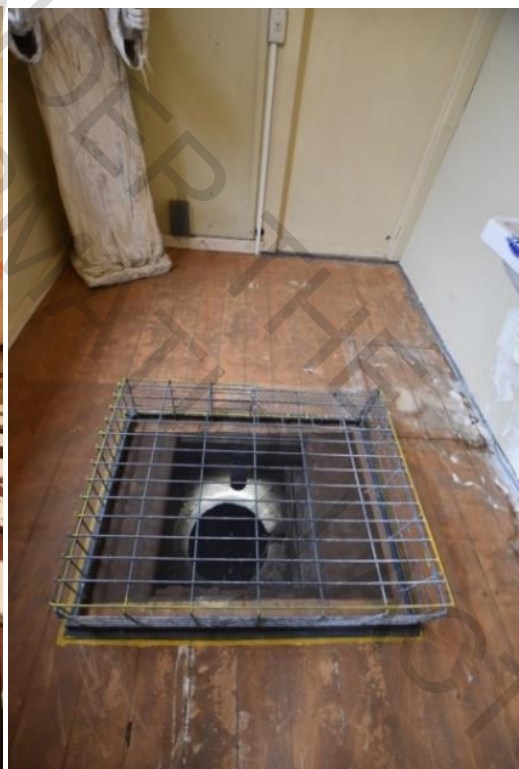
View east down north wing corridor



View inside a typical cell on the north wing



Bed bases with graffiti in cell 6, north wing



Well Room, at western end of north wing



'The Dome'

7-15) 'Cages'/ Remand Open Exercise Yards

The 'Cages' are located to the rear of the main cell block (where the north and east wings meet), along the eastern boundary of the main prison complex. A covered walkway leads from the northern wing (remand) to the cages, which were semi-sheltered outdoor exercise yards. At the time of the yards' construction in 1985, this part of the prison was grassed over, but it had previously been the site of the original women's wing.²⁴⁰

The 'Cages' comprise two adjacent yards with concrete floors and probable timber framed walls to the north, east and south. These three walls are clad with corrugated iron and lined with what appear to be timber panels.²⁴¹ A steel frame mesh fence encloses the western side of the yards and extends up to cover the roof. Corrugated iron also partially covers the roof. A gate in the western fencing provides access to each cage, both of which have toilet and shower facilities and bench seating. The southern cage is currently set up with exercise equipment. Prison warders could watch over the yards from one of the cells in the northern wing which was converted to an 'observation point'. A bay window was added to the cell to provide an 'uninterrupted view' of both exercise yards.²⁴²

²⁴⁰ This wing was an eastern extension of the north wing. This extension is shown on PWD 18155 – see Figure 6, Appendix 2 and 'View of Napier looking south from Bluff Hill, Valentine & Sons Limited, 1880s-1890s, MTG 56/28, MTG Hawke's Bay, <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/77518>, accessed 14 April 2020. Its date of demolition is unknown.

²⁴¹ The original design was for concrete block walls on three sides but this was deemed too costly given the future closure of the prison – see 'Justice Department, Napier Prison, Remand Prisoners [sic] Exercise Yard, Feasability Study', n.d. in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895.

²⁴² See 1984-1995 correspondence in Napier Prison, 1946-1985, ABWN W5021 7611 Box 856, Record No. 1913/895. A photo of the window from the 'observation point' is available from [Flickr](#) (accessed 13 April 2019, all rights reserved).



Northern yard



Southern yard

Comparative Analysis

There were four main prisons located in Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin and Lyttelton during the provincial government era, as well as thirty minor jails across New Zealand by 1876 when provincial governments were abolished. From 1880-1909, the colonial government rolled out a national prison-building programme under the leadership of Captain Arthur Hume, New Zealand's first Inspector General of Prisons.²⁴³ New prisons were constructed in Wellington, Dunedin and Auckland during this period.²⁴⁴ Of the prisons and substantive jails

²⁴³ Peter Clayworth, 'Prisons - Developing a national prison system, 1880-1949', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2012c, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/prisons/page-3>, accessed 14 April 2020.

²⁴⁴ Wellington's Terrace Gaol (declared a public gaol in 1854) was demolished in 1927-1928 following opening of Mt Crawford Prison. Wellington's Mt Cook Gaol (also since demolished) dated to 1882 and was constructed as part of the aforementioned nationwide prison-building programme under Inspector Hume's administration. See *Wellington Independent*, 25 March 1854, p.4; 'Old Gaol Passes Where Irons Dragged', *Evening Post*, 28 July 1928, p.10; Te Aro School Information Booklet, Wellington, n.d., <https://tearo.school.nz/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Te-Aro-Info-Booklet-PDF.pdf>, accessed 18 April 2020.

constructed during the nineteenth century, just five remain today, and in some cases only partial remnants have survived.

Extant Nineteenth Century Prisons and Gaols

<p>Mt Eden Prison, Auckland</p>  <p>Mt Eden Prison, Image courtesy www.flickr.com, Copyright Phil Braithwaite, 25 April 2012</p>	<p>Addington Prison, Christchurch</p>  <p>Former Addington Prison - 1880 Mountford Cell Block, Nate Cull, Wikimedia Commons, CC By-SA 2.0, 29 May 2005</p>
<p>New Plymouth Prison</p>  <p>New Plymouth Prison, Blyss Wagstaff, Heritage New Zealand, 23 October 2008</p>	<p>Dunedin Prison (Former)</p>  <p>Dunedin Prison (Former), Benchill – Wikimedia Commons, CC Licence 2.0, 2 January 2010</p>
<p>Lyttelton Gaol Site</p>  <p>Lyttelton Gaol Site, Copyright Francis Vallance, valance.photography@xtra.co.nz, 30 September 2012</p>	

Mt Eden Prison, Auckland (List No. 88, Category 1) has very high heritage values, particularly in terms of its architectural, historical and archaeological significance and its potential for public education, but differs from Napier Prison in that whilst the prison had its genesis in the provincial government era, the main building itself dates to the Hume era, and beyond. The historic context of the Mt Eden Prison has also been compromised by the development of the Mt Eden Correctional Facility and the prison building itself isn't likely to have the same authenticity and integrity as the Napier Prison due to the 1965 prison riot which caused extensive damage. The 'gutted shell' of the prison had to be rebuilt.²⁴⁵

The former New Plymouth Prison (List No. 903, Category 1) has similarities with Napier Prison in that it was a regional facility dating to the provincial government era, and has a multi-layered history, being constructed on the culturally significant site of Pūkākā Pā (also known as Marsland Hill).²⁴⁶ It also had a long history of use, claiming the title of New Zealand's oldest operational prison at its time of closure on 15 March 2013, and retains a comparable level of intactness and authenticity, with preservation of its historic context.²⁴⁷

The New Plymouth Prison was not purpose-built by the provincial government though - the historic compound of the prison ('Unit One') has its origins in a late 1850s wooden military hospital that was repurposed as a prison in 1870.²⁴⁸ The central dome and two further wings were added in the 1880s, during the 'Hume era' of prison administration.²⁴⁹ Like Napier Prison, the original compound of New Plymouth Prison also has a stone perimeter wall (dating to 1879 but heightened 1900-1914), though in this case the wall fully encloses the original compound and is integrated into the exterior of the compound buildings, as opposed to being an entirely standalone structure.

The Lyttelton Gaol (List No. 7353, Category 1) was constructed from 1857 with later extensions designed by renowned architect Benjamin W. Mountford commencing in 1871, and is another example of a purpose-built gaol during the provincial government era.²⁵⁰

²⁴⁵ 'Riots rock Mt Eden prison', *NZ History*, <https://nzhistory.govt.nz/mt-eden-jail-riot>, (Ministry for Culture and Heritage), updated 25-Jul-2017, accessed 18 April 2020.

²⁴⁶ 'New Plymouth Prison', *Heritage New Zealand*, <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/903> accessed 18 April 2020.

²⁴⁷ 'Cell door slams shut on prison from bygone age', *Taranaki Daily News*, 10 March 2013, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/slider/8403007/Cell-door-slams-shut-on-prison-from-bygone-age> accessed 18 April 2020; Like Napier Prison, New Plymouth Prison is currently under the management of LINZ, having been land-banked for Treaty of Waitangi settlements.

²⁴⁸ New Plymouth Prison also has a second compound built in the 1990s ('Unit 2') which is not included as part of the List entry.

²⁴⁹ 'New Plymouth Prison'.

²⁵⁰ 'Lyttelton Gaol Site', *Heritage New Zealand*, <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/7353>, accessed 18 April 2020.

