

MT EDEN AREA

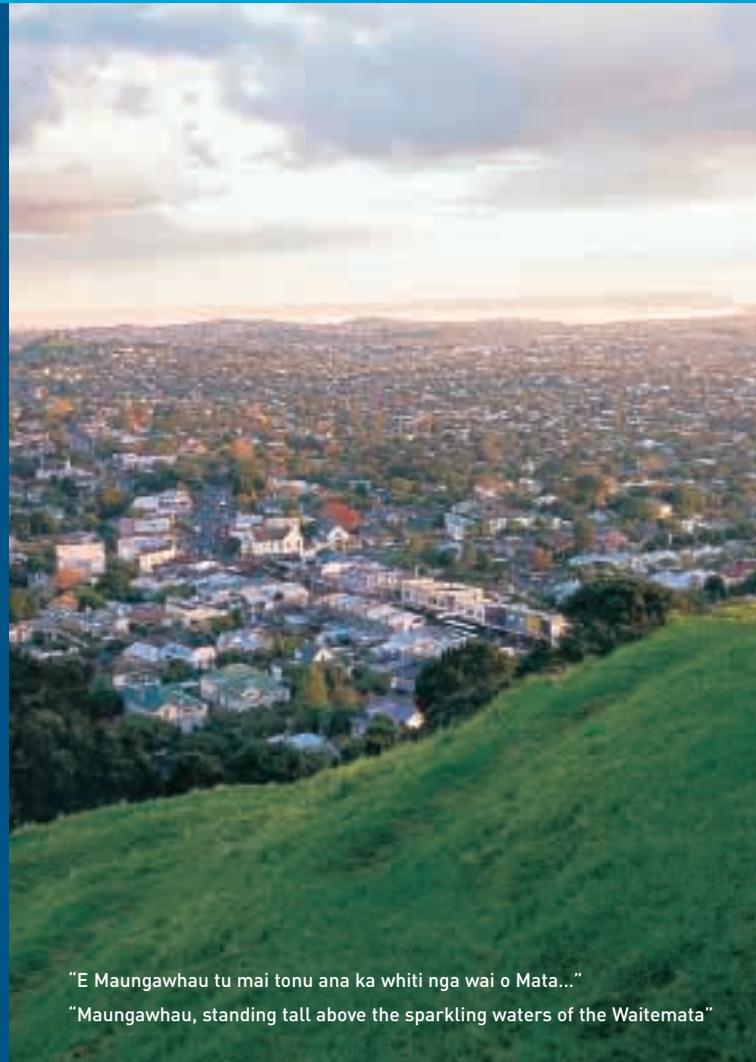
MAUNGAWHAU HERITAGE WALKS



www.mounteden.co.nz

www.edenvalley.co.nz

FOUR MT EDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD WALKS



"E Maungawhau tu mai tonu ana ka whiti nga wai o Mata..."

"Maungawhau, standing tall above the sparkling waters of the Waitemata"

MT EDEN AREA

MAUNGAWHAU HERITAGE WALKS

EACH OF THESE TRAILS WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY FORTY MINUTES TO WALK. THEY EXPLORE DIFFERENT THEMES OF HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE AREA FROM THE 1840S ONWARDS. THE WALKS INCLUDE:

- Mt Eden Village Walk – early development of the village, including historic churches, businesses, schools, and development of the retail and social core.
- Mt Eden Neighbourhood Walk – residential subdivision and architectural styles, excursions to Mt Eden, early churches, administration and Mt Eden Primary School.
- Eden Valley Shopping Centre Walk – development of Dominion Road, early businesses, architectural styles and transport.
- Mount Eden Industrial Area Walk – early industry in the area, Mt Eden Prison, the Quarry, and the Colonial Ammunition Company.

This area includes a number of buildings and sites that are registered by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust or scheduled in the Auckland City Council's District Plan as being of heritage value.

Items that are registered or scheduled are identified within this brochure using the following key:

NEW ZEALAND HISTORIC PLACES TRUST

REGISTERED IN CATEGORY I:

Places of special or outstanding historical or cultural heritage value. **I**

REGISTERED IN CATEGORY 2:

Places of historical or cultural heritage value. **II**

AUCKLAND CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT PLAN

SCHEDULED IN CATEGORY A:

Buildings, objects and places of outstanding natural beauty, or architectural, scientific or historical significance well beyond their immediate environs. Demolition of a Category A Item is a prohibited activity. **A**

SCHEDULED IN CATEGORY B:

Buildings, objects or places of such quality and character that they should not be removed, damaged or altered significantly. **B**

The Mt Eden Heritage Walks have been developed by Auckland City Council, the Mount Eden Village Mainstreet & Business Association and the Eden Valley Mainstreet and Business Association.

Historic research and preparation by Tania Mace, Matthews & Matthews Architects Ltd and Ngā tira Consulting Ltd.



View of Mt Eden near Auckland from the Domain around 1860.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. [2498].



EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF MAUNGAWHAU, THE MT EDEN AREA



Tāmaki Makaurau, the Auckland isthmus, is renowned throughout Aotearoa as having the most formidable and elaborately fortified pā in Aotearoa – New Zealand. Maungawhau (Mt Eden) formed part of a network of pā together with Te Whau (Blockhouse Bay) to the west, Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill) to the south and Maungarei (Mt Wellington) to the east that saw Tāmaki Makaurau become the most populous and thriving centre of Maori civilization, with Maungawhau itself home to thousands.

The ancient volcanic cone fortress became the citadel of Te Hua Kai Waka, a rangatira who united the various tribes of the Tāmaki Isthmus under the confederation known as Te Waiohūa. Under his reign, Tāmaki saw an unprecedented period of peace and prosperity that led to the saying, 'Te pai me te whai rawa o Tāmaki', 'The wealth and luxury of Tāmaki'.

View towards Mt Eden Road in 1905.
AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (W1219, W1220).



