

Tiritiri Matangi Island timeline

Māori settlement

c.1400 Māori first visit Tiritiri Matangi. **C.1500** Māori living on the Island.

1821 - Māori driven off by Ngāpuhi with muskets.

1841 - New Zealand Government assume ownership.

Farming History

1854 - European farming begins. Tiritiri Matangi Island is cleared by fire for this.

1902 - 1071 - Hobbs has the Tiritiri Matangi Island farming lease .

1939 - Burn-off halted for security reasons.

Farming stock was taken off the Island.

1945 - Farming returned back to the Island.

1964 - Island burnt off again.

Military History 1939 - 1945

The day after the Second World War was declared, Royal New Zealand Volunteer Reserve members were sent to live on the Island to man the Port War Signal Station.

Conservation History

1971 - Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park Board now in charge.

Dr John Craig and Dr Neil Mitchell bring university students to study korimako, tūī, kiore and revegetation.

1974 - First translocation of 35 kākāriki.

1980 - Island is Tiritiri Matangi Island Scientific Reserve.

1983 - Seeds gathered from surviving trees on the Island or nearest source. Funding from WWF, Fisher & Paykel, ASB and John Logan Trust (\$40,000). Plant nursery built.

1984 - First translocation of 24 tieke.

1984 - 94 - Trees are grown from seed and planted by volunteers. Only 60% of the Island was planted to allow for species that prefer open habitats and to allow access to views.

1986 - Ray Walter becomes a Lands and Survey employee.

1987 - First translocation of 6 pāteke.

1988 - Supporters of Tiritiri Matangi formed following an idea by Jim and Barbara Battersby. Wharf Road built.

1989 - First translocation of 40 pōpokotea.

1991 - First translocation of 2 Takahē.

1992 - First translocation of 44 toutouwai.

1993 - First translocation of 10 kiwi pukupuku. Kiore eradicated.

1995 - First translocation of 37 hihi.

1997 - First translocation of 3 kōkako.

2001 - First translocation of 13 mātātā.

2003 - First translocation of 60 Tuatara.

2006 - First translocation of 29 duvaucel gecko and 30 shore skinks.

2009 - First translocation of 31 titipounamu.

2011 - First translocation of 25 wētāpunga.

2017 - First translocation of 9 elegant gecko.

Maritime History

1864- Lighthouse built in England and assembled on the Island. Lighthouse keepers, signalmen and their families lived on the island.

1865, 1st January - lighthouse first illuminated, burning colza (canola) oil.

1880 - Paraffin oil was used.

1916 - An improved pressurised system.

1925 - A flashing acetylene light.

1935 - Diaphonic foghorn installed

1955 - Diesel generators providing electric light

1965 - The Davis Marine Light creating the

brightest light in the southern hemisphere

1984 - A less powerful quartz iodine light.

1984 - Last keeper (Ray Walter) withdrawn

1991 - A conversion to solar panel powered batteries

2002 - An upgrade to brighter New Zealand built light

2007 - Lighthouse repainted

2019 - Flashing LED light installed

2022 - Lighthouse repainted

2023 - Mast installed