

# PLACES TO VISIT

A visitor guide to New Zealand's rich historic buildings and sites in the North Island cared for by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust.



## 1 Kemp House

Built in 1832 in the shadow of Kororipo Pā, Kemp House is New Zealand's oldest building and first substantial European home. It was witness to dramatic encounters between powerful Māori chiefs and newly-arrived English missionaries. Take a guided tour of the house and garden, and hear the stories brought vividly to life of how trade, religion, politics, literacy and land deals played out against a sweeping background of war, personal ambition and hardship.



## 2 Kerikeri Stone Store

New Zealand's oldest stone building was completed in 1836, to warehouse mission trade goods. Later purchased by retired missionary James Kemp, it became a kauri gum trading store central to colonial lives. Today, the Stone Store offers a shopping experience like no other, selling authentic trade goods along with fabulous kiwiana-style merchandise. Upstairs, interactive displays recreate a sense of the Mission Station's time and place. Pick up a snack to enjoy in the garden or on the riverbank.



## 3 Edmonds Ruins

English stonemason John Edmonds arrived in 1834, expecting to build the Stone Store, only to find it was nearly completed by an Australian after a communications glitch. He established a wheat farm and stone house for his family, and made the country's first stone roller. The timber parts of the house were destroyed by fire in the 1880s but house and outbuilding ruins remain as part of a historic reserve.



## 4 Pompallier

The thickness of rammed local earth walls in this unique building fascinates visitors of all ages. Named for Bishop Pompallier of the French Marist mission, the French Provincial-style building in Russell was built in 1842 as a printery, tannery (for bookbinding) and storehouse. Nearly 40,000 books in Māori were printed here. Interactive printing, tanning and book-binding activities are very popular while a stroll in the colonial garden suits others.



## 5 Te Waimate Mission

Wander around New Zealand's second oldest surviving building and stroll in the gardens and paddocks that harbour the remains of the earliest farm in New Zealand. Developed by missionaries to bring European-style farming and Christianity to Māori, Te Waimate is one of the most atmospheric places you can visit. The sweeping gardens are ideal for relaxed picnics beneath the trees. The second signing of the Treaty of Waitangi was held here.



## 6 Clendon House

Nestled beside Hokianga Harbour, Clendon House links many historical strands. Trader and ship-owner James Reddy Clendon was the first US Consul and witnessed the Treaty of Waitangi. The simple lines, verandah and dormer windows reflect typical colonial architecture. His Māori wife, Jane managed family finances for her eight children for nearly 50 years after Captain Clendon died in debt. Many family pieces are presented in the house. Majestic oaks shelter the garden including fruit trees.



## 7 Mangungu Mission House

The native timber walls of Mangungu Mission House overlooking Hokianga Harbour were backdrop to Governor Hobson and leading Māori chiefs at the largest signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. The kauri timber-framed construction technique was a local first. Built for the Wesleyan (Methodist) Mission in 1838-39, missionary items, portraits and mementoes of local ship-building add to the historical ambience of the house. New Zealand's first honey bees were introduced here - a significant moment for New Zealand farming.



## 8 Alberton

Imagine the balls, garden parties and elite entertainments this imposing house has witnessed in nearly 150 years. The prominent Kerr-Taylor family introduced verandahs and exotic towers to their original 1863 farmhouse to create their mansion in Mt Albert. Sophie Kerr-Taylor managed the estate for 40 years, and was a strong women's rights advocate. The beautifully-preserved house is rich with family possessions, many original 19th-century wallpapers, and insights into a privileged slice of Auckland life.

*Photo: Grant Sheehan*



## 9 Ewelme Cottage

This charming house has the rare distinction of being lived in by the same family for a century. Fully furnished with authentic pieces revealing a day in Victorian family life, highlights include fascinating children's games and a major book collection. Built for Reverend Vicesimus and Blanche Lush in 1863-64 as a 'town' house for the then-rural Howick vicar, it is largely unchanged after 1880s extensions. The luxuriant cottage garden complements the house, with a majestic oak planted in 1866.



## 10 Highwic

One of Auckland's finest historic places, Highwic, its sweeping gardens and its action-packed events programme provide an oasis of history in bustling Newmarket. One of the country's best surviving Carpenter Gothic houses, Highwic was built by Alfred Buckland as a home for his large family (a prodigious 21 children). Open the door to Victorian family life, or take in the garden with its mature trees, sweeping lawns, fernery, formal beds and native plants.