In 1841, Ngati Whatua rangatira, Apihai Te Kawau, defined from the summit of Maungawhau what would become the largest Polynesian city in the world, with a 3,000-acre gift of land to the colonial government. With the 'Musket Wars' recently ended and a shaky peace installed, Te Kawau sent his son Te Hira to the Bay of Islands in the north, into hostile territory, to 'fetch' Governor Hobson offering him land if he would come to Tāmaki Makaurau. This block of land has its apex at Maungawhau with the western boundary in a straight line out to Opopu (Coxs Creek) while the eastern boundary is at Mataharehare (Hobson Bay). Governor Hobson arrived a year after that visit and was given another 8,000 acre block of land ensuring Pakeha amongst their midst and laying the foundation for a hoped-for bi-cultural nation.

Titahi is the famed engineer credited for designing massive earthworks to create the volcanic pā of Tāmaki Makaurau. He is said to have modelled the elaborate earthworks on his moko. Maungawhau is named after the Whau tree, one of the world's lightest woods it was used for fishing floats and utility rafts. New cultivation techniques brought from the Pacific saw massive production of Taro and Kumara. Huge gardens spread from the base of Maungawhau through the modern day Mt Eden suburb with volcanic rocks used as passive solar heating for seed raising beds to help tropical crops adapt to the colder environment.

Te Tuahu o Hua Kai Waka on the slopes of Maungawhau is the ancient shrine where ceremonies were performed for significant events and battles. Maungawhau is also the repository of koiwi (human remains) with burials across the mountain and the Mt Eden suburb. Tangata Whenua continue to observe customary practices on Maungawhau. Matariki or the Maori New Year is one such practice observed before dawn in June each year.

The road to the summit of Maungawhau is named for Puhihuia, a highborn daughter of Te Waiohū. Ponga of Ngati Kahukoka from Awhitu was visiting Maungawhau and although he was of lower social status they eloped to the anger of Puhihuia's disapproving parents. They escaped across the Manukau Harbour to Awhitu followed by an avenging taua. War between the Iwi was avoided when Puhihuia faced a series of duels. She defeated her opponents and the taua returned accepting Puhihuia's choice of a husband.

Subdivision and sale of land in the area began in 1841 and over the next decade small mixed farms were developed. The suburban development of Auckland depended on the availability of land, affordable transport and the desire of middle class to move out of the crowded inner city. The population of Auckland had increased by around 25% from 1874 to 1881. However more dramatic increases were soon to follow with the population of Auckland Borough doubling from 1881 to reach 33,161 people in 1886. This population growth put pressure on areas close to the city.

Estate agents touted the lifestyle benefits of living away from the city and the social prestige a suburban address enamoured. Suburban life offered the fresh air and open space that was missing from the small allotments and narrow lanes of the inner city. Allotments in subdivisions in Mt Eden, Morningside and Kingsland found buyers amongst settlers and speculators alike.

At the dawn of the twentieth century the farms, which had graced Mt Eden, Balmoral and Sandringham, had largely been replaced by housing. The increase in the residential population was accompanied by the development of roads, public transport, churches, schools and early business and industry.

MT EDEN VILLAGE



- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Valley Road Church | 9 Windmill Domain |
| 2 Garage & Marriotts Building | 10 Greyfriars Church |
| 3 Corner of Essex Road | 11 Former Cowperthwaite Tile Factory |
| 4 Till & Sons Building | 12 Eden Hall & Poronui Flats |
| 5 Essex Road to Ngauruhoe Street | 13 Former Post Office |
| 6 Methodist Church & Sunday School | 14 Bakery |
| 7 Grange Road to Fairview Road | 15 454-448 Mt Eden Road |
| 8 Crystal Palace | 16 Cucksey's Building |

View southwest from Mt Eden around 1885 showing the small number of buildings located adjacent to Mt Eden Rd and Stokes Rd corner. Cucksey's 1873 store is on the corner. The two storey building on Stokes Road was used from 1886 as the Mount Eden Ladies College. Oaklands Road is in the foreground.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (807).

