

## **Hikanui, Tainui, Tanner and Tauroa Reserves**

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**May 2021**

### **Context**

John Chambers (1819–1893) had first taken up a lease on the Te Mata block in 1854 from Māori, and when he was able to purchase land in 1857, he began with 1,900 acres (769ha) and leased an additional 5,000 acres (2,023ha). He eventually built up 18,000 acres (7,284ha) freehold on the Te Mata block.<sup>1</sup>

A rectangular area of 4,000 acres (1,619ha) was laid out by the surveyor O L H W Bousefield in 1852 and named as Karanema's Reserve.<sup>2</sup>

When the Te Mata block was purchased by the Crown over 1855/6 for £1,000 from 11 chiefs, Karanema's Reserve was excluded as it was set aside for the "descendants of Te Heipora forever".<sup>3</sup> Karanema was the son of Queen Te Heipora, who was one of Chief Te Hapuku's wives.<sup>4</sup>

However, in 1858, the Crown seized the opportunity of a skirmish between arch rivals Chiefs Te Hapuku and Te Moananui near Whakatu, with both chiefs being paid the sum of £400 for Karanema's Reserve.<sup>5</sup>

Karanema's Reserve would become Havelock (North was added in 1910), and a town laid out in 1860.<sup>6</sup>

Expansion of Havelock North would come from land of surrounding settlers' large properties. Therefore the reserves of Hikanui, Tainui, Tanner Street, Tauroa and Keith Sands Grove, were not included in the original town boundaries.

These reserves, all in close proximity, have a total combined area of 23.79ha.<sup>7</sup>

### **Tainui Reserve**

Tainui Reserve was created progressively by subdivision of Chambers' Tauroa estate when the boundary of Havelock North was initially extended in 1952. It was named as such until 1987.<sup>8</sup>

This first part of Tainui Reserve was Lot 67 with an area of 4 acres 1 rood and 11.1 perches (1.7479ha), which featured a location for two tennis courts near the access from Tainui Drive.<sup>9</sup>

It appears the tennis courts were never developed as there were ones in use on the Domain.

In 1983 an additional 11.9966ha of land for Tainui Reserve was purchased from the Chambers family and vested by Gazette in Havelock North Borough Council on 20 March 1986 as a local purpose plantation reserve.<sup>10</sup> This land bordered Tainui Drive and joined the 1.7479ha reserve created in the 1952 subdivision, which had been vested in Havelock North Borough Council in 1981 as a recreation reserve.<sup>11</sup>

Part of Lot 58 DP7867, which adjoined Keith Sands Grove Reserve, was added to the original 1.7479ha reserve<sup>12</sup>, as well as other areas: Lot 3, Lot 25, Lots 33 and 34, Lot 6, Section 2 SO 388820 and Lot 7. These areas added another 2.71ha to make the total area of the Tainui Reserve 16.4572ha.

There are two registered archaeological sites within Tainui Reserve. Ongoing research is being carried out to identify other sites.<sup>13</sup>

Contained within the land purchased from the Chambers family was a Māori pa pre-dating European settlement. Four names were offered as to the name of the pa, but Hikanui was chosen, according to consultation by archaeologists with old Havelock North identity, Syd Joll.<sup>14</sup>

In April 1987, Havelock North Borough Council wrote to Jack Chambers, saying it wished to name the reserve area Chambers Reserve,<sup>15</sup> but the Chambers family wanted the name to be Tainui Reserve.<sup>16</sup>

Within Tainui Reserve are significant plantings, particularly pine trees, most of which are over 60 years old. These would have been planted by the Chambers family as part of Tauroa Estate.