## 11 Melanesian Mission Dining Hall

The Tudor Revival-style Melanesian Mission Building has a long association with education in the Auckland region. Originally part of St Andrew's College, an Anglican institution for the Christian education of Melanesian boys, it has also been home to naval training, an industrial school teaching work practices to 'neglected and destitute boys', even a flying school. Built from local basalt, and located in a picturesque setting, it is now leased as a restaurant.



## 12 Thames School of Mines

Thames gold mines produced nearly 70 tons of bullion. From 1885 the Thames School of Mines offered practical training in the science of gold mining, working to promote more efficient gold production. Once New Zealand's largest mining school, it finally closed in 1954. Today, its educational equipment and the buildings are the best preserved in the country. The mineralogical museum includes fossils from New Zealand and overseas, and one of Australasia's best mineral collections with over 3000 specimens.



## 13 Whangamarino Redoubt

In the heart of the Waikato region during the New Zealand Wars, British soldiers built the Whangamarino Redoubt in 1863 as an advance post in a chain of defensive forts. The outline can be seen in grassland. The earth-built fort was protected by a ditch and bank on two sides, and six metre high timber stockade and trench on two sides. Two 40-pounder guns shelled the Māori position, Te Teo Teo Pā, nearby on the Whangamarino Walkway.



## 14 Rangiriri Pā

One of the fiercest, most crucial battles of the Waikato campaign of the New Zealand Wars was fought here in November 1863, with heavy losses on both sides. A major defensive position, the pā was exceptionally strongly built and attacking British soldiers had to scale five metre high walls. Māori defenders were badly outnumbered. British soldiers are buried in a nearby cemetery. Part of the redoubt's structure has survived, although the inner wall (scarp) is reduced from the original size. Visit the Battlesite Heritage Centre in the main township.



## 15 Te Wheoro's Redoubt

During the battle at Rangiriri Pā in November 1863, this site and its Māori fortifications was captured by British soldiers, and an expanded redoubt built for the British garrison. In the more settled late 1860s it became a British military supply base, commanded by and named for the pro-government Māori chief Wiremu Te Wheoro, of the Ngāti Nahoto iwi, to protect the district in case fighting broke out again. The contours are visible in grassland.



## 16 Alexandra Redoubt

This well-preserved structure clearly shows the effective redoubt construction, with deep trenches and high earthworks. Built in 1869 by the Armed Constabulary when the town was named Alexandra (renamed Pirongia in 1896), it was part of a chain of regional fortifications. It was rebuilt in 1872 to provide refuge if necessary for settlers concerned about unrest, with the Māori King Tawhiao's settlement only two km away. It was abandoned in 1886.

*Photo: Kevin Jones, Department of Conservation*



## 17 Tapuae Haruru Redoubt

The redoubt's strategic location guarded the Waikato River crossing at Lake Taupo's outflow. Constructed in 1870 by the Armed Constabulary, the perceived threat from war leader Te Kooti came to nothing and in fact the redoubt saw no fighting and was abandoned in 1885. A comprehensive design, it included a telegraph station as well as quarters for officers and men and a reading room. The courthouse also functioned as Constabulary hall. An 1874 pumice-block magazine built to house munitions also survives.



## 18 Te Pōrere Redoubt

This evocative site saw the last major battle of the New Zealand Wars. In 1869, after being pursued by the Crown across the North Island, Māori leader Te Kooti fortified the redoubt by adapting classic British military techniques to create two levels of earth walls and outer ditch, with corner bastions. Te Kooti escaped capture, but 37 of his supporters were killed and are buried here. Enjoy the short walk through native bush.



## 19 Opotaka

Situated beside Lake Rotoaira and backed by swamps in a beautiful natural setting, Opotaka is the site of a 19th-century Māori kāinga (village). The remains of houses, kūmara storage pits and ovens are still visible at the site. From here, view Motuopuhi, on the other island in the lake, where the great chief Te Rauparaha wrote the haka that was later made famous by the All Blacks.