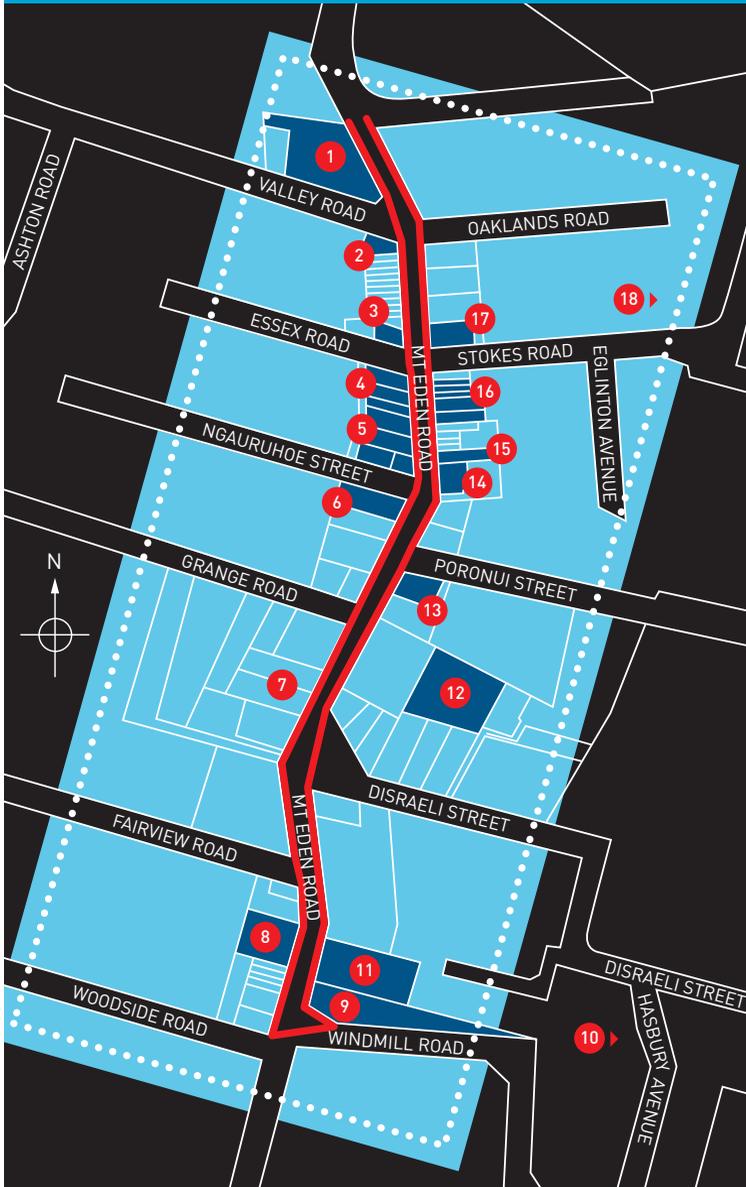


MT EDEN VILLAGE WALK

Mt Eden Road provided an early connection between Mt Eden and the city. It was one of the few roads surveyed in 1842 when the area was divided into small farms, which were offered for sale. An early development was William Mason's wind driven flourmill near Windmill Road but it would be several years before other local amenities were established. During the 1870s the character of Mt Eden was changing with the subdivision of several farm properties into residential sites. The Crown grant for land between Stokes Road and Batger Road was secured by Montefiore in 1844. This area was subdivided by accountant and businessman John Batger in 1884, when Oaklands Road was formed.

The nucleus of the Mt Eden Village shopping area was the store established by Alfred Cucksey in 1873. By the late 1870s it had been joined by a school and a church. Horse drawn buses were the first form of regular public transport in Mt Eden. In 1881 a long awaited railway connecting Newmarket with Helensville was opened. Trains stopped at Mt Eden, Kingsland, Morningside and Mt Albert. By 1908 tramlines had been laid part way down Mt Eden Road, and were extended in the 1920s. The tram service stimulated both residential and retail development. The cluster of shops extended both north and south from the Stokes Road corner. Local entertainment was catered for from the late 1920s with the establishment of the Crystal Place Theatre.

The Mt Eden Business Association was formed in 1936, and twelve of the businesses included in the original constitution are still present in the village. Mt Eden Village is strongly defined by its relationship to the mountain, by changes in the road alignment that limit the commercial core, and by the close integration of residential development and churches with the shopping precinct.



BEGIN THIS WALK ON THE CORNER OF VALLEY ROAD.

1. VALLEY ROAD CHURCH

The wooden building on this site was erected in 1877 as Mt Eden's first school. It doubled as a church where combined Anglican, Wesleyan and Free Methodist services were held. With the removal of the school to a new site in 1879, the property was purchased by the Free Methodists. In 1942 it became a Baptist church, which celebrated its centenary with the erection of a new brick church alongside the old wooden building.

1.



The Mt Eden Methodist Free Church in the early 1900s.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.
(7A4323).

2. GARAGE AND MARRIOTS BUILDING

In 1896 the Mt Eden Bowling Club was established on this site. In 1926 the club decided to relocate to Nicholson Park and the property was sold. In early 1930 and 1931 plans were drawn up for shops with dwellings attached, and a petrol station and garage. Soon the automotive needs of Mt Eden were being served on the corner of Valley and Mt Eden Roads. The petrol station and garage was built by C.E. Heron for a Mr Dodd. The consistency in design suggests that the same architect or designer was responsible for the garage and neighbouring shops.

2.



3. CORNER OF ESSEX ROAD

This prominent corner building was erected prior to 1905. Photos show that this side of Mt Eden Road was almost completely unbuilt, rural land in the late 1880s. Designed in a classical Italianate style, this building was a significant addition to the village streetscape, and reinforced this intersection as the hub of the village.

3.



4. TILL & SONS 527 MT EDEN ROAD

Tills Bakery was established in Mt Eden in 1885 and around 1905 the present Till & Sons building was erected. Designed in a classical Italianate style, this building retains its original verandah with posts, and some of its original shop front detail. During the 1920s the bakery was a gathering place for some of the retired men of the district who would while away the hours chatting. Their fondness for eating peanuts earned them the name 'The Peanut Club'.

4.



5. BLOCK FROM ESSEX ROAD TO NGAURUHOE STREET

This block consists of a variety of buildings dating from as early as the nineteenth century. Many retain original shop front and interior details.

Land was initially subdivided for housing, and villas were built facing onto Mt Eden Road. Between 1910 and 1920, with increased demand for commercial premises, new buildings were constructed on their front yards. These tended to be single level purpose built shops, without the accommodation at the upper level evident in the late Victorian examples. The villas can still be seen behind most of the shops in this block. The Circus Café is one of the earliest shops in the block, and retains its original shop front and interior detail.

5.



6. METHODIST CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER NGAURUHOE STREET

In 1898 the site of this church was purchased and the following year a public meeting was held to gauge interest in erecting a Methodist church on the site. Forty people responded and fundraising began in earnest. Architect Arthur White was soon engaged to prepare plans for a church and Sunday school buildings and by February 1900 the buildings had been completed at a cost of £990. The church seated 200 parishioners while the Sunday school had accommodation for 150 pupils. Extensions were made to the building in 1975 to provide a lounge and kitchen.

6.



View of the Methodist Church in 1905.
AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (W1219).

7. GRANGE ROAD TO FAIRVIEW ROAD

This block retains some of the original, substantial residences built close to the village around the turn of the 20th century. The stone walls are a prominent feature in Mt Eden, and some are likely to relate to early rural boundary locations.

8. CRYSTAL PALACE II 537 MT EDEN ROAD

In 1928 the Crystal Palace theatre was erected by building contractor N. Cole for the Hippodrome Theatre Company. The building featured a dance hall in the basement and the entrance was flanked by shops. The theatre was originally designed for music hall and touring stage shows but the live performances soon gave way to film screenings. The basement dance hall was a popular night spot for many decades.

8.



The Crystal Palace in 1953, with its original cupola.
GRAHAM STEWART.

9. WINDMILL DOMAIN CORNER MT EDEN ROAD & WINDMILL ROAD

Windmill Domain is named after Mt Eden's first industry. In 1844 William Mason established the Eden Flour Mill. Mason, who had been one of the founders of Auckland, would have a long career as a politician, architect and farmer in both the North and South islands. The mill buildings comprised of a large scoria windmill, and a timber store and millers house. The mill was soon sold to Reverend Walter Lawry, General Superintendent of the Wesleyan Church. It was later purchased by entrepreneur John Bycroft who ran the enterprise for seventeen years. During the late 1860s it was taken over by Robert Robertson who set the millstones to work crushing bones for fertilizer. The Mt Eden Borough Council's history of the area notes that when animal bones were scarce the gruesome practice of using human bones collected from Maori burial caves was undertaken. In later years the windmill was demolished in 1929.

