

ŌTĀNEWAINUKU

This sacred mountain of Waitaha is 645m high with many settlements located on and around it. Ōtānewainuku is the headwater of many local streams and its name means “the many waters that spring forth from the domain of Tāne (the god of the forests)”. Another definition is "the mountain of the parting waters, where the clouds meet the land, and the rain leaves the sky."

Te Rerenga Stream

The headwaters of Te Rerenga Stream originate at Ōtānewainuku, flowing down its sides to the Waiari River in the east and the Waimapu River in the west. Te Rerenga was an important source of water for Ōkōtare and Maungapiripiri pā at the top of Ōtānewainuku.

Maungapiripiri

Maungapiripiri is an area on the summit of Ōtānewainuku and an old pā site. When Hei heard that Tia wanted to claim Ōtānewainuku he and his sons met Tia at Maungapiripiri and told him to leave. Tia then settled at Tītīraupenga. The name Maungapiripiri (*maunga*, mountain; *piripiri*, to come together) commemorates this gathering.

Karioi

The peak of Ōtānewainuku was called Karioi and said to be the gathering place of the *patupaiarehe*, the guardians of Ōtānewainuku.

Ōkōtare

Ōkōtare is also located on the summit of Ōtānewainuku. The story of Ōtānewainuku, Pūwhenua and Mauao began here.

Waimihia

Waimihia was a seasonal encampment where kererū was preserved and other food was gathered from the forests.

Waikahikatea

This was a Waitaha pā with large cultivations.

Te Pātū-o-Tūpāhau

This was a papakāinga at Ōtānewainuku. Tūpāhau of Tainui was a grandchild of Tuparahaki and Kaihamu who supported Waitaha in battles against Ngāi Te Rangi. Tūpāhau's mercy to his opponent during one battle earned him the name 'Toa Rangatira'. His grandson was also named Toa-Rangatira and these descendants eventually formed the tribe of Ngāti Toa Rangatira.

Kahikatea

Kahikatea was a Waitaha pā with cultivations located on the Waoku Block near Ōtānewainuku.

Ōpakapaka

Ōpakapaka was a Waitaha pā with cultivations, located on the Waoku Block near Ōtānewainuku.

Whataroa

Whataroa was a seasonal encampment on the banks of the Whataroa river and used at different times of the year when harvesting food from the bush.

Panikau

Panikau was an encampment situated near Ōtānewainuku. It was used at different times of the year to harvest and preserve food.