## 20 Springvale Bridge

Spanning the Rangitikei River, 'off the beaten track' on the Gentle Annie Road between Taihape and Napier, this stylishly engineered yet rare suspension bridge was opened in 1925 for farmers to send meat and wool to markets. In 1970 a new bridge superseded Springvale, but local sentiment saved the original. The area is enjoyed by locals and visitors as a picnic spot.



## 21 Hurworth Cottage

By the 1860s, the settlement of Hurworth near New Plymouth was a thriving self-sufficient community of six houses. During the Taranaki Wars, the families fled and all but this cottage was destroyed. The house was built by Harry Atkinson, who went on to become Premier of New Zealand four times. The simple rectangular cottage with front verandah and attractive garden is idyllic, while the early graffiti drawn on the walls is a reminder of more difficult times.

*Photo: Richard Roberts, Touch Design*



## 22 Antrim House

Built for Wellington businessman Robert Hannah, founder of Hannah's Footwear, and his family, Antrim House was both elegant and advanced for 1905. It is a grand house, built in the Italianate style with beautiful stained glass windows, kauri panelling and zinc ceilings but with modern touches like gas, electric lights and indoor bathrooms. There is a stable block and conservatory. Appropriately, it is the headquarters for the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and an oasis amid high-rise buildings.

*Photo: Grant Sheehan*



## 23 Old St Paul's

Undoubtedly Wellington's most loved church, its first Anglican cathedral is built from local materials in Gothic Revival style, and consecrated in 1866. The interior glows with native timbers, stained glass windows, memorial brasses and colourful flags, including the US Marines. Public protest saved Old St Paul's from demolition after a new cathedral was built in the 1960s. Still consecrated but not a parish church, Old St Paul's is used regularly for many cultural and spiritual events.