9.



The old flourmill near Mt Eden, painted by John Philemon Backhouse.

ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY. (E-400-F-012).

10. NGĀ ANA PEKA RAU

In the early days of European settlement, Mt Eden was a rocky wilderness and much effort was required to clear the land for farms. There are numerous caves created by lava flows through the district including Ngā Ana Peka Rau, 'the bat caves', and Rangī's cave located near Windmill Road.

11. GREYFRIARS CHURCH II B 546 -552 MT EDEN ROAD

Originally known as the Mt Eden Presbyterian Church, this reinforced concrete building was erected in 1916 and opened in 1917. The design was the work of architect Thomas Mullions and it was built by Archibald Grandison. In 1921 the basement was converted into classrooms for the Sunday school. The building was remodelled in 1958.

11.



12. DISRAELI STREET – COWPERTHWAITA TILE FACTORY

In 1916 the Cowperthwaite Tile Factory was established on Disraeli Street, and became the first factory in New Zealand to produce concrete blocks and tiles. Production was initially labour intensive with all products being hand made. In 1928 the Mt Eden factory closed and the operation was transferred to Three Kings.

The Cowperthwaite Tile Factory in Disraeli Street, about 1916.

12. AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (A4529).



13. EDEN HALL AND PORONUI FLATS 488, 476 MT EDEN ROAD

These are some of a number of small blocks of flats, which were built around the 1920s and 1930s in Mt Eden Road and surrounding streets. Another new feature of the area around this time were the numerous garages and carports constructed on many residential sites to cater for increasing car ownership.

14. FORMER POST OFFICE 466 MT EDEN ROAD

Though there had been a postal bureau in Mt Eden since 1885, the area did not have its own purpose built Post Office until 1909 when this building was erected. It originally housed a mailroom, and public area on the ground floor with accommodation above. It retains its original frontage but no longer serves as a post office.

15. BAKERY 462-464 MT EDEN ROAD

This building was erected in 1910 and has operated as a bakery for close to one hundred years.

Mt Eden Road in the 1950s with the Post Office and bakery on the right.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. [A10930].

14,15.



16. 454-448 EARLY SHOPS

These shops were erected early in the twentieth century. In the 1910s there were single level, timber shops extending up to the corner of Stokes Road. The two level Nichols Building designed in a stripped classical style, replaced some of these earlier structures around the 1920s.

16.



A. Cucksey's first General Store and Post Office on the corner of Stokes Road in 1898.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. [7-A4322].

17. CUCKSEY'S 428 MT EDEN ROAD

In 1873 Alfred Cucksey established a store in a timber building on this site. Stokes Road on the southern boundary was dedicated in the same year. By 1905 newer larger premises were desired and the brick Cucksey's building was built to the design of architect J.M. Walker. The building cost £2,300 as was erected by builder W. Firth. The buildings adjacent were erected in the 1920s and 30s.

18. POU HAWAIIKI AND ARATAKI HAERE

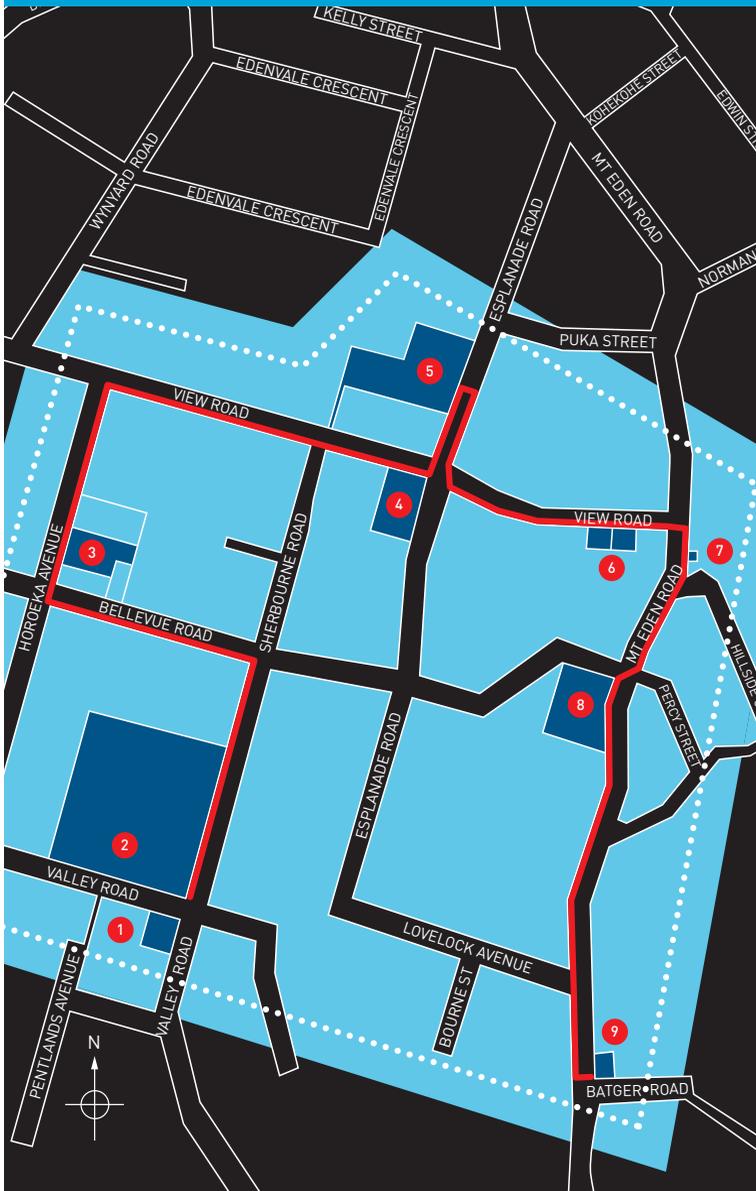
The Auckland College of Education now occupies the site where once stood a small scoria cone known as Pou Hawaiiiki (The Pillar from Hawaiiiki). The hill was quarried away and with it went soil brought and placed there from the Pacific, Hawaiiiki, by the earliest Maori voyagers. Ceremonies would be performed there before fishing and hunting expeditions. An ancient path that connected with Maungawhau is called Arataki Haere (Path of the single file). The path is still there and can be accessed from Stokes Road.