### **Tainui Reserve walkway**

At a meeting of Havelock North Rotary Club on 19 July 1993, a report was presented by David Padfield, who came up with the idea (in association with Warwick Bull, a senior drainage engineer at Hastings District Council) of putting a walkway through Tainui Reserve.<sup>17</sup>

The original idea, according to David, was to survey areas to create a walk way to circle around Havelock North. They looked at drainage reserves and other areas, before deciding to start at Tainui Reserve.<sup>18</sup>

At the next meeting, David reported that the Heritage Trails Trust would be associated with the project, and periodic detention workers would be used to clear the tracks. The costs would be \$1,000 for signs, \$500 for advertising, and the rest would be donated by businesses and the community.<sup>19</sup>

There was a “basic goat track” within Tainui Reserve, but the periodic detention workers would cut a path. The area, recalls David, was covered in vines, which had to be cut away. They were aware of the Hikanui Pa site and took special care in that area.<sup>20</sup>

It was reported by Warwick Bull in January 1994 that the walkway had not quite been completed.<sup>21</sup>

The car parks on Keirunga Road and Tainui Drive were not completed as part of the project, but later.<sup>22</sup> Tainui Reserve has five entrance points at Keith Sands Grove, Awarua Crescent, Keirunga Road, Tainui Drive and Hikanui Drive.<sup>23</sup>

Tainui Reserve is also an off-lead dog walking reserve.<sup>24</sup>

### **Post-1994 development**

In February 2017, a community petition with 148 signatures was presented to Hastings District Council requesting that they upgrade the track between Keith Sands Grove and the Keirunga Road car park, and also a short section from this car park to the reserve. The Council agreed to start the work in two years’ time. The Tainui Reserve Care Group, which was formed in March 2017, also undertook volunteer work such as plantings and maintenance.<sup>25</sup>

In July 2019 Hastings District Council announced that the 750m downhill mountain bike track at Tainui Reserve would be completed over the next two months – having been started earlier in the year – with signs to identify the tracks for mountain bikers and walkers.<sup>26</sup> The 2015 Reserve Management Plan had allowed for construction of a separate mountain bike track.<sup>27</sup> There was some controversy with conflict between walkers and mountain bikers over sharing the space.<sup>28</sup> The

opposition came from a group called “Friends of Tainui Reserve”.<sup>29</sup> Further development of the mountain bike track was halted until a new Reserve Management Plan was prepared.<sup>30</sup>

Additional signs to clarify walking tracks and mountain bike tracks were installed in September 2019.<sup>31</sup>

### **Tauroa Reserve**

Tauroa Reserve is a 4.2ha area created in 1967 from a further subdivision of Chambers’ Tauroa Estate.<sup>32</sup>

Tauroa Reserve has mature gum and pine trees, which would have been planted by the Chambers family. Te Kahika Stream runs through the reserve.<sup>33</sup>

Since the 2015 Reserve Management Plan has been adopted for Tauroa, a mountain bike track has been built in the reserve. A walking track already existed.<sup>34</sup>

### **Tanner Street Reserve**

Tanner Street Reserve is 2.1ha and was created in 1967.<sup>35</sup>

It provides a mixture of open grass and treed areas, which run down the hill along a waterway. A mix of tree species and ages exist with a range of conifers and some deciduous trees.<sup>36</sup>

### **Hikanui Reserve**

The 1ha Hikanui Reserve is the newest of the four, created in 1998 after the subdivision in the area.<sup>37</sup> It takes its name from Hikurangi Pa.

A walking track goes through the reserve between Hikanui and Tauroa Roads, and a mountain bike track was completed after the 2015 Reserve Management Plan.

### **Keith Sands Grove Reserve**

Keith Sands was an engineer at Hawke’s Bay architectural firm Kingsford, Norwell, and Sands, and Partners acted as the consulting engineer for Havelock North Borough Council.<sup>38</sup>

After the extension Havelock North’s boundary around 1952 (which did not extend beyond Tanner Street) for the Chambers brothers’ subdivision of their property Tauroa, a reserve was created for a road, alongside Mangarau Stream.<sup>39</sup>

A small recreation reserve of 0.15ha was created out of land for the road around 1962 called Keith Sands Grove.<sup>40</sup> It is a flat grassed area which sits alongside Mangarau Stream on the western boundary.<sup>41</sup>

As manga means creek and rau means hundred, the name could refer to the large number of tributaries which run into Mangarau Stream.<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Retrieved from <https://teara.govt.nz/en/biographies/1c12/chambers-john> on 7 April 2021.

<sup>2</sup> Grant, S W (1978). *Havelock North: From Village to Borough 1860 to 1952*. Hawke’s Bay Newspapers Limited, Hastings, p.14–15.