*Photo: Grant Sheehan*

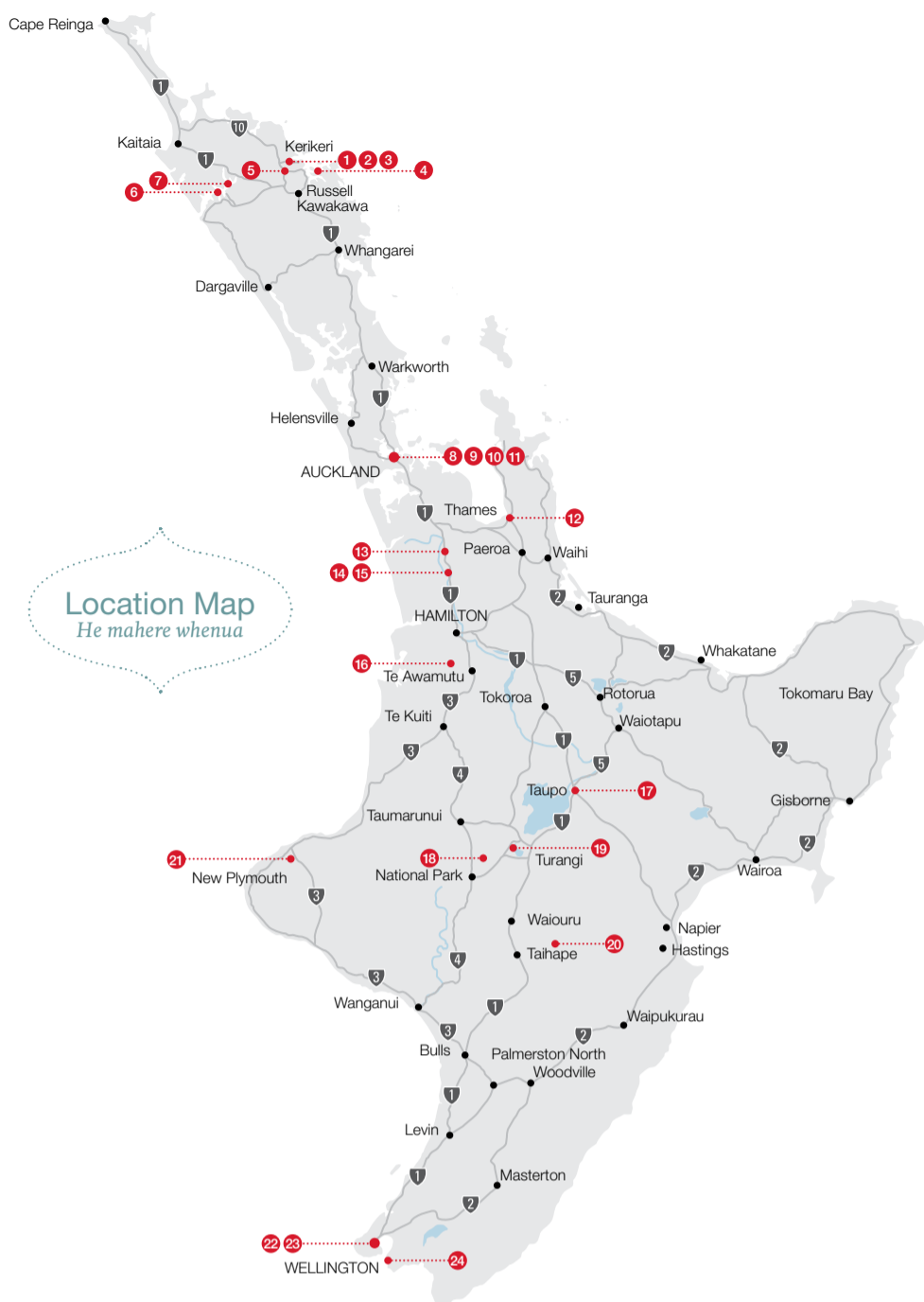


## 24 Pencarrow Lighthouse

On New Year's Day 1859, boatloads of Wellingtonians went to Wellington Harbour's Pencarrow Head to celebrate New Zealand's first permanent lighthouse lit "in all its brilliancy". The lighthouse was made of cast iron in England as a kitset and sent to New Zealand in 480 packages. Mary Jane Bennett, whose husband drowned on the rocks below, became lighthouse keeper, an extraordinary role for a well-brought up Englishwoman. Eventually the lighthouse was replaced with another at sea level for better visibility in fog.

*Photo: Grant Sheehan*

# Location map to New Zealand's rich historic buildings and sites in the North Island.



**1 Kemp House**  
246 Kerikeri Road,  
Kerikeri Basin, Kerikeri 0230  
t (09) 407 9236  
f (09) 407 9246  
e kmission@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
1 Nov - 30 Apr; daily, 10am - 5pm  
1 May - 31 Oct; daily, 10am - 4pm  
Closed Christmas Day.  
Entry by guided tour only

**2 Kerikeri Stone Store**  
246 Kerikeri Road,  
Kerikeri Basin, Kerikeri 0230  
t (09) 407 9236  
f (09) 407 9246  
e kmission@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
1 Nov - 30 Apr; daily, 10am - 5pm  
1 May - 31 Oct; daily, 10am - 4pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

**3 Edmonds Ruins**  
Edmonds Road, Kerikeri Inlet,  
20km from Kerikeri  
Exterior viewing at all times.  
The historic reserve is 250  
metres from the road.

**4 Pompallier Mission**  
The Strand, Russell,  
Bay of Islands 0202  
t (09) 403 9015  
f (09) 403 9030  
e pompallieradmin@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
1 Nov - 30 Apr; daily 10am - 5pm  
1 May - 31 Oct; daily 10am - 4pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

**5 Te Waimate Mission**  
344 Te Ahu Ahu Road, Waimate  
North 0472  
t/f (09) 405 9734  
e tewaimate@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
1 Nov - 30 Apr; Daily 10am - 5pm  
1 May - 31 Oct; Sat-Mon, 10am - 4pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

**6 Clendon House**  
14 Parnell Sreet,  
Rāwene 0470  
Enter from Clendon Esplanade  
t (09) 405 7874  
e clendon@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
1 Nov - 30 Apr;  
Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm  
1 May - 31 Oct;  
Sunday 10am - 4pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

Summer & Easter holidays;  
Thurs - Mon, 10am - 4pm  
Winter school holidays  
Sat & Sun, 10am - 4pm

**7 Māngungu Mission House**  
Motukiore Road, 3 km  
from Horeke, Hokianga Harbour  
t (09) 401 9640  
Open:  
1 Nov - 30 April;  
Sat & Sun, 12 noon - 4pm  
1 May - 31 October;  
Sun, 12 noon - 4pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

Summer & Easter school holidays;  
Thurs - Mon,  
12 noon - 4pm.