However, it contrasts with Napier Prison in that it had closed by 1920 and most of the gaol buildings were demolished between 1922 and 1924. All that remains today are concrete retaining walls, part of a small cell block, concrete steps and historic pathways, though it should be noted that these remains are technologically significant as surviving evidence of the early use of concrete. The Lyttelton Gaol site is publicly accessible, but lacks the same high educational potential of the Napier Prison, given that only a small part of the gaol remains.

The women's reformatory was the first part of Christchurch's Addington Prison (List No. 7467, Category 2) to open in 1871 and Mountford's concrete Gothic Revival main cell block was constructed from 1874-1880.²⁵¹ In comparison with Napier Prison, the main cell block's design is more heavily influenced by emerging Victorian penal philosophy concerning classification, surveillance and prisoner reformation.²⁵² The walls of the women's reformatory remain today alongside the 1880 cell block which, like Napier Prison, has prisoners' graffiti in some of the cells. The remains of Addington Prison have both historic and architectural value but as with Mt Eden, the complex's historic context has been adversely affected by development, with 'intensive apartment buildings' built in the former grounds and exercise yards.

The Queen Anne style courtyard prison in Dunedin (List No. 4035, Category 1) was designed by Government Architect John Campbell with Ōamaru stone elevations, and was in use from 1898 to 2007.²⁵³ The Dunedin Prison is recognised for its outstanding heritage values, particularly its architectural significance on both a national and international level.²⁵⁴ Its special historical significance differs from Napier Prison though in that it is a testament to Hume's national prison-building programme from 1880-1909 (as opposed to a testament to the provincial government's early years of prison administration).

²⁵¹ The information in this paragraph is sourced from Christchurch City Council, 'Heritage Assessment – Statement of Significance, Heritage Item Number 338, Former Addington Gaol, Wall and Setting', 2015, <https://districtplan.ccc.govt.nz/images/DistrictPlanImages/Statement%20of%20Significance/Christchurch/HID%20338.pdf>, accessed 18 April 2020 (No page numbers); 'Addington Prison – Cell Block and Wall Remains', <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/7467>, accessed 18 April 2020.

²⁵² It was also designed according to the 'panopticon model' though this design was never fully realised.

²⁵³ The prison replaced the earlier 1860-1861 provincial government gaol on Stuart Street, which in turn replaced an earlier 1848 timber jail which had burned down. See 'Dunedin Prison (Former)', *Heritage New Zealand*, <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/4035>, accessed 18 April 2020; 'Dunedin Gaol', <https://www.dunedinprisontrust.co.nz/>, accessed 18 April 2020.

²⁵⁴ 'Dunedin Prison (Former)'.

In summary, when comparing the former Napier Prison to the other extant nineteenth century prisons, it has rarity value as the most complete, purpose-built prison from the provincial government era. Its authenticity, integrity and intactness make it an excellent representative example of New Zealand's early prisons, with its vernacular timber buildings setting it apart from later nineteenth century prisons such as Mt Eden, New Plymouth and Dunedin which reflect both particular architectural styles and emerging theories of prison architecture. The historic context of the prison site has also been preserved, including buildings outside the main prison wall and the former quarry site across the road, which played a key part in its history.

The significance of the former Napier Prison is further elevated by two factors, the first being the 1905 stone prison wall which partially surrounds the main complex of prison buildings. Mt Eden and New Plymouth prisons both also have perimeter walls which pre-date the main Napier prison wall by several decades, but the latter is regarded as a rare and special example of 'the stonemason's art' on account of its heavy rustication and incised stones.

The second factor which sets apart Napier Prison from the other extant nineteenth century prisons is its parallel history as an early lunatic asylum. The 1875 lunatic asylum at Napier Prison was demolished in the early 1900s, but the original 1869 'West Wing' lunatic asylum still survives as part of the u-shaped main cell block. As previously detailed, provincial governments established lunatic asylums across New Zealand to provide for those suffering from serious mental disorders, with the 1873 report on lunatic asylums recording eight asylums from Auckland to Dunedin. Very little physical evidence remains today of these early asylums.

Extant Nineteenth Century Lunatic Asylums

<p>Carrington Hospital (Former), Auckland</p>  <p>Carrington Hospital (Former) Ingolson, Wikimedia Commons, 1 July 2007</p>	<p>Mental Health Ward (Former), Porirua</p>  <p>Mental Health Ward (Former), Geoff Mew, Heritage New Zealand, 18 January 2002</p>
<p>Mount View Asylum Garden Wall, Wellington</p>  <p>Mount View Asylum Garden Wall Anthony Paltridge, Copyright Government House</p>	<p>Seacliff Lunatic Asylum Site, Dunedin</p>  <p>Seacliff Lunatic Asylum Site, Heather Bauchop, Heritage New Zealand, November 2011</p>

The former Carrington Hospital in Auckland (List No. 96, Category 1) is an impressive neoclassical building that represents the remains of the Auckland Lunatic Asylum (also known as Whau Lunatic Asylum). Whilst the Auckland Lunatic Asylum opened in 1867, two years prior to the Napier Lunatic Asylum, the building was gutted by a fire in 1877 and significantly reconstructed.²⁵⁵

The Mount View Asylum in Wellington (List No. 1407, Category 2) opened in 1873, replacing the earlier Karori Lunatic Asylum, New Zealand's first purpose-built asylum.²⁵⁶ Mount View

²⁵⁵ *Globe*, 20 September 1877, p.2; 'Annual Report on Lunatic Asylums of New Zealand', *AJHR*, 1878, H-10, p.7. Auckland Lunatic Asylum replaced an earlier asylum on the grounds of Auckland Hospital which was not fit for purpose – see 'The New Lunatic Asylum', *Daily Southern Cross*, 8 March 1867, p.4.

²⁵⁶ The information in this paragraph is sourced from Wellington City Council, 'Mt View Asylum Wall', Heritage Inventory Report, 2013, <http://wellingtoncityheritage.org.nz/buildings/objects/10-mount-view-asylum-wall>, accessed 20 April 2020; Warwick Brunton, 'Mental health services - Lunatic asylums, 1840s to 1900s', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2018b, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/mental-health-services/page-2>, accessed 21 April 2020.

finally closed in 1910 and the asylum was demolished to make way for the new Government House. All that remains of the Mount View Asylum today is a brick wall located within the grounds of Government House. The wall is believed to be part of a retaining wall and in a striking parallel with the main Napier Prison wall, the wall was constructed by prison labour and some of the bricks have graffiti (names and pictures). The graffiti is assumed to have been created by those laying the bricks.

The Porirua Lunatic Asylum opened in 1887 after central government took over responsibility for the administration of lunatic asylums, and it was the largest public building in New Zealand at the time.²⁵⁷ It continued to expand and by the 1940s was home to more than 1500 patients.²⁵⁸ All that remains of the asylum today is a later timber building ('F Ward') dating to 1910, which now operates as a museum (List No. 7444, Category 1).

Nelson Lunatic Asylum

A single timber building is all that remains of the former Nelson Lunatic Asylum which opened in 1876 at the close of the provincial government era.²⁵⁹ This building, known as 'Montrose', is part of the Braemar Campus of Nelson Hospital.²⁶⁰

Seaview Lunatic Asylum, Hokitika

The buildings of the former Seaview Lunatic Asylum (founded 1872 and closed in 2009) are still extant, though these mostly date to the 1920s and 1930s when extensive reconstruction works were undertaken.²⁶¹ Most of the original 'dilapidated' asylum buildings were demolished during this period of reconstruction.²⁶²

²⁵⁷ Brunton, 2018b.

²⁵⁸ Chris Maclean, 'Wellington places - Porirua', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2016, <http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/photograph/13498/porirua-psychiatric-hospital>, accessed 21 April 2020

²⁵⁹ Miriam Clark, *History of Braemar: The Development of Mental and Intellectual Health Services in Nelson*, 2014, 10.1-15, <https://www.nmdhb.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/10.1-For-Info-Braemar-Campus-History.pdf>, accessed 20 April 2020.

²⁶⁰ No photo of 'Montrose' has been sourced for the purposes of this report, but a contemporary image can be found in Clark, 2014, 10.1-16.

²⁶¹ 'Seaview Hospital, 125th Jubilee, Hokitika', video posted to 'Heritage Hokitika' Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/HeritageHokitika/videos/300076917099120/?v=300076917099120>, accessed 20 April 2020.

²⁶² See the annual 'Report on Mental Hospitals of the Dominion' from circa 1922 to 1930, published in the *AJHR*, available online at: <https://atojs.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/atojs>, accessed 20 April 2020. Another of the original asylum buildings was demolished circa 1950 to make way for the new community hall – see 'Seaview Hospital, 125th Jubilee, Hokitika'.