MT EDEN

NEIGHBOURHOOD WALK



- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1 Former Mt Eden Borough Council Chambers & Fire Station | 5 Ficino Primary School |
| 2 War Memorial & Mt Eden Normal Primary School | 6 Flats, View Road |
| 3 14 Horoeke Avenue | 7 Tram Shelter |
| 4 St James Church | 8 St Barnabas Church |
| | 9 358 Mt Eden Road |



Residential development came to Mt Eden in 1864. George Owen subdivided his land forming 70 small sections around Percy Street and Hillside Crescent (previously known as Cromwell and Milton Roads). However it wasn't until 1882 that the last of these sections was sold by auctioneer Samuel Cochrane. It was here that some of Auckland's businessmen erected their country residences. The 1870s saw further subdivisions. Valley Road and Sherbourne Road were formed when Charles Tothill subdivided his land into two and four acre lots. James Stokes subdivided land adjacent to Stokes Road which was dedicated in 1873. William Rowe subdivided the area around View and Esplanade Roads in 1874. Other landowners in the area north of Valley Road followed suit while the land to the south retained its agricultural identity.

Mt Eden itself was increasingly popular for walking and as a weekend and holiday picnic destination. In 1874 it was proposed to form a public recreation reserve on Mt Eden. This was achieved in 1879 when 26 hectares were set aside as a public domain. The domain board placed restrictions on quarrying, fenced the domain and commenced tree planting, sowing grass and forming paths and roadways.

Volcanic stone was used extensively for early road building, as well as walls and fences and remains an important characteristic of the area. Allotment sizes demonstrate a pattern of more substantial suburban development and the area retains its early housing stock to a significant degree, including largely one and two storied timber villas. The architectural design of the villa together with surrounding gardens form a lasting expression of the Victorian and Edwardian middle class in New Zealand, reflecting a love of home and comfort, spacious interiors, decoration and display. The construction of this type of housing coincided with massive increases in population and with developments in the timber industry. Woodworking machinery was introduced in the 1860s, and in the late 19th century thousands of houses were built incorporating a vast range of mass-produced elements available from a highly mechanized timber industry.

This walk features a number of the scheduled or registered historic churches and houses in Mt Eden.

[View north west from vicinity of Hillside Crescent showing Mt Eden Road and St Barnabas Church on the left.](#)

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY, (7-A14955).



BEGIN THIS WALK AT THE CORNER OF VALLEY ROAD AND SHERBOURNE ROAD.

1. FORMER MT EDEN BOROUGH COUNCIL BUILDING/FIRE STATION CORNER VALLEY & SHERBOURNE ROADS

During the nineteenth century the need for roads provided the impetus for the formation of local bodies. In 1868 the Mt Eden Highway Board held its inaugural meeting at the Eden Vine Hotel, conveniently located just outside the liquor free Eden district. The board was responsible for roading in Mt Eden, Balmoral and part of Sandringham, as well as the pigs, horses, cattle and sheep that roamed freely through the district. To fund the construction and upkeep of roads in the area toll gates were erected on Mt Eden and Dominion Roads.

In 1882 the area was constituted a road district and the highway board became the Mt Eden Road Board. Work on the roads continued and in 1895 the board were in a position to remove the tollgates.

In 1906 Mount Eden gained borough status and the council soon turned their attention to having council offices erected. Designed by Wade and Wade architects the Mt Eden Borough Council offices were officially opened in March 1913. The building was enlarged by about a third in 1940. A. Sinclair O'Connor was the architect for these alterations. The fire station ceased functioning in 1970 and the council offices were made redundant in 1989 when the borough council was absorbed by the Auckland City Council, which was demolished in the mid 1960's for modern school buildings.

1.



Elevation of the former Mt Eden Borough Council Building and Fire Station.

MEBC RECORDS AT AUCKLAND CITY ARCHIVES.

2. WAR MEMORIAL ENTRY & PRIMARY SCHOOL VALLEY ROAD

Erected after the First World War, the memorial entry were remodelled in 1965 when the original heavy iron gates were replaced.

During the First World War over 18,000 New Zealand men were killed in action or died of wounds or disease. The vast majority were buried overseas. War memorials stood in place of distant graves, and were erected in almost every town and village throughout the country in memory of those from the local area who had died. In addition to their commemorative role memorials were often intended to have an educational purpose expressing both pride in military achievement, courage and self-sacrifice, and an appreciation of peace and liberty. They were frequently located at the entrance to primary schools or even within school grounds to provide inspiration to the young.

The primary school has been located on this site since 1879. The first timber school building in Mt Eden was built in 1877 on the corner of Valley Road and Mt Eden Road. It shifted to a new building on the current school site in 1879.

2.



Continue along Sherbourne Road; turn left into Bellevue Road and right into Horoeke Avenue.

3. 14 HOROEKA AVENUE **B**

This fine residence was built in the late nineteenth century for Oliver Nicholson who served as Mayor of the Mt Eden Borough Council for its first twelve years. Nicholson is remembered as being an outstanding leader who came to be regarded as the “father” of the borough. He was a trained lawyer and successful businessman who supported many philanthropic causes.

3.



AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (A10965).

Turn right into View Road, and along to the corner of Esplanade Road.

4. ST JAMES CHURCH **B** CORNER VIEW & ESPLANADE ROADS

In 1900 this church was erected as Mt Eden’s Congregational Church. The timber church hall behind was built in 1885 and served as the original church building until it was outgrown by the congregation. It has been known as St James Presbyterian Church since the merging of congregational and Presbyterian churches in 1969. Since the late 1970s the church has predominantly served the Cook Island community.

Mt Eden Congregational Church in 1910. It was later known as St James Presbyterian Church.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (35-R112).

4.



5. FICINO PRIMARY SCHOOL 27 ESPLANADE ROAD

Originally the home of dentist Laurie Taylor this house was more recently used as the Bethesda Old Peoples Home run by Seventh Day Adventists. In the late 1990s it was converted to a small private school, which opened in 1997.