**8 Alberton**  
100 Mount Albert Road, Mount  
Albert, Auckland 1025  
t (09) 846 7367  
f (09) 846 1919  
e alberton@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
Wed - Sun, 10:30am - 4:30pm  
Closed Christmas Day, Good Friday.

**9 Ewelme Cottage**  
14 Ayr Street, Parnell,  
Auckland 1052  
t/f (09) 379 0202  
e ewelme@historic.org.nz  
Open: Sun, 10:30am - 4:30pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

**10 Highwic**  
40 Gillies Avenue, Epsom,  
Auckland 1023  
Enter via Mortimer Pass  
t (09) 524 5729  
f (09) 524 5575  
e highwic@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
Wed - Sun, 10:30am - 4:30pm  
Closed Christmas Day, Good Friday.

**11 Melanesian Mission  
Dining Hall**  
44 Tamaki Drive, Mission Bay,  
Auckland.  
Outside viewing at any time.  
The Melanesian Mission operates  
privately as a restaurant today.

**12 Thames School of  
Mines & Mineralogical  
Museum Te Apuranginui**  
Corner of Brown and Cochrane  
Streets, Thames 3500  
t (07) 868 6227  
e thameschoolofmines@historic.org.nz  
Open: Wed - Sun, 11am - 3pm  
Closed public holidays. Extended  
opening during summer.

**13 Whangamarino Redoubt**  
Oram Road, off State Highway 1,  
a short distance south of Mercer  
Outside viewing during daylight hours.  
Follow track from gate and stile.

**14 Rangiriri Pā**  
State Highway 1, 0.5 km north from  
Rangiriri township  
Outside viewing during daylight  
hours. Battlesite Heritage Centre in  
the township.

**15 Te Wheoro's Redoubt**  
Talbot Street, Rangiriri  
0.5 km from Rangiriri township,  
off Rangiriri Road  
Outside viewing during  
daylight hours.

**16 Alexandra Redoubt**  
Bellot Street, Pirongia  
Outside viewing during  
daylight hours.

**17 Tapuaeharuru Redoubt  
and Powder Magazine**  
Taupo Domain, Taupo  
Outside viewing during  
daylight hours.

**18 Te Pōrere Redoubt**  
State Highway 47, 26 km  
south-west of Turangi (near  
Tongariro National Park)  
Look for signpost, carpark is  
off the main highway.  
Outside viewing during  
daylight hours. 7 minutes walk  
from carpark.

**19 Opotaka**  
Te Ponanga Saddle Road,  
State Highway 47 between  
Turangi and National Park  
Watch for signpost from  
SH 47, an easy walk from  
the carpark.  
Outside viewing during  
daylight hours

**20 Springvale Bridge**  
Taihape-Napier Highway,  
Rangitikei  
Watch for signpost, short walk  
from road.  
Outside viewing during  
daylight hours

**21 Hurworth**  
906 Carrington Road,  
New Plymouth  
t (06) 759 2006  
e hurworth@historic.org.nz  
Open: Sat & Sun 11am - 3pm  
Closed Christmas Day.

**22 Antrim House**  
63 Boulcott Street,  
Wellington 6011  
t (04) 472 4341  
f (04) 499 0669  
e information@historic.org.nz  
Open:  
Mon - Fri, 9am - 5.00 pm  
Closed weekends, public holidays  
& 25 Dec - 3 Jan  
Access normally limited to parts of  
the downstairs area.

**23 Old St Paul's**  
34 Mulgrave Street, Thorndon,  
Wellington 6011  
t (04) 473 6722  
f (04) 473 6422  
e oldstpauls@historic.org.nz  
Open: Daily, 9.30am - 5pm  
Closed Christmas Day, Good Friday.  
May be closed for short periods for  
private functions.

**24 Pencarrow Lighthouse**  
Pencarrow Head, Eastbourne  
8km walk or cycle from Eastbourne  
along coastline  
Outside viewing at all times.  
Please go prepared for a rugged  
environment and changeable  
weather conditions.