Seacliff Lunatic Asylum, Dunedin

A cluster of service buildings can be found at the former Seacliff Lunatic Asylum in Dunedin (List No. 9050, Category 1), alongside the remains of the main asylum buildings and other structures.²⁶³ Like Porirua, Seaview also post-dates the provincial government era – it opened in 1879 and the remaining buildings are thought to date to the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.²⁶⁴

Whilst the 1869 ‘West Wing’ Asylum at Napier Prison was integrated into the main cell block, as opposed to being a standalone building, comparative analysis indicates that it has special significance as one of only two remaining lunatic asylum buildings established during the provincial government era – the first step towards proper provision for mental health treatment in New Zealand.

Construction Professionals

William Miller (Builder – Gaol (1862))

William Miller was born in Renfrewshire, Scotland in 1824 and was living in Wellington, New Zealand by 1856, where he married Mary McGlashan.²⁶⁵ Miller is recorded as living in Napier by 1858, where he was working as a carpenter on Shakespeare Road.²⁶⁶ Little is known about Miller’s early building work and he soon went into partnership with fellow Scottish carpenter David Earl Lindsay who arrived in Napier from Wellington in 1860-1861.²⁶⁷ In early 1861 Miller alone was awarded the tender for the construction of the new Napier gaol, though it is possible that Lindsay was also involved as construction did not commence until late 1861.²⁶⁸ The newly formed building partnership of Lindsay and Miller was reputedly responsible for ‘all the incidental job work in the Government Buildings’ in Napier in the early 1860s, and their work had given ‘universal satisfaction’.²⁶⁹ They were responsible for the construction of the Napier Athenæum and Mechanics’ Institute on Browning Street in

²⁶³ ‘Seacliff Lunatic Asylum Site’, Heritage New Zealand, <https://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/9050>, accessed 20 April 2020.

²⁶⁴ *ibid.*

²⁶⁵ See ‘William Miller’ (Born 28 September 1824 in Neilston, Renfrewshire, Scotland and Died 11 July 1905 in Napier, Hawke’s Bay), *AncestryLibrary*, <https://www.ancestrylibrary.com.au>, accessed 9 May 2019. Copy of information held on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

²⁶⁶ *HBH*, 28 August 1858, p.5.

²⁶⁷ Lindsay is recorded as living in Wellington in March 1860, working as a carpenter on Tinakori Road, but by April 1861 he is living on Tennyson Street, Napier. See *Wellington Independent*, 20 March 1860, p.3; *HBH*, 13 April 1861, p.5.

²⁶⁸ *HBH*, 28 September 1861, p.1.

²⁶⁹ ‘Report by the Provincial Engineer’, *HBH*, 10 October 1865, p.3.

1865 for example, and the construction of the Hawke's Bay Boiling Down Company buildings in 1868 in West Clive.²⁷⁰ Their partnership dissolved in June 1868 when Miller took up the position of gaoler at Napier Gaol and Lindsay continued working independently as a builder and contractor.²⁷¹ Miller held the role of gaoler through until 1891, when he was dismissed after 23 years' service.²⁷² Miller had also worked as a fire inspector and held the role of Superintendent of the Fire Brigade for a long period, and more latterly, was employed as a builder inspector for the Education Board.²⁷³ Miller died in Napier in 1905 aged 80 years.²⁷⁴

Mr A. Bryson (Builder – Addition (1863))

Gordon Wilson (Architect – Superintendent's Office (late 1950s))²⁷⁵

Fergus George Frederick ('F.G.F.') Sheppard (Architect – Dining Room (1963))

Construction Materials

Sandstone, tōtara, cement, asbestos, kauri, concrete, corrugated iron, glass, steel

*Key Physical Dates*²⁷⁶

1862 – Original construction: Gaol

1863 – Additional building added to site: Wing Added to Gaol

1869 – Additional building added to site: 'West Wing' Lunatic Asylum

1873 – Original construction: Lighthouse

1875 – Original construction: New Lunatic Asylum

1890 – Other: Prison Quarry commences operation

Circa 1894 – 1905 – Original construction: Prison Wall (around prison complex)

1906 – Additional building added to site: Warder's Cottage

1907 – Additional building added to site: Two Warder's Cottages

²⁷⁰ 'Napier Athanæum', *HBH*, 22 July 1865, p.2; *HBH*, 7 January 1868, p.2. For a photo of the Athanæum, see '[Athenaeum building, Napier]', C.012535, <https://collections.tepapa.govt.nz/object/17583> accessed 9 May 2020. Interestingly this building has 'M.R. Miller' above the corner entrance door.

²⁷¹ *HBT*, 18 June 1868, p.1; *HBH*, 16 June 1868, p.2.

²⁷² 'Mr W. Miller's Retirement', 1891.

²⁷³ *ibid.*

²⁷⁴ *Gisborne Times*, 14 July 1905, p.3.

²⁷⁵ As previously noted, Gordon Wilson may also have been the architect for the 1958 Recreation Hall. For a biography, see Julia Gatley. 'Wilson, Francis Gordon', *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography*, first published in 2000. *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/5w36/wilson-francis-gordon> accessed 10 May 2020.

²⁷⁶ The timeline above is not a complete inventory of all physical changes to the prison over its 131-year history; it highlights the dates on which key changes were made.

1907 – Demolished – redevelopment: Remainder of Lunatic Asylum demolished
1925 – Original construction: Retaining wall along Marine Parade frontage
1928 – Original construction: Retaining wall along Clyde Road section of prison reserve
1931 – Damaged: Earthquake damage to prison buildings and walls
1931-1932 – Maintenance/Repairs and Reconstruction: Earthquake repairs including reconstruction of prison walls (internal dividing walls and part of 1905 mail wall)
1948-1949 – Demolition – other: Lighthouse dismantled and removed
1959 – Additional building added to site: Recreation Hall
Circa late 1950s-1963 – Additional building added to site: Superintendent's Office
1963 – Additional building added to site: Dining Room
1963 – Additional building added to site: Superintendent's House
1965 – Modification: Conversion of Dining Room to Ablutions Block
1967 – Modification: Extension to Recreation Hall
Circa 1973-1974 – Original Construction: Centennial Gardens
1985 – Additional building added to site: 'Cages'/Remand Open Exercise Yards
2002 – Modification: Conversion to Backpacker Accommodation

Uses

Accommodation – Backpackers/ Youth Hostel (Former)
Health – Psychiatric Hospital/Mental Institute/Asylum (Former)
Horticulture – Market Garden (Former)
Law Enforcement – Gaol/ Lock-up (Former)
Law Enforcement – Place of Execution (Former)
Law Enforcement – Prison (Former)
Law Enforcement – Reformatory/ Remand Home (Former)
Law Enforcement – Staff Accommodation (Former)
Transport – Lighthouse (Former)
Civic Facilities – Historic Property
Civic Facilities – Garden - Public
Civic Facilities – Wall/Fence
Funerary Sites – Graves
Māori – Urupā

2.3. Chattels

There are no chattels included in this List entry.

2.4. Sources

Sources Available and Accessed

Information about the early Māori history of Napier and the cultural significance of the Napier Prison site and surrounding area was mostly sourced from Waitangi Tribunal reports and the 2019 draft report by Parsons and Pishief on sites of significance to Māori in Napier city. The main information source about Napier Prison itself was archival material held by Archives New Zealand in its Wellington Reading Room. Some of the archival material was restricted due to privacy issues, or was held in other locations and not therefore easily accessible, but a number of files were still accessed relating to the land and buildings at Napier Prison, and the early years of its history.

Other major information sources were newspaper articles and the annual Prison Reports published in the *Appendices to the Journal of House of Representatives* (both accessible online via *Papers Past*). Historic plans and photographs of the prison (particularly aerials) were invaluable for understanding the physical evolution of the prison complex from 1862 through to the 1980s. Information held on file by the Heritage New Zealand Central Region Office was very useful for documenting the latter years of the prison's history and the history and significance of the prison walls specifically. Private researcher Judith Larsen additionally provided copies of her research material on the early years of the prison, which was gratefully received. It should be noted that no original specifications or plans were found for the earliest part of the prison (the u-shaped cell block) during the course of research for this report, and nor was a contemporary newspaper account of the prison's opening in 1862.

The former prison was visited on 21 January 2020, though some parts of the complex were not accessible to the public. The audio tour and associated interpretation panels throughout the prison were a further useful information source. Leaseholders Marion and Toro Waaka also have an exceptionally detailed knowledge of the prison's history, and their assistance with this report is very much appreciated.