5.



Return to View Road and continue toward Mt Eden Road

6. FLATS VIEW ROAD

By the 1930s a new form of housing was visible along the northern end of Mt Eden Road and in nearby streets. Interspersed among the villas were new buildings such as the Granada Flats and Mountain Court, which contained several residential units. They were designed as fashionable homes for stylish people, and were typically in plastered masonry construction.

6.



7. TRAM SHELTER/MT EDEN/MT EDEN TEA KIOSK **B** MT EDEN ROAD, ENTRANCE TO DOMAIN



The tram passenger shelter at the entrance to Mt Eden Domain was built around 1910. Toilets were added prior to 1929.

Above the tram shelter is Te Ngutu (The Lips), one of the ceremonial entrances to

Maungawhau pā. It is one of a number of hierarchical entrances that lead to the highly defended tihi or summit. Near here also are ceremonial altars where the ritual observances of Te Ao Maori are practiced.

From the 1870s a reservoir on top of the mountain improved the Auckland water supply. In 1929 during the construction of a new reservoir, the wall of the existing reservoir collapsed spewing 3,500 tons of water down the mountain.

Mt Eden offers a wonderful vantage point and around 1869 a road to the summit was thought to have been built for the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh. In order to protect the volcanic cone 27 hectares forming the Mt Eden Domain was set aside as crown land in the 1870s. During the 1920s access was improved with the laying of paths and steps to the summit. In 1927 a tea kiosk was erected on the mountain to serve the many visitors who made the trek up Mt Eden. The kiosk was surrounded by rose gardens planted during the depression of the 1930s. The mountain remains a popular tourist attraction.



View to south west from the summit of Mt Eden in 1968.

ARCHIVES NEW ZEALAND/TE WHARE TOHU TUHITUHINGA O AOTEAROA, WELLINGTON. AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (AAQT 6401 A85000).

7.

8. ST BARNABAS CHURCH **II B** 281 MT EDEN ROAD

As the oldest church building in Mt Eden, St Barnabas began its life as a Maori chapel in Mechanics Bay. It was built of pit sawn Kauri under the direction of Bishop Selwyn to the design of architect Frederick Thatcher. The church fell into disuse on its original site and was moved by bullock drawn wagons to its current location in 1877. The width of the building was increased by 18 feet in 1886 and numerous the other additions followed over the years.

View of St Barnabas Church from Bellevue Road in 1910.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (1-W85).

8.



9. 358 MT EDEN ROAD **II B**

In 1879 Auckland businessman John Batger had this house erected. Batger was prominent in business affairs being the Auckland manager of the New Zealand Shipping Company, director of the New Zealand Insurance Company, trustee of the Auckland Savings Bank and president of the Auckland Institute and Museum. He was also involved in church affairs being a member of several church bodies. He lived in the house until his death in 1919.



9.

MT EDEN

INDUSTRIAL AREA



- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Mt Eden Prison | 7 Marino Gardens Residential |
| 2 Former Colonial Ammunition Co. | 8 Horse & Trap Tavern |
| 3 Mt Eden Quarry | 9 Ipu Pakore |
| 4 Auckland Grammar School | 10 Henderson & Pollard |
| 5 26 Clive Road | |
| 6 Woods Dairy | |



View of Mt Eden with Boston Road in foreground in 1866.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. [1832].



Mt Eden's first industry was Mason's flourmill established near Windmill Road. It was Auckland's first flourmill and was located alongside a substantial wheat plantation. Later industry would be located closer to the city end of Mt Eden.

During the early years of Auckland's history the Mt Eden area was a rural locality some distance from the business and residential area centred around the Queen Street valley. For this reason Mt Eden was viewed as an appropriate location for industries and institutions that were accompanied by an element of danger. The Mt Eden Prison and the Colonial Ammunition Company factory were both erected prior to the extensive development of Mt Eden as a residential area. The volcano for which the Mt Eden area is named provided the locality with a quarrying industry which would keep prisoners occupied and provide the city with building and roading material. It was the proximity to the city of this mountain of rock which saw it being quarried from an early date. Mt Eden was both close enough, and far enough away from the city to support the industries and institutions established in the nineteenth century.

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries population density increased throughout the central city and inner suburbs. This put pressure on growing inner city institutions like the Auckland Grammar School, which found itself rapidly running out of space for expansion. Mt Eden still offered tracts of undeveloped land and it became the chosen site for the new school.

In the early years of the twentieth century a large sawmill, timber yard and joinery factory was established near the Colonial Ammunition Company and Mt Eden quarry. A concrete block and tile factory soon joined the local industrial enterprises. The prison and the local industries grew and developed alongside the surrounding residential areas but as the local population density increased the proximity of the prison and heavy industry became increasingly inappropriate. It is only in recent years that the industrial area around Enfield Road has been redeveloped for residential and light commercial purposes.

START THIS WALK IN BOSTON ROAD OUTSIDE MT EDEN PRISON.

1. MT EDEN PRISON II A BOSTON ROAD

In 1856 a stockade was established at the northern end of Mt Eden. Plans were subsequently drawn up for a new prison by colonial architect P.F.M. Burrows. The prisoners at the stockade built the prison wall from locally quarried stone and it was completed over seven years from 1865. Construction of the prison began in 1882 and at its completion in 1917 it held 220 prisoners. In 1965 two prisoners began a riot which lasted for two days and left the prison burnt and uninhabitable. The stone walls survived and the prison was rebuilt. The prison now houses up to 421 men and 54 women.

1.



View of Mount Eden
Gaol in 1900.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.
[A14496].

2. COLONIAL AMMUNITION COMPANY I B NORMANBY ROAD

In 1885 the Colonial Ammunition Company established New Zealand's first munitions factory in response to the threat of war with Russia. The site was considered far enough away from the built up inner city to be suitable for the manufacture of dangerous goods. The factory became a hive of activity during the Second World War when staff numbers were increased from 230 to 900. Plastic containers were produced at the factory when the demand for ammunition dropped at the end of the war. The company closed its Mt Eden factory in 1982. The site has been redeveloped with light commercial use predominating.

2.



