

Te Kāhui Mātauranga o Puke Ariki

Pre-visit information

Parihaka - Contested Ground

Year 11 - Year 13

Te Pua Wānanga o Taranaki / Taranaki Research Centre



Parihaka 1881

Collection of Puke Ariki A64-034

Parihaka, a community established in western Taranaki in 1866, became the symbol of peaceful resistance to the confiscation of Māori land. On 5th November 1881, about 1600 Armed Constabulary and volunteer troops marched on Parihaka. Te Whiti o Rongomai, Tohu Kākahi and Titokowaru, the political and spiritual leaders of Parihaka, and many others were arrested and imprisoned without trial. The buildings and cultivations of the community were destroyed. However, against all odds and difficulties, Parihaka was rebuilt, and the community still exists today. Understanding the events relating to Parihaka offers opportunities to engage with the past in a bid to move to a better future.

Specialists within the Puke Ariki Heritage Team in the Taranaki Research Centre (Te Pua Wānanga o Taranaki) support and guide secondary school students to learn research skills necessary for NCEA and tertiary level study.

Explore our collections and learn more about Parihaka and the peaceful resistance movement during 19th century Taranaki. Students will learn how to access research material to answer focus questions for achievement standards and add authentic material to their referencing.

Students will be able to access a wide range of authentic references and take copies if required for assessment.

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Puke Ariki



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Level 1: Students can expect to learn about how to access primary and secondary resources held in the Taranaki Research Centre. The staff will give the students activities and tasks to become familiar with the resources and to look for useful items for their achievement standards.

Level 2 & 3: Students, who can remember their way around the Taranaki Research Centre, can move straight into researching their focus questions. For students, either whole class or small groups who have not accessed the centre before, the Taranaki Research Centre staff will give an introduction and familiarization lesson before students can work on their own focus questions.

Primary Sources:

- Newspapers (Papers Past or microfilm)
- Maps
- Journals, diaries and letters (archives and transcripts)
- Official publications
- Posters and Declarations
- Photographs and Artworks

Secondary Sources

- Published books
- Journal articles
- Thesis
- Waitangi Tribunal Reports
- Websites

Curriculum Links:

Social Science: This topic covers elements of NCEA History Level 1-3.

Web links:

- [The New Zealand Wars 4 - Taranaki Prophets \(Episode Four\) Television NZ \(Excerpts\) – 1998](#)
- [Beyond Guilt – Parihaka - Radio New Zealand](#)
- [Parihaka: a photographic survey - YouTube](#)

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