Further Reading

Clayworth, Peter, 'Prisons', *Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand*, 2012,
<http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/prisons>

Pratt, John, *Punishment in a Perfect Society: the New Zealand Penal System, 1840-1939*, Wellington, Victoria University Press, 1992.

3. SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT²⁷⁷

3.1. Section 66 (1) Assessment

This place has been assessed for, and found to possess aesthetic, archaeological, cultural, historical, spiritual and technological significance or value. It is considered that this place qualifies as part of New Zealand's historic and cultural heritage.

Aesthetic Significance or Value

The former Napier Prison is a place of special aesthetic significance with aesthetic qualities that can overwhelm the senses, evoking feelings of oppressiveness and unease. As you approach the formidable stone prison wall and enter through the large kauri doors into the main prison complex, the stillness and eerie quiet provides a stark contrast to the noises that would have rung out within the prison throughout its 131 history. The prison has largely been left as it was when the doors closed for the final time in 1993 and visual details such as the painted gallows (a later addition), solitary headstone of Rowland Edwards, padded solitary confinement cell and prisoner graffiti provide powerful glimpses into the prison's darker moments of history. Similarly, the twisted corridors of the main cell block and its small and dingy cells together with the lingering musty smells, general ageing appearance of the buildings and foreboding stone walls are a confronting reminder of the harsh conditions faced by inmates at the prison. The strong aesthetic values of the former prison are acknowledged by visitors in their reviews of the site, which is both recognised and promoted as a 'dark tourism' venue.

Archaeological Significance or Value

The former Napier Prison is of special archaeological significance for its potential to provide information about New Zealand's early penal history as well as information about the formative beginnings of mental health care in the provincial government era. The site is uniquely placed to tell these parallel aspects of our history and its intactness and authenticity mean that there is the potential to provide significant information through both archaeological excavation and non-invasive techniques. Standing building recording in

²⁷⁷ For the relevant sections of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, see Appendix 4: Significance Assessment Information.

particular has the potential to yield important information about the construction of one of New Zealand's earliest prisons and about the evolution of the Napier prison complex over its 131 year history as it responded to changes in the penal system and an ever increasing prison muster.

Cultural Significance or Value

Napier Prison was built on Hukarere (Bluff Hill), a site of cultural significance to Māori. Located at the north-eastern end of Mataruahou (Napier Hill), Hukarere was a landmark that was used by tohunga for astronomical purposes to assist with customary planting, harvesting and fishing activities and it is mentioned in various kōrero. The cultural significance of Hukarere and Mataruahou more broadly is demonstrated by the official geographic name change from Napier Hill (and Bluff Hill, Hospital Hill and Scinde Island) back to Mataruahou, as provided for in the Ahuriri Hapū Claims Settlement Agreement.

Historical Significance or Value

The former Napier Prison has outstanding historical significance for its association with the fledgling years of New Zealand's penal history, when prisons and jails were under the control of provincial governments. It has rarity value as the most complete, purpose-built prison from the provincial government era. The site also has special historical significance through its association with the development of mental health care in New Zealand and the establishment of New Zealand's first purpose-built lunatic asylums. It includes one of only two remaining lunatic asylums constructed by provincial governments.

Spiritual Significance or Value

Napier Prison (Former) is a spiritual place to Māori as the site at which tohunga performed astronomical rituals. It is of further spiritual value as the site where three Māori prisoners were executed in the late nineteenth century, and as the final resting place of two of those prisoners - Haira Te Piri and Makoare Wata. It is of particular sacredness to the descendants of these men. The site's tapu nature is acknowledged through tikanga such as the provision of fresh water upon exit to lift the tapū.

Technological Significance or Value

Napier Prison (Former) has special technological value on account of its various stone boundary and retaining walls, which reflect different stonemasonry techniques. The execution and design of the main prison wall in particular have led to it being described as a

nationally important example of stonemasonry. The wall's heavily rusticated design with individually worked stones and the personal inscriptions on some of the stones set it apart from other remaining examples of stonemasonry walls, particularly those constructed by prison labour. The wall's authenticity, intactness and accessibility make it an excellent representation of early 20th century stonemasonry technology.

3.2. Section 66 (3) Assessment

This place was assessed against all criteria, and found to qualify under the following: a, b, c, d, f, g, i, and j. It is considered that this place qualifies as a Category 1 historic place.

(a) The extent to which the place reflects important or representative aspects of New Zealand history

Napier Prison (Former) has outstanding historical significance as it reflects the formative years of New Zealand's penal system, when more substantive prisons and jails were constructed and administered by provincial governments. It also reflects the policy of using prison labour to help construct prisons, and the evolving development of the New Zealand penal system, with the site and its buildings responding to changing philosophies and requirements throughout its 131 year history. Napier Prison (Former) has rarity value as the most complete example of a purpose-built prison from the provincial government era, and its intactness, authenticity, integrity and long history mean that it is able to reflect these aspects of New Zealand history particularly well.

The former Napier Prison additionally reflects the early development of mental health care in New Zealand, when provincial governments constructed purpose-built lunatic asylums across New Zealand. While the stand-alone 1875 asylum at Napier Prison was demolished in the early 20th century, the original 1869 lunatic asylum remains as part of the main cell block and has rarity as one of just two remaining examples of the provincial government's early lunatic asylums.

(b) The association of the place with events, persons, or ideas of importance in New Zealand history

The outstanding historical significance of Napier Prison (Former) is further enhanced by its association with several events, persons and ideas of importance in New Zealand history. In 1866 a number of Hauhau prisoners were held at the prison, prior to their transportation to

Rēkohu/Wharekauri (Chatham Islands). These prisoners included Te Kooti Arikirangi Te Tūruki, one of the most significant Māori leaders of the nineteenth century. Napier Prison is additionally associated with the execution of four men; perhaps most infamously Pai Mārire disciple Kereopa Te Rau and convicted mass murderer Rowland Edwards in 1872 and 1884 respectively. The hanging of Kereopa Te Rau following his eventual capture, trial and conviction for the murder of Anglican missionary C.S. Völkner is arguably one of the most important events to have occurred in New Zealand during the latter part of the nineteenth century.

The former Napier Prison is also strongly associated with the devastating 1931 Napier earthquake which caused considerable damage; the evidence of which can still be seen today through details such as the warped corridors and addition of buttresses to the main 1905 prison wall.

(c) The potential of the place to provide knowledge of New Zealand history

Napier Prison (Former) has considerable potential to provide knowledge about the developing penal system and the beginnings of formalised mental health care during the provincial government era in New Zealand. This information potential is enhanced by the former prison's integrity and completeness, as well as the availability of detailed historic records, such as historic photographs and plans. Investigative techniques such as standing building recording have the potential to yield significant information about the evolving nature of the prison over the course of its long history, reflecting changes in New Zealand's prison system more broadly.

d) The importance of the place to tangata whenua

The former Napier Prison site is valued by tangata whenua as it has a Māori history which predates the construction of the prison and relates to the use of the land by tohunga for astronomical purposes, and to its status as a local landmark, as referred to in different kōrero. It is one of several sites that have been earmarked as properties for cultural redress under the Ahuriri Hapū Claims Settlement agreement. Napier Prison (Former) is also important to tangata whenua due to its association with events such as the imprisonment of Hauhau prisoners including Te Kooti Arikirangi Te Tūruki in 1866, and is a place imbued with tapū, particularly to the descendent groups of the three Māori prisoners executed at the prison, two of whom remain buried there to this day in unmarked graves.

(f) The potential of the place for public education

Napier Prison (Former) has special characteristics that make it one of the leading sites in New Zealand to educate the public about the fledgling years of the country's penal system, and about the evolution of prisons from the nineteenth century to late 20th century. The prison is largely hidden from public view until you approach up the main driveway off Coote Road but is open to the public for tours and is a popular tourist attraction in the city. Its largely authentic and complete condition and the presence of objects associated with the prison's history enable the public to readily understand the conditions of the prison from its original construction in 1862 to closure in 1993, and to learn about different aspects of daily life for those incarcerated there.

(g) The technical accomplishment, value, or design of the place

The prison's foreboding boundary and retaining walls reflect considerable technical accomplishment, particularly the main prison wall which is an outstanding example of stonemasonry. This wall has remained largely untouched since its completion in 1905, thereby enabling easy appreciation of the fine workmanship of the prisoners in individually working the stones, and adding their own personal touches through incised initials and designs such as a sailing ship and masonry tools.

(i) The importance of identifying historic places known to date from an early period of New Zealand settlement

Napier Prison (Former) opened in 1862, during the first decade of provincial government control over prisons, and within the first decade of European settlement in Napier. Subsequent wings were added to the building in 1863 and 1869. Together, these early buildings form the u-shaped main cell block, which is thought to still contain a significant proportion of original fabric from the 1860s.

