Camp Opunake Timeline

1864 Jun 27
"Ministers are led to believe that there are landing places, some of them hardly inferior to the road-stead of New Plymouth, at which troops, materials for the forts or blockhouses, and supplies could be landed without serious difficulty. The Patea river, Waimate, and Te Ngamu are said to be places of this description."[1]

1865 Apr	Mid		Horopapara, Te Ua & family were removed from Matakupu on the south bank of the Waiana River, Opunake[2]
1865 Apr 28	Fri		Steamship 'Wanganui' leaves New Plymouth[3]
1865 Apr 29	Sat	Early am	'Wanganui' arrives off Harriet Bay[4]
1865 Apr 29	Sat	5.30pm	Colonel Warre & staff return to 'Wanganui'[5]
1865 Apr 29	Sat	6.00pm	'Wanganui' leaves for New Plymouth[6]
1865 Apr 29	Sat	10.30pm	'Wanganui' arrives at New Plymouth[7]
1865 Apr 30	Sun		Preparations made for overland expedition to Opunake[8]
1865 May 01	Mon	7am	One company of military settlers, some bushrangers & transport leave New Plymouth[9]
1865 May 01	Mon	Midday	Edward Stockman, Interpreter; Colonel Warre & staff & a few mounted natives leave New Plymouth[10]

[1] AJHR 1864 Section E2 page 69 Papers relative to Native Affairs – Memorandum for His Excellency the Governor by Frederick Whitaker 27 June 1864
[2] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 2 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki
[3] Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 The Month
[4] Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook's Strait
[5] Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook's Strait
[6] Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook's Strait
[7] Taranaki Herald 06 May 1865 Occupation of Opunake Bay, Entrance of Cook's Strait
[8] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki
[9] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki
[10] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

1865 May 02 Tue
Alfred Bluck of No.4 Company Taranaki Military settlers marched to Te Namu and "encamped for the night. The Mounted men captured some fine bullocks, one of which was shot as soon as we halted. We marched this day about 22 miles through swamps, rivers and over heavy sand in marching order."[11]

1865 May 02	Tue		Whole force reaches Te Namu[12]

1865 May 03 Wed
"Resumed the march after a plentiful breakfast of beef steaks and fried biscuits and reached Opunake about noon."[13]

1865 May 04 Wed
"Busy building the redoubt. Part of Wiremu Kingi's tribe came in and signed the oath of allegiance; they brought in no arms, having been neutral Maoris. Three head of cattle brought in."[14]

1865 May --			Mortar fired twice[15]
1865 May 06	Sat	Evening	'Wanganui' left for Opunake but had to turn back due to bad weather[16]
1865 May 07	Sun	Morning	Colonel Warre, Robert Parris & mounted men march to New Plymouth[17]
1865 May 07	Sun	Morning	Arama Karaka came to Opunake with 10 men to sign declaration within an hour of Warre's departure[18]

[11] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[12] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki
[13] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[14] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[15] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki
[16] Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Shipping Intelligence – Steamship 'Wanganui', 174 tons, Captain Linklater
[17] Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Expedition to Opunake
[18] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki

1865 May 07 Sun
"Eleven Maoris belonging to Adam Clark's tribe surrendered and brought in their arms; they are to live in the whares on the other side of the river. Two cows and three calves drove in."[19]

1865 May 08 Mon
"Some of our men while out foraging found a boat belonging to Lord Worsley and a canoe. They got into them and rowed them into the Bay. Canoe drifted on the rocks and in swimming off to it, I had a narrow escape."[20]

1865 May 09	Tue		Bushrangers and all but 10 of the Mounted Corps returned to New Plymouth.[21]
1865 May 10	Wed		'Wanganui' arrives at Opunake at daylight[22]
1865 May 10	Wed		Arama Karaka comes down Waiau with 14 men[23]
1865 May 10	Wed	Noon	'Wanganui' and Robert Parris depart[24]
1865 May 10	Wed		'Ahuriri' leaves Manukau for Opunake[25]

1865 May 14 Sun
Fifty of the 43rd, 30 of No.4 TMS and the Mounted men marched 12 miles south and back. Passed several deserted pas; which were not allowed to be burnt and came on a drove of horses which were driven into camp.[26]