## North Island.

*What makes New Zealand the place it is?*

*A dynamic young country, New Zealand has a unique heritage and culture. Mission stations, life-saving lighthouses, New Zealand war sites, pioneer cottages and grand houses all tell New Zealand's stories.*

*Historic places and buildings span the North Island, Te Ika a Māui. Individually and collectively, they offer visitors insights into the struggles and achievements of early days in a new country, and tales to spark the imagination.*

*Cared for by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, each featured heritage place adds colour to New Zealand's history. Presented in an increasingly interactive way, these treasures will enrich your understanding of New Zealand's diverse culture, both yesterday and today. Make them a highlight of your travelling plans!*

The properties featured here are just a small selection of the many fascinating heritage places located throughout the North Island of New Zealand. To obtain further details of where to go and how to get there, visit our website, contact the properties listed, the New Zealand Historic Places Trust or call into any visitor information centre.

### National Office

Antrim House  
63 Boulcott Street  
Wellington 6011  
PO Box 2629  
Wellington 6140

p (04) 472 4341  
f (04) 499 0669  
e information@historic.org.nz

Visit the Register Online to find out more about New Zealand's unique and diverse heritage places at [www.historic.org.nz](http://www.historic.org.nz).

### Group Tours

Groups are welcome at many of the properties featured in this brochure and can be arranged in advance by contacting the property directly.

### Admission

Modest admission fees apply to several of these properties. Admission is free if you are a member of the NZHPT or affiliated organisations. Surcharges may apply for special events and exhibitions.

### Join the NZHPT

Become a member of the NZHPT and help us keep our heritage places alive. Members receive a range of attractive benefits and privileges including a free subscription to *Heritage New Zealand*, discounts on heritage merchandise, accommodation and travel, and free admission to hundreds of heritage sites in New Zealand and overseas.

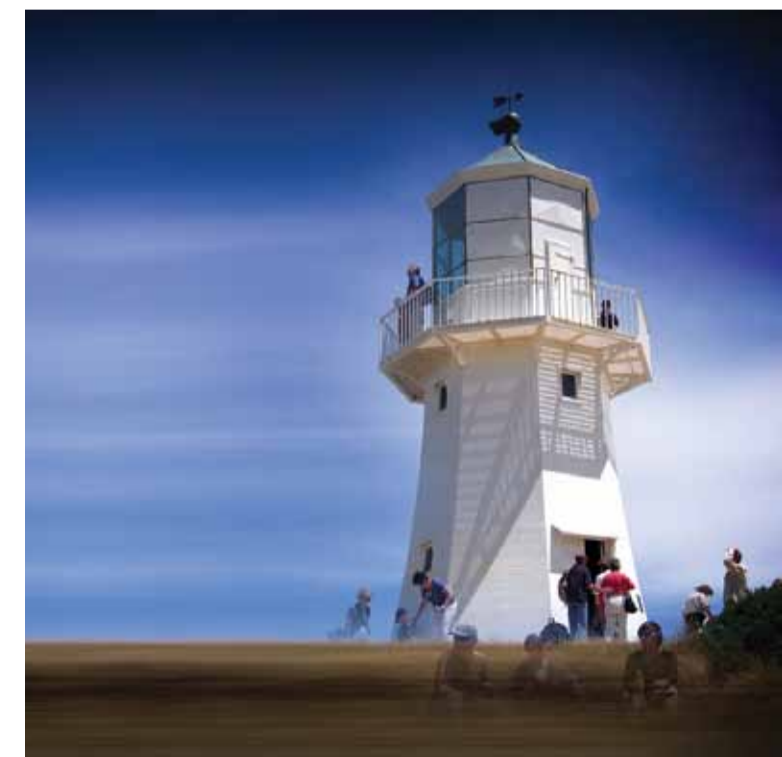
To join, contact Membership Services tollfree on 0800 802 010, or enrol online at [www.historic.org.nz](http://www.historic.org.nz)

The NZHPT welcomes bequests and donations.

### NEW ZEALAND

# North ISLAND

*Ngā wāhi taonga o te Ika a Māui*



Visitor Guide

A visitor guide to New Zealand's rich historic buildings and sites in the North Island.



[www.historic.org.nz](http://www.historic.org.nz)  
[www.historicplaces.org.nz](http://www.historicplaces.org.nz)

*The opening times published in this brochure were correct as of June 2011.*

[www.historicplaces.org.nz](http://www.historicplaces.org.nz)

Photo: Old St Paul's, Grant Sheehan