

An aerial photograph showing a wide river with a light brown, silty flow winding through a valley. The valley floor is a mix of green grass and brown, eroded soil. A small town with numerous houses and buildings is situated on the right side of the river. The surrounding hills are covered in green vegetation, with some areas showing signs of erosion or deforestation. The text "Aerial Photos" is overlaid in a large, blue, serif font with a white outline.

Aerial Photos



Aerial Photos

While the word content of the Koitiata History project fills in the detail, the photos add context to the words. A picture is worth a thousand words.

The aerial photos included in this collection span the years from 1942 when Koitiata was struggling to be established. They capture in a visual format, the shaky start, and then the eventual growth.

Photo Resolution

Some of these photo files were received in a large file size and format.

They have needed to be compressed to make them suitable for presentation in these pages and the site viewing format. The result is that some detail may have been degraded in that process.

An additional page with access to all ten photos in a higher-resolution format has been created for 'zoomed in' viewing. Access is via the icon *[go to page]* at the end of History page. They will open in the site viewer or your browser.



[APH = Aerial Photo] **Contents**

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Aerial Photo 1

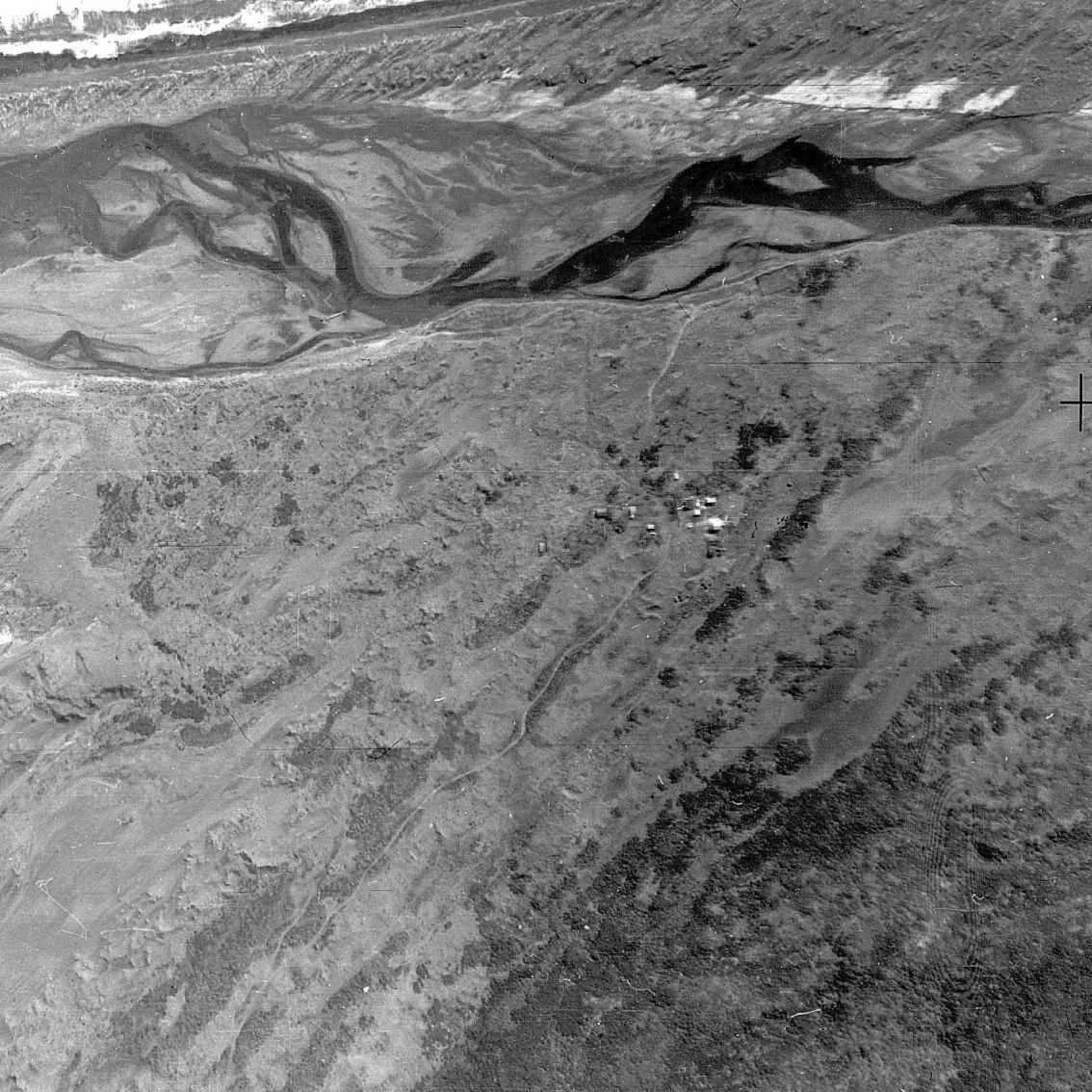
1942

This is a section of the photo taken by RNZAF.

It was acquired as the result of a bit of a cheeky stab-in-the-dark email sent to Ohakea air base asking, “Being that the old bombing range adjacent to the village was used during WW2 for practice, was the recording of results via aerial photography also a thing. And if it was, would there still be any old shots still available that recorded the village from that period?”

The request was passed onto the keeper of photos at the Airforce Museum at Wigram, and he eventually came back with, “I’ve found a photo of the area and it looks like there are some sheds in the middle of nowhere.”

Those “sheds” were the baches of the die- hard pioneers that moved from the buried under sand Rapaki street area and stuck it out “in the middle of nowhere.”



Aerial Photo 2

1967

This photo was supplied by Archives Central, Feilding, from their collection of RDC records.