1865 May 16	Tue	"The horses that were captured on Sunday sold by auction. A steamer came in with provisions."
1865 May 22	Mon	Lieutenant Ferguson at New Plymouth is asked to construct a tramway at Opunake[27]
1865 May 29	Mon	Steamer from New Plymouth with provisions and brought this month's as well as last month's mail.[28]
1865 May 31	Wed	Two companies of the 70th arrived by the 'Sandfly' steamer.[29]

[19] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[20] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[21] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[22] Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Shipping Intelligence – s.s. Wanganui, 174 tons, Captain Linklater
[23] AJHR 1865 Section E8 page 3 Papers relative to Expeditions to establish military posts at Pukearuhe near the White Cliffs, Taranaki
[24] Taranaki Herald 13 May 1865 Shipping Intelligence – s.s. Wanganui, 174 tons, Captain Linklater
[25] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 Arrival of the s.s. Ahuriri – "a Government hired transport" -Captain Shuttleworth
[26] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[27] Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 22 May 1865 to the Resident Royal Engineer, New Plymouth
[28] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[29] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)

1865 May 31 Wed Lieutenant Ferguson replies re tramway at Opunake[30]

1865 Jun Hone Pihama Te Rei Hanataua submitted to Government at Opunake[31]

1865 Jun 01 Thu George Single, Clerk of Works, Royal Engineers provides more information re Opunake tramway[32]
1865 Jun 01 Thu Watino skirmish – 4 killed – 1 European, 3 Maori – 2 Maori injured;[33] 4 of Titahi hapu killed[34]
1865 Jun 01 Thu 'Ahuriri' arrives at Opunake and lands 150 men of the 70th Regiment[35]
1865 Jun 01 Thu 'Ahuriri' leaves Opunake and arrives at Wanganui[36]

1865 Jun 02 Fri
"Having been a week without fresh meat the Mounted men were out looking for cattle and came of five Maoris, four of whom they killed on the spot, the other escaped with several revolver's balls through him. Paddy O'Neill of the Mounted Corps was shot in the head; four guns and a mere were picked up; the man who has the mere has been offered £10 for it."[37]

1865 Jun 03 Sat Private Patrick O'Neill dies and his body is taken to New Plymouth via 'Ahuriri'[38]

[30] Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 31 May 1865 Lt Ferguson to Col Mould, commanding Royal Engineers
[31] Ian Church. 'Te Rei Hanataua, Hone Pihama', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara - Encyclopedia of New Zealand, updated 30-Oct-2012
[32] Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 01 Jun 1865 written by George Single, Clerk of Works, Royal Engineers
[33] Nelson Examiner and New Zealand Chronicle 08 Jun 1865 News of the Day
[34] Ngāti Ruanui – A History by Tony Sole (2005) p268
[35] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865
[36] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865
[37] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[38] New Zealand Herald 12 June 1865 New Plymouth

1865 Jun 03 Sat
"Paddy died and the body sent to Town by a steamer that called in from Wanganui with provisions for the 70th."[39]

1865 Jun 03	Sat	2pm	'Ahuriri' arrives at Opunake – leaves at 5pm[40]
1865 Jun 04	Sun	Daybreak	Two Maori taken prisoner near the camp were armed.[41]
1865 Jun 04	Sun	8am	'Ahuriri' arrives at New Plymouth[42]
1865 Jun 05	Mon	Noon	'Ahuriri' left New Plymouth with Colonel Warre, 60 bushrangers & 50 sheep[43]
1865 Jun 05	Mon	3.30pm	'Ahuriri' arrives at Opunake – also letter for Captain Carthew of No.4 Company Taranaki Military Settlers[44]

1865 Jun 05 Mon
"The mounted men and Colonel Warre came out from Town. Two of Wiremu Kingi's men taken prisoners. Sixty bushrangers arrived by the 'Sandfly'.[45]

1865 Jun 07	Wed	Colonel Weare & 600 men proceeded from Patea Camp to Waingongoro[46]
1865 Jun 07	Wed	Colonel Warre, a portion of the 70th regiment & some bushranges march south from Opunake[47]