(j) The importance of identifying rare types of historic places

Napier Prison (Former) is a rare example of a nineteenth century prison reflecting the early development of New Zealand's penal system. Research indicates that only five nineteenth century prisons remain today, and in some cases only partial remains are extant. Within this surviving group, the former Napier Prison is the most complete example of a purpose-built prison from the provincial government era and its rarity is enhanced by its very high integrity, intactness and authenticity.

Conclusion of Review

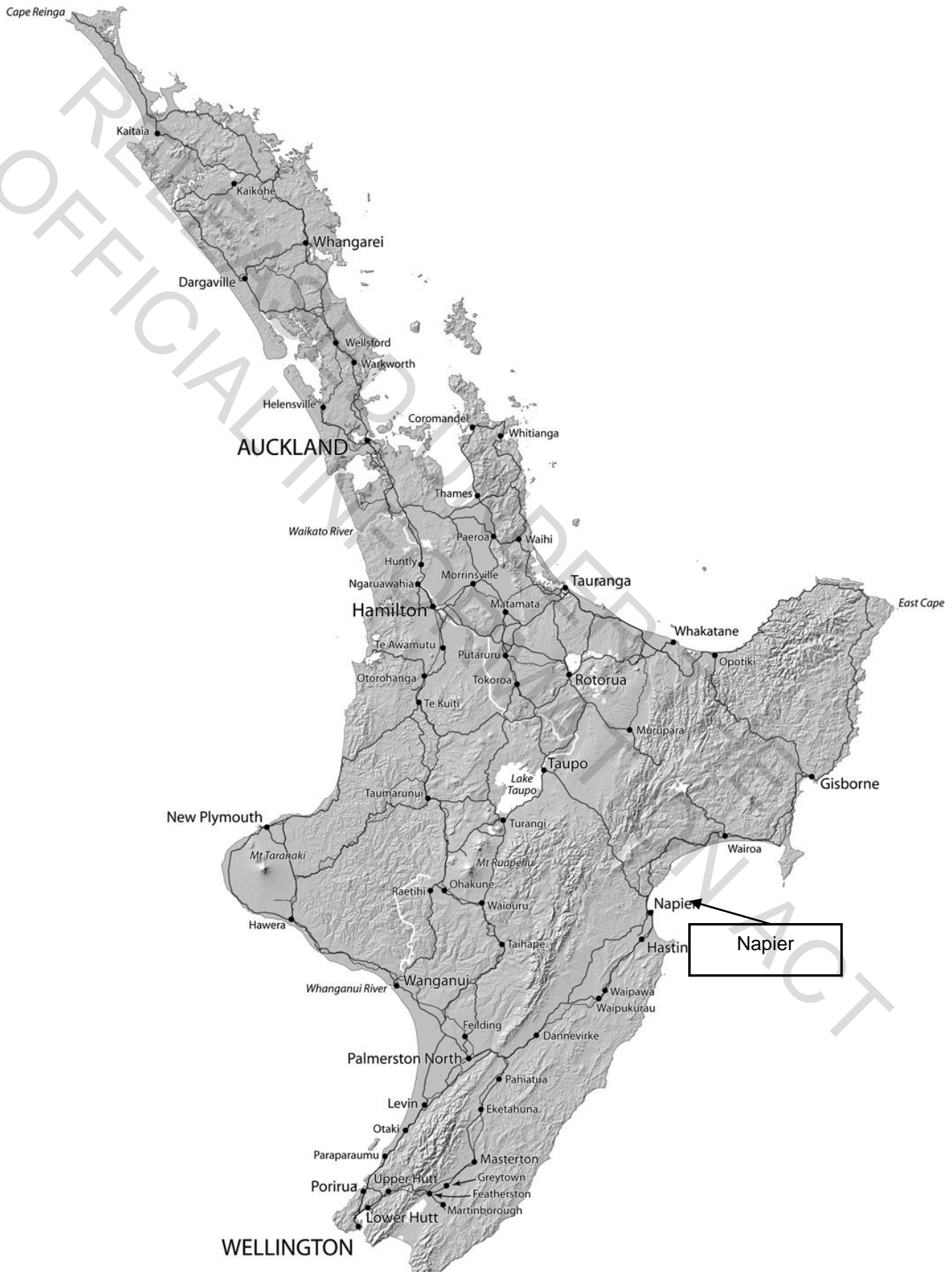
It is considered that there are sufficient grounds to vary the extent of the List entry for Napier Prison Wall (List No 850) to include the wider prison complex as part of the Category 1 historic place. Research indicates that Napier Prison (Former) has outstanding historic significance as one of a few remaining nineteenth century prisons, and the most complete example of a provincial government prison still extant in New Zealand. It reflects the early years of New Zealand's penal history, prior to the development of a coordinated, national prison system. It also has special historical significance for reflecting the formative development of mental health care in New Zealand through its dual role as a lunatic asylum from 1869 to the mid-1880s.

The prison is additionally a place of special aesthetic significance which provides an unsettling sense of life in an ageing prison, as recognised by visitors to the site and the promotion of the prison as a 'dark tourism' site. It has considerable archaeological value with a very high potential to reveal further information about New Zealand's early prisons, and its high levels of authenticity and integrity enhance its ability to educate the public about this often darker aspect of our history.

4. APPENDICES

4.1. Appendix 1: Visual Identification Aids

Location Maps



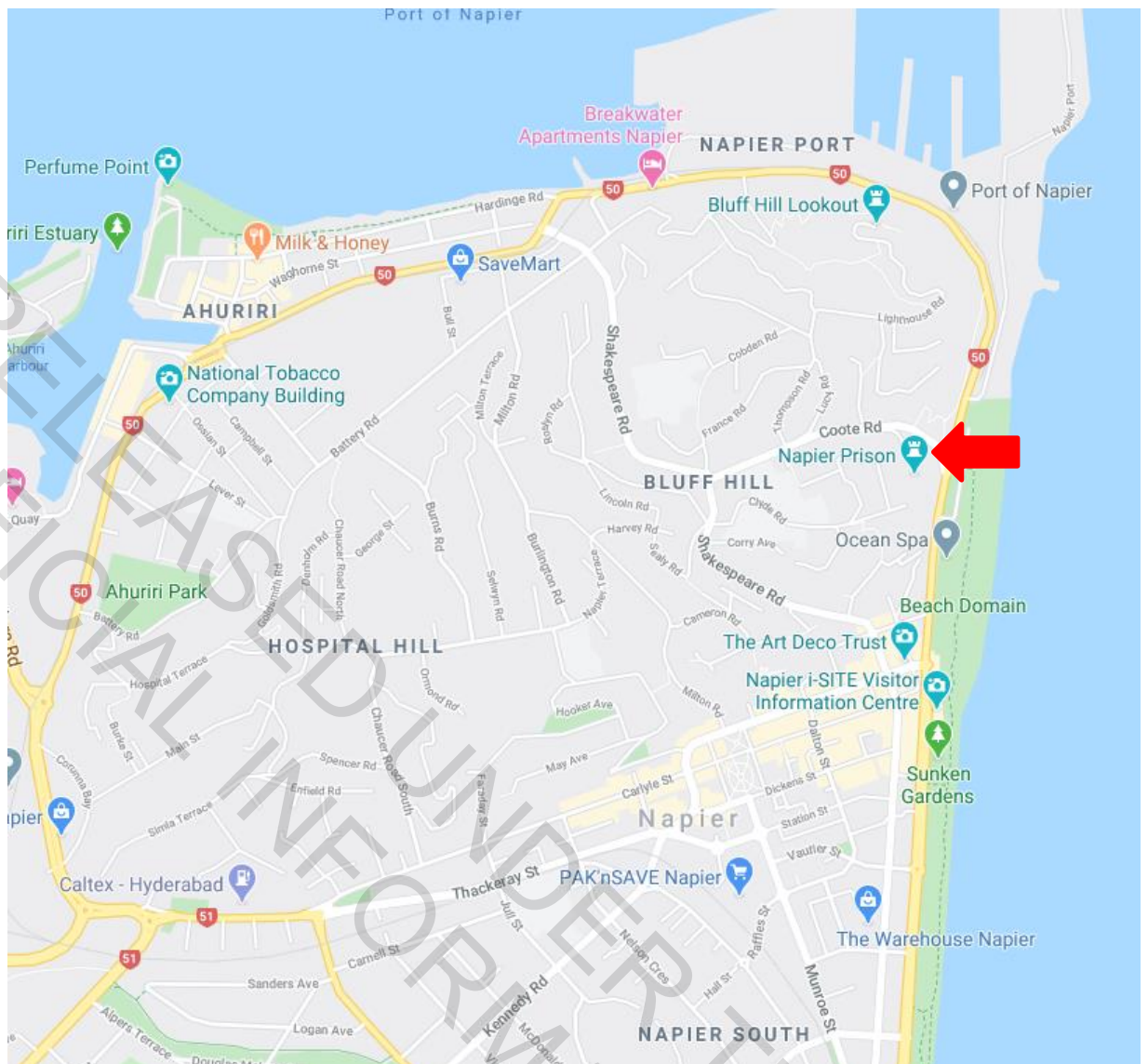




Figure 3: Location of Napier Prison (Former) as marked by red arrow (Google Maps, <https://www.google.co.nz/maps/@-39.4867468,176.9111992,15z?hl=en> accessed 5 May 2020).