The Colonial Ammunition
Company's Shot Tower.

ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY. [140121].

Continue along Normanby Road. The Cardrona Speights Hotel on the left, is a recent replica of the original hotel at Cardrona near Queenstown.

3. MOUNT EDEN QUARRY

A quarry was established near Mt Eden Prison where prisoners extracted stone for prison buildings. Winstone's opened three quarries on the mountain in the 1860s and others followed. Quarrying continued until the 1940s by which time the shape of the mountain had been substantially altered.

3.



Quarrying at Mt Eden
in the 1920s.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY.
[A3701].

4. AUCKLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL I A

The establishment of Auckland Grammar School dates back to 1869 and it was to occupy several central city sites before cramped conditions prompted the move to Mt Eden in 1916. The Spanish Mission style main building was the result of an international design competition for the new school won by Auckland architectural firm Arnold & Abbot. At the time of its opening the school roll numbered 600. Today around 2200 pupils attend the school.

View towards Auckland Grammar School from above Clive Road in 1922. The houses in the foreground were built for prison officers.

ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY. [048750].

4.



5. 26 CLIVE ROAD **B**

Trevor Lloyd (1863-1937), possibly best known for his studies of native flora and fauna, was a political cartoonist on the New Zealand Herald from 1910-1930. When the All Blacks were defeated by Wales in 1905, he drew what is believed to be the first New Zealand cartoon using the kiwi as a symbol for New Zealand. Lloyd was also well known for using Maori motifs and design and this is evident on the stone garage, and detailing throughout this house. Lloyd's house, "Wharetane" was constructed in 1928 and was designed by Scottish-trained architect, John Anderson.

6. WOODS DAIRY CORNER MT EDEN & ESPLANADE ROADS

In 1906 builder G.B. Braithwaite erected this large wooden shop on the corner of Mt Eden & Esplanade Roads. It was initially run as Woods & Merson grocers but was soon operating under the name H. Woods & Co. The building still houses a grocery shop but parts of the original retail space have been subdivided into small shops.

6.



**Woods & Co.
Grocers in the
early 1900s.**

AUCKLAND MUSEUM.
(B2903).

7. MARINO GARDENS CORNER MT EDEN & ESPLANADE ROADS

Marino Gardens was one of the largest of several multi-unit residential developments built in the 1930s. It comprised of eighteen flats complete with garaging, tradesman's entrances and a shared courtyard. Marino Gardens offered a new housing type and the design won Kenneth W. Aimer a gold medal awarded by the New Zealand Institute of Architects in 1936.



8. THE HORSE AND TRAP ENFIELD STREET

This building was erected as a store in 1914 for the firm W & G Winstone, carriers and coal merchants. It was built by W. Ball at a cost of £1400. Winstones had a number of buildings, including stables for their horses, on their property which extended through to Mt Eden Road. It appears that the building was damaged by fire in 1927 and again in 1936. In the late 1930s the building was occupied by Tasti Products, the well-known crystallized fruit manufacturers. Tasti remained on site for over four decades. In the early 1990s the building was converted for use as a bar and restaurant known as the Horse & Trap.

8.



9. IPU PAKORE

Near the Rail over-bridge was a spring named Ipu Pakore (The broken gourds) after two women were ambushed on their return from fetching water during the raids of the famed warrior, Kawharu. The spring supplied Maungawhau pā and was where Puhihuia met her lover Ponga before they eloped across the Manukau Harbour.

10. HENDERSON & POLLARD ENFIELD STREET

In 1904 Henderson & Pollard established a joinery factory in Enfield Road. The factory was rebuilt twice after destructive fires in 1909 and 1927. The company expanded its operations over the years and came to occupy nearly three hectares of land. In 1987 the company was purchased by Carter Holt Harvey who continued to operate from the Mt Eden site until the mid 1990s. Recently the former Henderson & Pollard site has been redeveloped into high density housing.

EDEN VALLEY

SHOPPING CENTRE



- | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Bridgman Building | 8 | Methodist Church |
| 2 | 240 Dominion Road | 9 | St Albans Church |
| 3 | Victory Buildings | 10 | Dominion Buildings |
| 4 | Geoffs Emporium | 11 | Central Buildings |
| 5 | Ballantyne Square | 12 | Burnley Terrace to Bellwood Avenue |
| 6 | UBD Building | 13 | Bellwood Avenue to Walters Road |
| 7 | Girl Guide Hall | 14 | Eden Park |



Dominion Road, near the Valley Road intersection around 1920.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. [A11151].



The Eden Valley area followed the same pattern of early development as the rest of Mt Eden. In the 1840s it was subdivided into small farms and sold. During the 1870s some of the farms were subdivided and residential development began. The provision of local amenities in the areas dates from the mid 1880s. In 1886 Dominion Road was graced with its first church with the construction of St Albans. The Eden Valley shopping area initially developed during the late Victorian and Edwardian period and continued to grow through the twentieth century. Many of the two storey buildings were erected with living space above. Though parts of the shopping area have been redeveloped in recent years Eden Valley retains an eclectic mix of commercial buildings spanning more than a century.

View from Mt Eden towards Kingsland and Sandringham in 1885. Dominion Road runs from left to right with Valley Road on the left, and Bellevue Road on the right.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. [A4459].



BEGIN THIS WALK ON THE CORNER OF VALLEY ROAD AND DOMINION ROAD.

1. BRIDGMAN BUILDING AND EARLY SHOPS ADJACENT 222A DOMINION ROAD

The two buildings at 224 and 228 Dominion Road, just north of the Bridgman Building, are some of the few commercial buildings in this

1.



area that date from the nineteenth century. Their timber construction and simple design are contrasted with the more ornate Bridgman Building next door. The Bridgman Building was erected in 1912 for J.W.

Bridgman. Note that the original doorway to Dominion Road has survived. The building is similar in design and detail of the Worota Building diagonally opposite, which remains unpainted.

2. 240 DOMINION ROAD

This two storey brick and plastered building was erected around 1910 and retains some of its original shopfront and ceiling detail. The building adjacent was constructed around 1920.

2.



3. VICTORY BUILDINGS 244-248 DOMINION ROAD

The Victory building was erected around 1920. Some of the original shopfront and ceiling details have survived.