1865 Jun 07 Wed
"An expedition consisting of 60 men of our Company, 100 of the 70th, 120 of the 43rd started to meet the advance from Wanganui."[48]

1865 Jun 08	Thu	"The force moved forward again at 7am leaving the baggage; the 70th and ours in charge of it."[49]

[39] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[40] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865
[41] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[42] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865
[43] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 The Ahuriri, Captain Shuttleworth – a copy of a report from the Wanganui Chronicle of 07 Jun 1865
[44] ATL Reference: qMS-1447 Letter book of the Military Settlers Office, New Plymouth. Letter No.956 Capt Cumming to Capt Carthew 04 Jun 1865
[45] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[46] Nelson Examiner 17 Jun 1865 Meeting of Troops from Wanganui and Taranaki
[47] Nelson Examiner 17 Jun 1865 Meeting of Troops from Wanganui and Taranaki
[48] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[49] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)

1865 Jun 08 Thu Colonels Warre and Weare meet at Taikatu[50]

1865 Jun 09 Fri
"The forces met a few miles below the place we were at on the last expedition. One of the Mounted men was carried away by his horse and was captured by the rebels."[51]

1865 Jun 10 Sat The expedition returned to camp.[52]
1865 Jun 11 Sun 'Ahuriri' encounters heavy weather at Opunake;[53] Two Maori are 'captured' at Opunake[54]
1865 Jun 12 Mon The 70th, Bushrangers and all but two of the Mounted Corps left for Warea[55]

1865 Jun 15 Thu
"About a score of rebels came in and gave themselves up, three of whom were sent to the Warea to know how they are getting on."[56]

1865 Jun 18 Sun
"The niggers returned with letters from Warea. The troops there had taken a small pa or two and killed seven or eight niggers and two wahines."[57]

1865 Jun 19 Mon Letter to Captain Carthew to be ready to embark on arrival of Captain Page[58]
1865 Jun 23 Fri An expedition went out and brought in several horses.[59]
1865 Jun 24 Sat The horses were sold.[60]
1865 Jun 27 Tue "Maori arrived from Town with dispatches. Our Company to prepare to embark in the next steamer to Town."[61]

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[50] Ngāti Ruanui – A History by Tony Sole (2005) p268
[51] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[52] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[53] Daily Southern Cross 14 Jun 1865 Arrival of the s.s. Ahuriri – Captain Shuttleworth
[54] New Zealand Spectator and Cook's Strait Guardian 14 Jun 1865 Wanganui
[55] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[56] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[57] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[58] ATL Reference qMS-1447 Letter book of the Military Settlers Office, New Plymouth. Letter No.977 Capt Cumming to Capt Carthew 19 Jun 1865
[59] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[60] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[61] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)

1865 Jun 30	Fri	Alfred Bluck is arrested "for not reporting a man absent for 10 minutes after time from my tent."[62]
1865 Jun 30	Fri	Letter written by Major Pitt re Opunake tramway expenditure chargeable to Colonial Funds[63]
1865 Jul 04	Tue	Alfred Bluck is returned "to duty with a caution; should have no objection to being put under arrest again."[64]
1865 Jul 05	Wed	Work on building whares for the Troops started with two Friendly Natives cutting raupo[65]

1865 Jul 11 Tue

"The 'Alexander' steamed into the Bay this morning with a detachment of the 43rd who have come to relieve us. We embarked on board in the afternoon and soon were out of sight of the earthworks of Opunake."[66]

1865 Jul 13	Thu	Seven Friendly Natives work only half a day each cutting raupo and flax[67]
1865 Jul 14	Fri	Fifteen Friendly Natives cutting toi toi, raupo and flax[68]
1865 Jul 18	Tue	Work on road from beach to cliff top started[69]
1865 Jul 19	Wed	Eighteen Friendly Natives cutting poles and supplejacks in the bush[70]
1865 Jul 29	Sat	Ten Friendly Natives cutting timber in bush for whares[71]
1865 Aug 03	Thu	Eleven Friendly Natives cutting rods and assisting to thatch whares[72]
1865 Aug 04	Fri	Captain Carthew's Company arrives at New Plymouth from Opunake[73]
1865 Aug 22	Mon	Lieutenant Ferguson advised to proceed with Opunake tramway[74]
1865 Aug 23-24	Wed-Thu	No work done on road[75]