Map of Extent



Figure 4: Extent for Napier Prison (Former) as denoted by blue boundary. Extent includes the land described as Lot 1 DP 22991 (RT HBP3/1127) and part of the land described as Legal Road, Hawkes Bay Land District, and the buildings and structures associated with Napier Prison (Former) thereon (Google Earth with QuickMap overlay, aerial imagery 27 March 2018)

 <div style="text-align: center;"> RECORD OF TITLE UNDER LAND TRANSFER ACT 2017 FREEHOLD Search Copy </div> 	
Identifier	HBP3/1127
Land Registration District	Hawkes Bay
Date Issued	08 March 1993
Prior References	
HBP4/511	
Estate	Fee Simple
Area	1.6146 hectares more or less
Legal Description	Lot 1 Deposited Plan 22991
Purpose	Justice
Registered Owners	
Her Majesty the Queen	
Interests	
Subject to a right (in gross) to drain sewage over part in favour of The Napier City Council created by Transfer 507698.1	
Subject to a right (in gross) to convey electric power over part in favour of The Hawke's Bay Electric Power Board created by Transfer 507698.2	
Subject to a right (in gross) to drain sewage and water over parts in favour of The Napier City Council created by Transfer 586542.3 - 8.3.1993 at 9.20 am	
The easements created by Transfer 586542.3 are subject to Section 243 (a) Resource Management Act 1991	
Transaction Id	59389940
Client Reference	jwylis001
<i>Search Copy Dated 6/01/20 10:16 am, Page 1 of 1</i> <i>Register Only</i>	

²⁷⁸ Whilst this Record of Title cites a 'Purpose' of Justice, the Department of Corrections advised the then New Zealand Historic Places Trust on 7 January 2002 that the former prison site had been sold to the Office of Treaty Settlements, so the relevant NZ Gazette notice (NZ Gazette 1991, p.3323) stating that the land has been set apart for Justice purposes is not included here, nor referred to in the legal description for the land parcel. See facsimile from Glenn Brough, Department of Corrections to Dr William Tramposch, Chief Executive of New Zealand Historic Places Trust on Heritage New Zealand Central Region file 12007-002.

4.2. Appendix 2: Visual Aids to Historical Information

Historical Plans

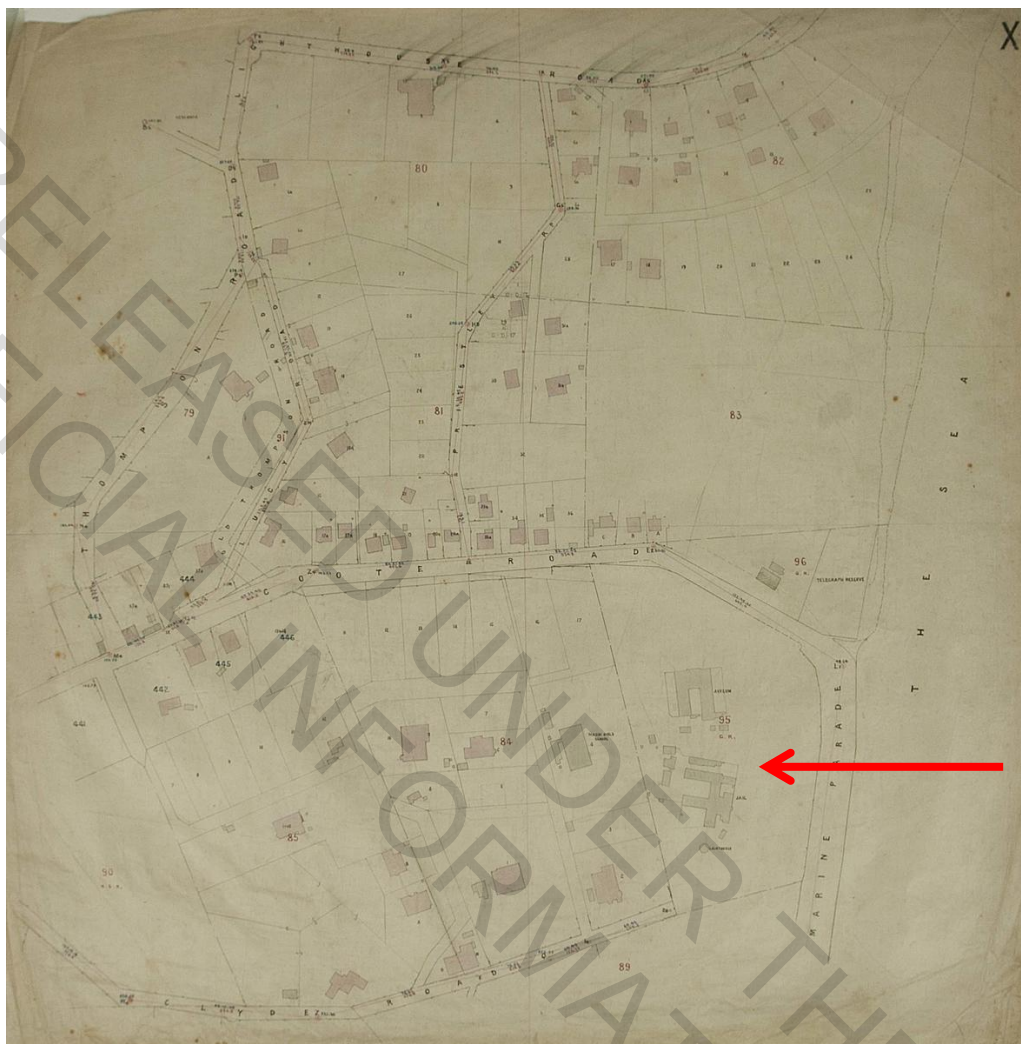


Figure 5: 'Map, Napier land lots', Frederick Bowman, Collection of Hawke's Bay Museums Trust, Ruawharo Tā-ū-rangi, Object ID 72501, <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/72501>, accessed 9 March 2020. The map is undated but post-dates the construction of the new standalone lunatic asylum (1875) and is before the construction of St John's Cathedral in 1888. The gaol, asylum and lighthouse are shown in the bottom right of the image.