3.



4. GEOFF'S EMPORIUM AND ADJACENT SHOPS 274 DOMINION ROAD

This large building was erected around 1950. Extensive additions were made at the rear in 1962 for the Bell Radio & Television Corporation for the introduction of television to New Zealand. The original building was also remodelled at this time, with alterations designed by architect H. Juventin. Geoff's Emporium has been selling their eclectic mix of wares from the building for over twenty years.

4.



5. EDEN QUARTER/EWINGTON AVENUE, CAPTAIN EWINGTON'S HOUSE BALLANTYNE SQUARE

The small park located on the corner of Ewington Avenue was originally occupied by three shops and two houses. During the 1970s the buildings were demolished and an attractive park was formed, named after a Borough Councillor.

Ewington Avenue was dedicated in 1879 through the property of estate agent Captain George Ewington. Captain Ewington lived in a house on the rise at the end of the street that bears his name. The house was said to have been relocated from St Heliers Bay.

5.



6. UBD BUILDINGS/GRANGE ROAD 360-388 DOMINION ROAD

In 1969 the Universal Business Directory Company had this building erected. It was designed by the architectural firm Warwick & Wright and built by Merv. Allison. The retail shops along Dominion Road are a later addition.

6.



7. GIRL GUIDE HALL B 132 GRANGE ROAD

Currently the provincial headquarters of the Girl Guides Association, this building dates back to 1865 when it was erected as a Selwyn Church. Originally known as St Sepulchre's it was moved from Symonds Street to its current location in 1904 when it became a Baptist Church. It served as the Baptist Church until 1963. Following this it was used as by the St Albans Boy Scouts, the Eden Operatic and Dramatic Society, the Eden-Epsom Community Day Care, the Brownies and Guides. Guides have used the building since the 1970s. It was officially opened by Lady Reeves as the The Girl Guides Auckland Provincial Centre in 1989.

7.



8. METHODIST CHURCH II B 426 DOMINION ROAD

The church was built in 1926. It was erected by builder S.E. Chappell to the design of architect Arthur White, who also designed the Mt Eden Methodist Church and Hall in Mt Eden Road.

8.



Continue along Dominion Road to Mt Pleasant Road. Cross over and return back towards Valley Road.

9. ST ALBANS CHURCH II B 443 DOMINION ROAD

Built in 1886, St Albans Anglican Church was the first church to be established on Dominion Road. James Paice, one of the largest land-owners in the area, gifted the site and funds were raised for the project by Captain H.G. Ewington. The church is one of 65 churches worldwide affiliated to the eleventh century abbey of St Alban in England. A brick apse was added to the front of the church around 1910.

The brick apse at St Albans under construction in 1905

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (3383).

9.



10. DOMINION BUILDINGS 373-375 DOMINION ROAD

The original shop fronts remain intact in this building, which dates from around 1910. Residential development in the neighbouring streets occurred in the late 1880s. Paice Ave is named after early landowner James Paice and was dedicated in 1885, as was King Edward Street.

10.



11. CENTRAL BUILDINGS 363 369 DOMINION ROAD

This building was erected around 1920 and retains some of its original shop front detail. It is one of a number of retail buildings built in the 1920s on Dominion Road.

11.



12. BURNLEY TERRACE TO BELLWOOD AVENUE INCLUDING KOALA FLATS, ROUSSELL BUILDING, BAGNALL BUILDING AND BNZ BANK

Two dwellings at the corner of Burnley Terrace and Dominion Road have been converted into retail premises in recent years. Standing alongside these dwellings are the Koala Flats, which were erected around the 1930s. There were a number of buildings containing numerous flats that were erected around this time in Mt Eden but the majority of them were built closer to the Mt Eden Village. The Rousell Building, designed by Draffin, and the large Bagnall block nearby were built in 1923 and 1928 respectively. Some original ceilings remain in the Bagnall Building. The BNZ Bank was built around the 1950s but has been added to and remodelled more recently. The Empire Theatre was located on the site adjacent until the 1980s.

12.



13. BELLWOOD AVENUE TO WALTERS ROAD

Front elevation of Penrose Building by Robert Young.

MT EDEN BOROUGH COUNCIL RECORDS AT AUCKLAND CITY ARCHIVES.

13.



Many of the buildings in this block retain their original shop fronts and ceilings. One such building is number 273 on the corner of Bellwood Avenue and Dominion Road. This building dates from around the turn of the twentieth century. Further along is a building designed in the Spanish mission style that was in vogue in 1928 when the building was erected. This building features sloping sections of terracotta tile roofing as a decorative element. The Penrose building nearby was also erected during the late 1920s and is the work of architect Robert Young. The prominent brick building on the Walters Road corner is known as the Worota Building and dates from 1907.

13.



14. EDEN PARK

In 1903 the Eden District Cricket Club was formed and they soon purchased a 15-acre block of land at the edge of the Cabbage Tree Swamp. The club made a gallant effort to improve the property clearing the ground of rocks and scrub. Drainage was needed as the cricket ground flooded each winter but this work was beyond the means of the cricket club. They sold the property in 1909 to the Auckland Cricket Association who soon leased it to the Auckland Rugby Union. The rugby union undertook drainage works and began erecting a grandstand in 1914. By 1950 facilities had been improved to the extent that the Empire Games were held at the park. Sports fans regularly enjoy rugby and cricket games at Eden Park and facilities have been recently upgraded with the addition of a new grandstand, floodlighting and extensive drainage and returfing.

Aerial view of Eden Park during the Empire Games in 1950.

AUCKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY. (A2076).

14.



NGĀ ANA WAI

Underground rivers flow through this district out to the Waitemata Harbour through ancient lava caverns created by the eruptions of Maungawhau and Owairaka more than 30,000 years ago. Water springs forth at various locations including Eden Park, which is known to Maori as Ngā ana wai 'the watery caverns'. The former swamp at Eden Park was a significant resource providing a diverse range of food and materials for everyday use.

A Conservation Plan for Maungawhau (Mt Eden) is currently being prepared by Auckland City Council, and heritage walks on the mountain itself will follow. Enquiries to The Friends of Maungawhau, Ph. 624 2385.