[62] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[63] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 30 Jun 1865 Maj Pitt to Private Secretary, Government House, Wellington
[64] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[65] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[66] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)
[67] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[68] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[69] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Report dated 23 Sep 1865 by Captain Thomas Horan, Camp Opunaki
[70] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[71] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[72] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[73] ATL Reference qMS-1447 Letter book of the Military Settlers Office, New Plymouth. Letter No.1041 by Lt-Col Lepper 04 Aug 1865
[74] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter 22 Aug 1865 Colonel Mould to Major Pitt
[75] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Working Roll of the Road making party Jul-Sep 1865 by Captain Thomas Horan

1865 Aug 24	Thu	Four Friendly Natives finishing off the whares[76]
1865 Aug 29	Tue	The detachment of the 43rd Light Infantry under the command of Captain Horan occupy the whares[77]
1865 Sep 16	Sat	Road completed[78]
1865 Oct 07	Sat	Colonel Warre forwards Captain Horan's application for road expenses recompense to Auckland[79]
1865 Oct 17	Tue	Lieutenant Ferguson granted authority to expend £32 on constructing Opunake tramway[80]
1865 Oct 18	Wed	Colonel Warre advises £32 not needed but £50 would cover the cost of the road[81]
1865 Oct 27	Fri	Colonel Warre's request that remuneration be granted for work on the road is approved[82]
1865 Nov 21	Tue	Sub Treasurer Taranaki is instructed to pay £45 for work on the road[83]
1865 Dec 17	Sun	Capt Livesay, Lt Pearson, 2 sergeants & 47 rank and file 43rd Regiment depart on 's.s. Ahuriri' for Opunake[84]
1865 Dec 18	Mon	John Wilkinson, Interpreter at Opunake, takes charge of 35 Natives for active service under Capt Corbett[85]
1865 Dec 19	Tue	Sub Treasurer Taranaki is to pay £38 8s 9d for "hutting the troops at Opunaki."[86]

[76] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Account shewing Friendly Natives employed in erecting Whares by John Wilkinson, Interpreter
[77] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Letter dated 29 Aug 1865 Captain Horan, Camp Opunaki to Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General, New Plymouth – reporting the occupation of whares by the Detachment 43rd Light Infantry
[78] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Report by Captain Horan, Camp Opunaki 23 Sep 1865 – Item 2
[79] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Colonel Warre to the Assistant Military Secretary 07 Oct 1865
[80] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Lt Ferguson to Deputy Adjutant Quarter Master General 17 Oct 1865
[81] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Colonel Warre, New Plymouth to the Assistant Military Secretary 18 Oct 1865
[82] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Letter Major George Dean Pitt to the Private Secretary, Government House 27 Oct 1865
[83] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 28/bb CD 1865/3902 Annotation to letter Major Pitt to Private Secretary 07 Nov 1865 dated 21 Nov 1865
[84] Taranaki Herald 23 Dec 1865 Shipping Intelligence
[85] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 35/ct CD 1866/1779 Letters Lieut-Col Lepper to Major Parris 16 Dec 1865
[86] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Colonel Haultain's response to letter written by Major Pitt, Wanganui 12 Dec 1865