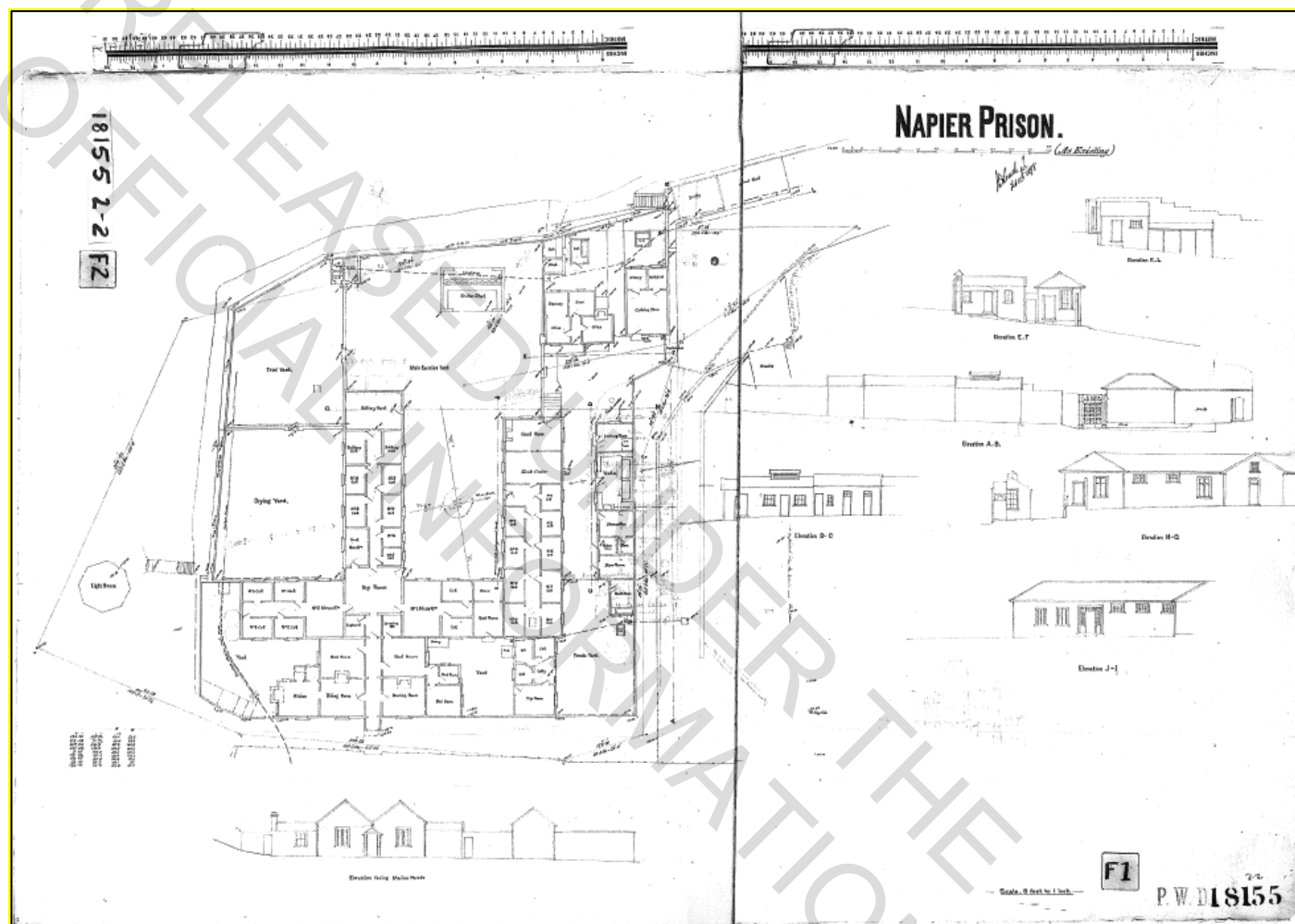


Figure 6: Napier Prison Block Plan, 1898, PWD 18155 2-2 F1 and F2, Item ID R25280405 and R25280402, Series Number 24411, ABZK, Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga, Wellington.²⁷⁹

²⁷⁹ Digitised and available online at the Archives New Zealand website: https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE37662026; https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE37661997, accessed 6 January 2020.

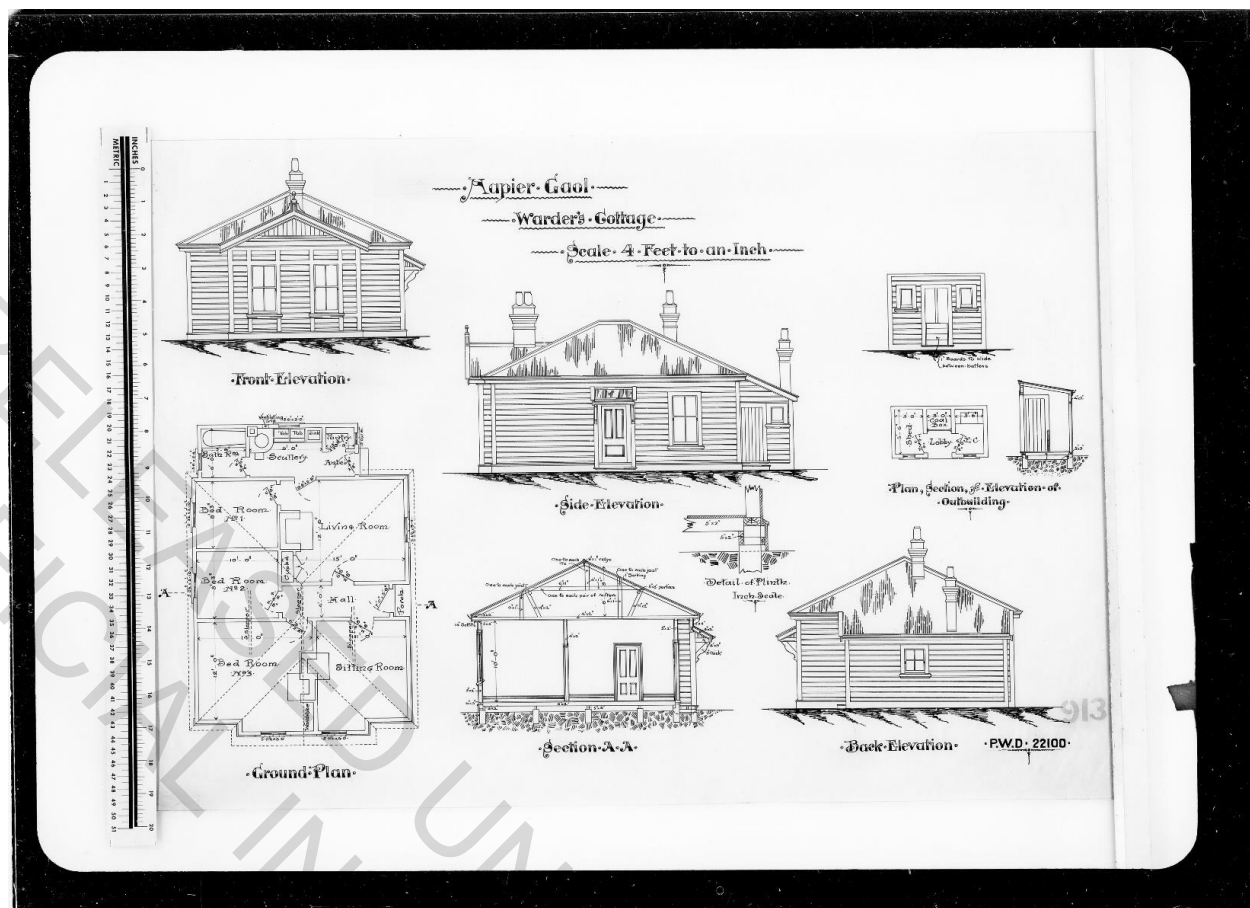


Figure 7: Napier Gaol, Warder's Cottage, 1906, PWD 22100, R25335129, Series Number 24411, ABZK, Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga, Wellington²⁸⁰

²⁸⁰ Digitised and available online at Archives New Zealand website:
https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE37803743, accessed 6 January 2020.