<sup>3</sup> Wright, Matthew (1996). *Havelock North: The History of a Village*. Hastings District Council, p.13.

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- <sup>4</sup> *Ibid*, p.12.
- <sup>5</sup> *Ibid*, p.15.
- <sup>6</sup> *Ibid*, p.19.
- <sup>7</sup> Retrieved from <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/hastings/reserves/tainui-tanner-tauroa-hikanui/> on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>8</sup> W M Peterson to J M Chambers (3 April 1987).
- <sup>9</sup> Retrieved from <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/56895> on 7 April 2021.
- <sup>10</sup> *NZ Gazette* (20 March 1986) No.40, p.1201.
- <sup>11</sup> Shanley, C G & Co. (July 1983). Hawke's Bay IV Te Mata V21/7.4 HN 9.
- <sup>12</sup> *Tainui, Tanner Tauroa and Hikanui Reserves Management Plan* (2015). Hastings District Council, p.8.
- <sup>13</sup> Retrieved from [https://hastings.infocouncil.biz/Open/2021/01/COR\\_28012021\\_AGN\\_5001\\_AT.htm](https://hastings.infocouncil.biz/Open/2021/01/COR_28012021_AGN_5001_AT.htm) on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>14</sup> New Zealand Archaeology Association Inc to David Bone (12 December 1985).
- <sup>15</sup> W M Peterson to J M Chambers (3 April 1987).
- <sup>16</sup> Havelock North Borough Council minute book (14 April 1987).
- <sup>17</sup> Havelock North Rotary Club minute book (14 June 1993).
- <sup>18</sup> David Padfield, personal communication, 13 May 2021.
- <sup>19</sup> Havelock North Rotary Club minute book (19 July 1993).
- <sup>20</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>21</sup> *Ibid* (19 January 1994).
- <sup>22</sup> *Ibid* (19 July 1993).
- <sup>23</sup> Retrieved from <https://nzplaces.nz/place/tainui-heritage-trail> on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>24</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>25</sup> Retrieved from <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/home/article/1375/work-starts-on-tracks-at-tainui-and-hikanui-reserves?t=featured&s=1> on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>26</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>27</sup> Retrieved from <https://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/AK1909/S00650/user-safety-top-priority-for-tainui-reserve.htm> on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>28</sup> Retrieved from <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/home/article/1375/work-starts-on-tracks-at-tainui-and-hikanui-reserves?t=featured&s=1> on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>29</sup> Retrieved from [https://hastings.infocouncil.biz/Open/2021/01/COR\\_28012021\\_AGN\\_5001\\_AT.htm](https://hastings.infocouncil.biz/Open/2021/01/COR_28012021_AGN_5001_AT.htm) on 15 May 2021.
- <sup>30</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>31</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>32</sup> Retrieved from Asset Management Plans –Tainui Tauroa Tanner Hikanui Reserve Management Plan V13 Final std1.PDF on 17 May 2021.
- <sup>33</sup> Retrieved from [https://hastings.infocouncil.biz/Open/2021/01/COR\\_28012021\\_AGN\\_5001\\_AT.htm](https://hastings.infocouncil.biz/Open/2021/01/COR_28012021_AGN_5001_AT.htm) on 17 May 2021.
- <sup>34</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>35</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>36</sup> Retrieved from Asset Management Plans –Tainui Tauroa Tanner Hikanui Reserve Management Plan V13 Final std1.PDF on 17 May 2021.
- <sup>37</sup> *Ibid*.
- <sup>38</sup> Havelock North Street Names. Hastings District Council. HN Streenames.pdf.
- <sup>39</sup> Retrieved from <https://collection.mtghawkesbay.com/objects/56895> on 7 April 2021.
- <sup>40</sup> *New Zealand Gazette* (1981) p.2923.
- <sup>41</sup> Heritage Trails. *Havelock North Walks*, p.13. Retrieved from <https://www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/assets/Document-Library/Heritage-Trails/Havelock-North-Walks-Village-Karamu-Tainui.pdf> on 7 April 2021.
- <sup>42</sup> *Tainui, Tanner Tauroa and Hikanui Reserves Management Plan* (2015). Hastings District Council, p.11.