1866 Jan 02	Tue		Te Ua Haumene signs declaration of allegiance.[87] Translation: Te Namu, Jan 2, 1866. We have consented to abandon our adherence to Kingism and to Hau-Hauism. We shall now be loyal to Queen Victoria and shall obey her lawful commands, and the commands of her magistrates and of others bearing authority (signed) Wiremu Kingi (and 30 others). Signatories: Wiremu Kingi, Hemi, Ihaia, Te Reweti, Wiremu, Waitere, Hone Pihama, Minerapa, Awahoua, Hone, Nuhia, Hakaraia, Epiha, Wirapa, Heremaia, Hakaraia, Karira, Hori, Maka, Kereopa, Poraua, Hone, Kouhiti, Hakaraia, Parata, Rauwenata, Rapena, Rauiri, Henare, Taraia.[88]
1866 Jan 30	Tue		General Chute orders Captain Livesay, 43rd Light Infantry, to march north with 100 men from Opunake[89]
1866 Feb 01	Thu		Chute Force of 450 men moves south from Haungatahua River[90]
1866 Feb 02	Fri		General Chute's field force arrived at Opunake and Te Ua Haumene is made a prisoner[91, 92]
1866 Feb 06	Tue		Chute column arrives at Patea[93]
1866 Feb 09	Fri	Night	W. Kingi Matakatea and Jeremiah go over to the rebels & supposed to have gone inland to Omorua Pah[94]
1866 Feb 09	Fri		W. Kingi Matakatea, Heremaia and 40 or 50 of their followers "had gone over to the enemy"[95]
1866 Feb 11	Sun		W. Kingi Matakatea's place inland, Nukuteapiapi, was attacked, captured and burnt[96]
1866 Feb 13	Tue		Colonel Synge, 50 men of 43rd Regt and 50 bushrangers accompany convoy from Warea to Opunake[97]
1866 Feb 15	Thu		Wm King Matakatea's places are attacked again[98]

[87] Lyndsay Head. 'Te Ua Haumene', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara updated 30-Oct-2012
[88] Declaration of allegiance signed at Te Namu, Auckland Council Libraries Reference GNZMA 260 (digitized) https://kura.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/digital/collection/manuscripts/id/6350
[89] Chute's Campaign by H. R. H. Livingston, Alexander Turnbull Library Reference MS-1152
[90] The New Zealand Wars and the pioneering period by James Cowan Volume II Cameron's West Coast Campaign – page 70
[91] Diary of Edward Strickland – entry for 02 Feb 1866, Alexander Turnbull Library Reference qMS-1934 [MS-Copy-Micro-0787]
[92] Chute's Campaign by H. R. H. Livingston, Alexander Turnbull Library Reference MS-1152
[93] The New Zealand Wars and the pioneering period by James Cowan Volume II Cameron's West Coast Campaign – page 70
[94] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 34/m CD 1866/1291 Report of Captain Livesay, 43rd Regiment written at Camp Opunake to General Chute dated 09 Feb 1866
[95] Taranaki Herald 17 Feb 1866 Military Movements
[96] Taranaki Herald 17 Feb 1866 Military Movements
[97] ATL Reference MS-Papers-4968 Military Diary of Thomas Tatlock, G. Company, 43rd Light Infantry
[98] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Letter Robert Parris to Native Minister Wellington 17 Feb 1866

1866 Feb 20 Tue Night A Native who left Opunaki with letters passed four rebel encampments between there and Warea[99]

1866 Feb 24
Camp Manawpou. Orders have been issued directing that H. M. 43rd Light Infantry, now in Taranaki, be held in readiness for immediate embarkation for England. The 50th Queen's Own, under command of Colonel Weare, C.B., were consequently directed to march from the Patea to replace the former. This was carried out on Wednesday last, the force encamping here for the night and then marching forward the following morning to Waingongoro, thence to Opunake, which is the most advanced southerly post of the Taranaki district.[100]

1866 Aug 13 Te Ua Haumene writes to Mr Halse from Opunake and provides names of those killed at Pokaikai[101]

1866 Aug 22
"Parris, when at Opunake met Matakatea, who with some of his people came in from the bush to see him. They occupied the greater part of the day with their grievances. Parris told Matakatea that he believed the Government would take his cause into consideration. This appeared to give him satisfaction."[102]

1866 Oct Te Ua Haumene died at Oeo – possibly of tuberculosis[103]

1866 Nov 08 Thu
"Two rebels taken prisoner at Warea, one of whom was captured at Opunake in June 1865 and made his escape a few days afterwards."[104]

[99] Archives NZ Reference AAYS 8638 AD1 60d CD 1867/4410 Letter Robert Parris to Native Minister Wellington 22 Feb 1866
[100] New Zealander 07 Mar 1866 Wanganui
[101] AJHR 1868 Section A3 Report of the Pokaikai Commission page 24
[102] Puke Ariki ARC2003-1166 Folder 1 Typescript Biography for Wiremu Kingi Matakatea by J. S. Stronge (c1970) page 54 "End of the Wars"
[103] Lyndsay Head. 'Te Ua Haumene', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara updated 30-Oct-2012
[104] The Elusive Maori and the Taranaki War: Journal of Alfred Bluck 1863-1867 by Heather Wilson (1997)