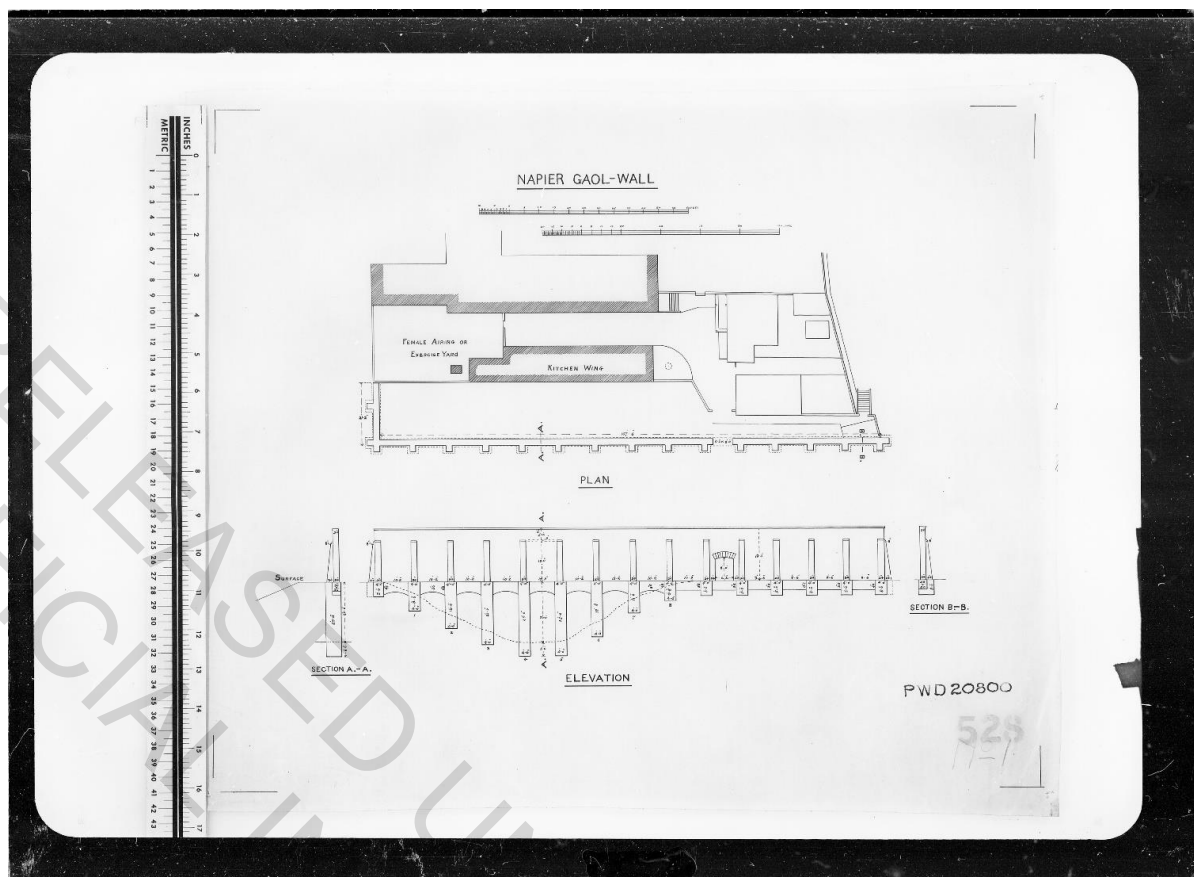


Figure 8: Napier Gaol Wall, n.d., PWD 20800, R25332266, Series Number 24411, ABZK, Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga, Wellington.²⁸¹

²⁸¹ Digitised and available online at Archives New Zealand website:
https://ndhadeliver.natlib.govt.nz/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE37754074, accessed 6 January 2020.

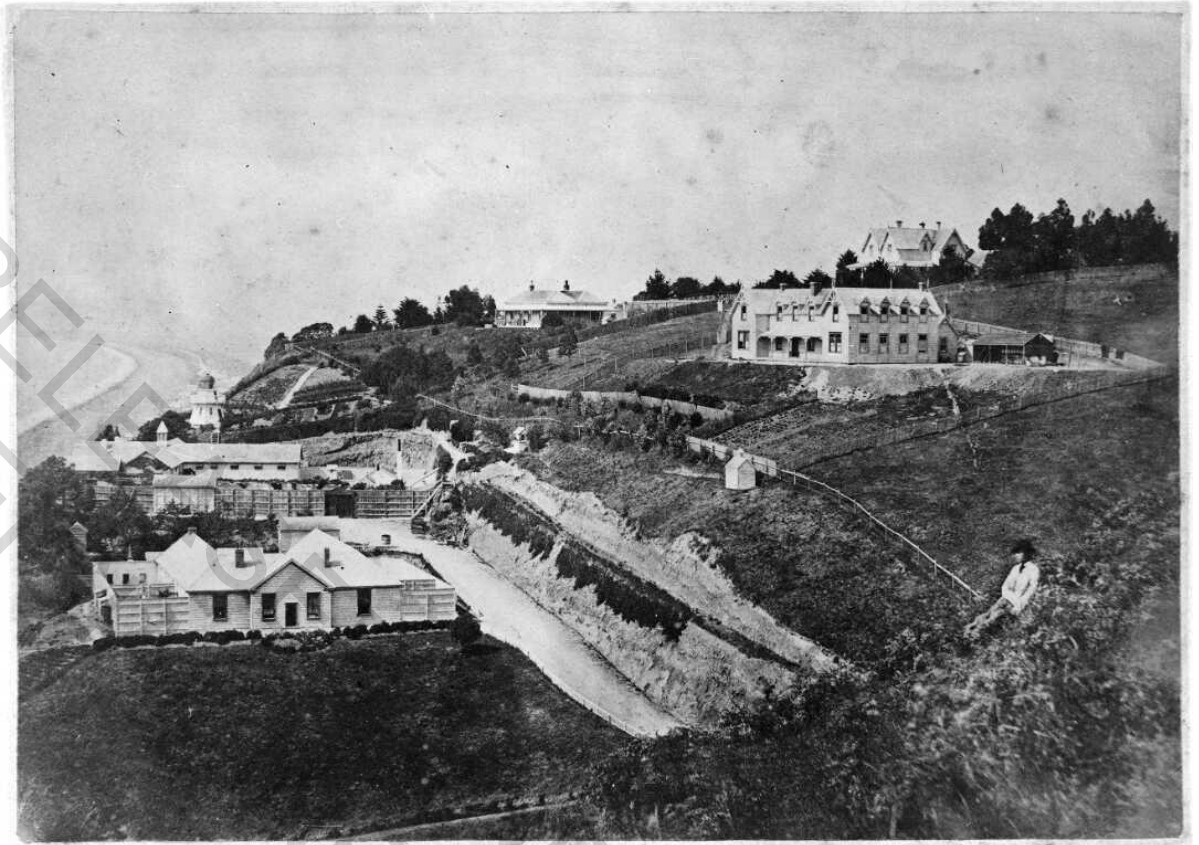


Figure 9: Coote Road, Napier, 1876, Ref: PAColl-1761-05. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand, <https://natlib.govt.nz/records/23206652>. The prison is shown on left in the centre, with the newly completed asylum in the left foreground and lighthouse at left rear. Note the original wooden prison wall.



Figure 10: Napier Prison and Asylum, Napier, 1897, Collection of Hawke's Bay Museum Trust, Ruawharo Tā-ū-rangi, 698, Object ID 50/80, <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/78471>, accessed 6 January 2020. Note the retaining wall to the west and new smithy building just outside the prison wall (far right end of wall).



Figure 11: Coote Road, Napier, 1909, Collection of Hawke's Bay Museum Trust, Ruawharo Tā-ū-rangi, 1857, Object ID 78667, <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/78667>, accessed 6 January 2020. Two of the warden's cottages are visible on the former asylum site to the front of the prison. This photo also shows the stone prison wall completed in 1905.



Figure 13: Detail of Napier Prison (Former), SN2356, 25 October 1970, Run C, Photo Number 4, sourced from <http://retrolens.nz> and licensed by LINZ CC-BY 3.0. Note the addition of the buildings constructed during the 1950s-1960s, as labelled ((1) Superintendent's Office, (2) Recreation Hall including eastern extension), (3) Dining Hall and (4) Warder's Cottage). Note also the path leading down to Marine Parade and the boot shop (south of dining room), laundry (south of south wing) and wings to the north and east of the former Superintendent's house and outbuildings in south-eastern corner - now all demolished.

4.3. Appendix 3: Visual Aids to Physical Information

Current Plans

N/A

Current Photographs of Place

See images in main text

RELEASED UNDER THE
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

4.4. Appendix 4: Significance Assessment Information

Part 4 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014

Chattels or object or class of chattels or objects (Section 65(6))

Under Section 65(6) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, an entry on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero relating to a historic place may include any chattel or object or class of chattels or objects –

- a) Situated in or on that place; and
- b) Considered by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga to contribute to the significance of that place; and
- c) Proposed by Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga for inclusion on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero.

Significance or value (Section 66(1))

Under Section 66(1) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may enter any historic place or historic area on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero if the place possesses aesthetic, archaeological, architectural, cultural, historical, scientific, social, spiritual, technological, or traditional significance or value.

Category of historic place (Section 66(3))

Under Section 66(3) of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014, Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga may assign Category 1 status or Category 2 status to any historic place, having regard to any of the following criteria:

- a) The extent to which the place reflects important or representative aspects of New Zealand history
- b) The association of the place with events, persons, or ideas of importance in New Zealand history
- c) The potential of the place to provide knowledge of New Zealand history
- d) The importance of the place to tangata whenua
- e) The community association with, or public esteem for, the place
- f) The potential of the place for public education
- g) The technical accomplishment, value, or design of the place
- h) The symbolic or commemorative value of the place

- i) The importance of identifying historic places known to date from an early period of New Zealand settlement
- j) The importance of identifying rare types of historic places
- k) The extent to which the place forms part of a wider historical and cultural area

Additional criteria may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act for the purpose of assigning Category 1 or Category 2 status to a historic place, provided they are not inconsistent with the criteria set out in subsection (3).

Additional criteria may be prescribed in regulations made under this Act for entering historic places or historic areas of interest to Māori, wāhi tūpuna, wāhi tapu, or wāhi tapu areas on the New Zealand Heritage List/Rārangi Kōrero, provided they are not inconsistent with the criteria set out in subsection (3) or (5) or in regulations made under subsection (4).

NOTE: Category 1 historic places are 'places of special or outstanding historical or cultural heritage significance or value.' Category 2 historic places are 'places of historical or cultural heritage significance or value.'