The original of this photo has a notation referring to 'Gas Line, NP-PN'. That would suggest it was taken when surveying for the gas line.

It also shows that it was taken from a height of 16, 500 feet (5029 metres).



Aerial Photo 3

1968

This photo was supplied by Archives Central, Feilding, from their collection of RDC records.

A feature of this photo is that it shows the width of the river opposite the village. Getting to the beach was a bit of a challenge.

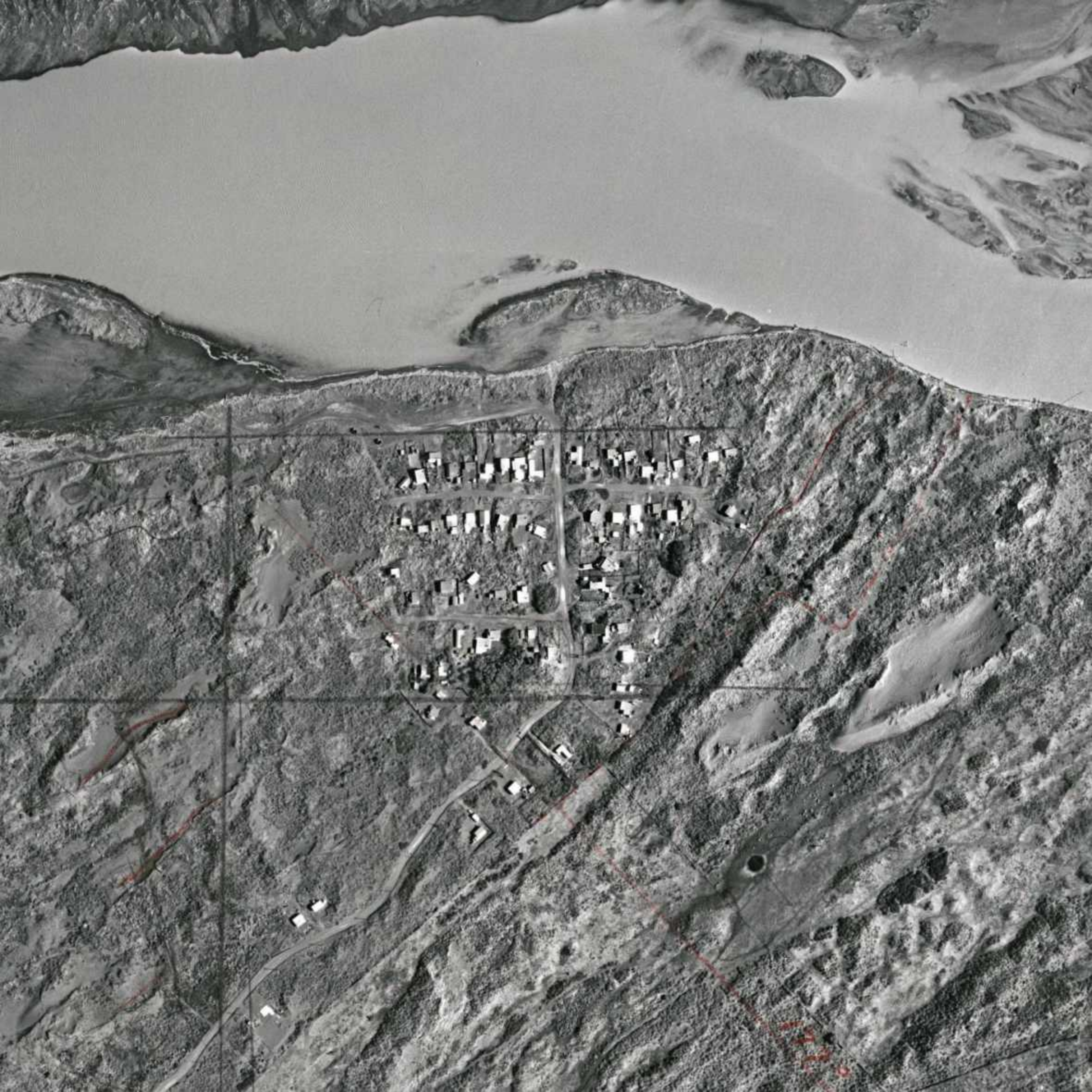


Aerial Photo 4

1968

This photo was supplied by Archives Central, Feilding, from their collection of RDC records.

This a 'zoomed-in' copy of the 1968 photo.



Aerial Photo 5

1973 (*Est.*)

This photo was sourced from somewhere within the village.

This shows that Wainui street is filling up, and the beach access challenge.



Aerial Photo 6

1979

This photo was supplied by Archives Central, Feilding, from their collection of RDC records.

The recently built toilet/shower block is visible, and has now just been renovated, 43 years later. The camping ground was still located on the 'domain'.

Also, clearly visible in this photo are the planting ridges in the new forest area. Because most of the ground was very damp the ridges were formed for planting into and to provide drainage from around the young trees.

The rubbish dump at the end of the track from Omanu street is visible. Omanu street was colloquially known as "Dump Road" for some time. A resident complained to RCC demanding that it 'do something about it' and a street sign was erected, *[no, it didn't say Dump Road]*.



Aerial Photo 7

1998

This photo was sourced from Pat and Neil Powell.

This shows village with Rapaki street extension.

Taken after the river mouth broke through and left the lagoon in front of the village.



Aerial Photo 8

1998

This photo was sourced from Pat and Neil Powell.

This shows the Rapaki street extension, including the camping ground.

Taken after the river mouth broke through and left the lagoon in front of the village.



Aerial Photo 9

2010

This photo was sourced from
LINZ Data Service.

Koitiata is basking in sunshine.
At the Beach.