1866 Dec 29
We are informed that the body of the unfortunate Captain Fisk, who was drowned from on board the 'Rangatira' on her last passage up from Wanganui, has been found cast ashore a little this side of the wreck of the Lord Worsley, at Te Namu, and has been buried at Opunake. A pocket knife and a key found upon him have been forwarded to the Civil Commissioner here, Mr Parris.[105]

Lieutenant Colonel Hamley, commanding the Troops in Taranaki issued instructions to Capt. Doran, of the 50th Regiment, commanding the post of Opunake, to search the coast for Mr Fisk of Wanganui. The body was discovered, identified, in interred with every mark of respect, near the redoubt.[106]

[105] Taranaki Herald 29 Dec 1866 Local and General News
[106] New Zealand Herald 29 Dec 1866 Recovery of the body of the late Mr Fisk

1867 Early Robert Parris, Civil Commissioner in Taranaki attended to "the acquisition of the site of Opunake"[107]

1867 Apr
Taikomako, the successor of Te Ua, on hearing that the troops were about to be withdrawn from Opunake and Warea, expressed his satisfaction, saying that in that case they (the Taranakis) should cease doing anything more at the pakehas; but it is probable that by the withdrawal of the troops they understand the giving back to them of all their land south of the Stoney River, and when they find themselves mistaken in this their good behavious may be of short duration…. Opunake will be garrisoned in future by the late Arama Karaka's people, in whose charge the redoubt and buildings will be left. It is said the Government intend supplying these natives with guns and ammunition, but we can hardly credit it.[108]

1867 Apr
"As some measure of protection against the Hauhaus, orders were given to arm certain loyal villagers in the coastal area. Fifty stand of long Enfield rifles, accoutrements with 2,500 rounds of ball ammunition and caps were issued to Arama Karaka's (Matakaha) and Matakatea's (Umuroa) kaingas. With the withdrawal of the Imperial Troops it was found necessary to relinquish the Opunake military post and so the loyal Maoris were left in charge of the area."[109]

1867 Apr 03
On the afternoon of the 3rd instant all the detachments of the 50th Regiment from Opunake, Warea and Stony River, in the Province of New Plymouth, arrived in Taranaki en route to Auckland, for embarkation to Australia.[110]

1867 Apr 04
Admiralty Tenders – Tenders are required for the removal from Opunake to Taranaki of a detachment of the 50th Regiment, about 110 men, with camp equipments, bullocks (4), stores &c., to embark on the 15th instant.[111]

1867 May Opunake Redoubt is given up by the 50th Regiment[112]

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[107] Ian Church. 'Parris, Robert Reid', from the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography. Te Ara - the Encyclopedia of New Zealand, updated 30-Oct-2012 URL: http://www.TeAra.govt.nz/en/biographies/1p8/parris-robert-reid
[108] Lyttelton Times 26 Apr 1867 Taranaki – page 3
[109] Puke Ariki ARC2003-1166 Folder 1 Typescript Biography for Wiremu Kingi Matakatea by J. S. Stronge (c1970) page 55 "End of the Wars"
[110] Evening Post 07 May 1867
[111] New Zealand Herald 04 Apr 1867
[112] An Illustrated History of Taranaki by Gail and Ron Lambert (1983) page 47

1867 May 02 Thu Troops gone – Hauhaus cut down flagstaff in redoubt[113]

1867 Jun 11
"… the Taranaki Civil Commissioner reported a large allocation of 53,376 acres to Wiremu Kingi Matakatea and Arama Karaka on behalf of the Ngatirongo and Ngatihaumia hapus of the Taranaki tribe. These grants which included practically all lands between the Moutoti and Taungatara streams, less the Opunake township area, and two military land grants, were made for loyalty to the Crown, and were intended to satisfy all the legitimate claims of their hapu, both resident and absentee."[114]

"... martial law across the province, having been lifted, a grant of 50,000 acres of confiscated land was made to William King and Arama Karaka and members of their hapu, both resident and absentee. This was the Opunake block which extended from the Mototoi River (Oaonui) to the Taungatara."[115]

1867 Oct
The arms previously issued to local loyal Maori were withdrawn as it was felt that the "improved feeling amongst the Natives made this desirable and safe."[116]

[113] The New Zealand Wars and the pioneering period by James Cowan Volume II Cameron's West Coast Campaign – page 535
[114] Puke Ariki ARC2003-1166 Folder 1 Typescript Biography for Wiremu Kingi Matakatea by J. S. Stronge (c1970) page 54 "End of the Wars"
[115] Opunake and District Centennial 1865-1965 Souvenir Booklet – Early History – Opunake District
[116] Puke Ariki ARC2003-1166 Folder 1 Typescript Biography for Wiremu Kingi Matakatea by J. S. Stronge (c1970) page 55 "End of the Wars"

1867 Oct 23
Nelson Carrington commences the Survey of the Opunake Township. His surveyor field book extends from Te Namu Pa to the Waiaua River mouth and shows old kainga, native cultivations, Rimupiko Pa, Flag Staff, Opunake Flax Company, and graves.[117]

Sunday Oct 20
Left Town at 2pm for Opunake with Mr Parris and _. Mr Duthie overtook us on the road, arrived at Warea (dark). Slept at Rotters.

Monday Oct 21
Had breakfast at _. Started about 8.30am. Reached Opunake 2pm. Wind Northwest, rain set in just as we arrived at destination.

Tuesday Oct 22
Squaring up a whare for _ and me and putting up poles in prominent places preparatory to the Survey. Wind S.W., squally.

Wednesday Oct 23
Commenced survey from Opunake Redoubt to Waiaua Stream….

Thursday Oct 24
Finished the survey of the coast (from Opunake to Kotahi Stream and plotted at night. Rain slighty in the morning but cleared up about 10am and continued fine. Willy and five natives including Cook.

Friday Oct 25
Northerly wind, rain all day. Rowan arrived last night and stopped today on account of the rain.

Saturday Oct 26
Fine day but the inland line (part of) … Started for Patea this morning. Wind S.W.

Sunday Oct 27
Wind S.W. Went with Willy to see Hone Pihama. Had dinner there and returned in the afternoon.

Monday Oct 28
Finished the inland line and cut part of the back line (going East). S.W. wind (showery)

[117] Taranaki Surveyor Field Book I24 - Archives NZ R23195373

Tuesday Oct 29
Cut the backline and traversed down Waiaua River. Wind S.W.

Wednesday Oct 30
Cut the backline going west…

Thursday Oct 31
Traversing down (seaward) Otahi line. Fine day, Wind South East, light.

Friday Nov 01
Traversing down Otahi. Middle of the day Willy, _ and the _ Schna… sent Kerepa to town to get it repaired. Finished the days work without the Bearings. Wind S.W.S.W.

Saturday Nov 02
Cut a tie line from the 54.00 peg on line running inland to Otahi (place…)… Wind S.W.

Sunday Nov 03
Wind S.W. Went around to the north and commenced to rain about 9pm.

Monday Nov 04
Wind N.W. No work today drizzly day. William _ … E. Humphries & William Newland arrived here from Patea and stopped all night.

Tuesday Nov 05
Wind N.W. fine day… up Waiaua from where we left off near the sea the 1st day. W. H. & friend started to Town about 7… Kerepa…

Wednesday Nov 06
Wind N.E. fine. Wind went round… and commenced…

Thursday Nov 07
Finished the traverse of Otahi Stream (to the mouth of stream). Wind S. West, fine day. Finished the traverse of Stream Otahi about 3pm returned home to Opunake.

Friday Nov 08
Plotting in the morning; in the afternoon checking Otahi traverse. Mr Pitcairn Senr & Harry Smith arrived here from Patea about 1pm. Started for Warea about 2.30pm. About 3pm Mr Parris arrived here from Town. Wind S.W.

Saturday Nov 09
Started from Opunake for Town (accompanied by W. Parris & Matena) at 12.45pm. Reached Warea at 4.15pm. Waited an hour and arrived in Town 9.15pm.