



smaller mound humps, obelisks, standing stone arrangements including circle trigs, boulder cairns, smaller component rock cairns, alignment trenches, sighting pits, sea-cliff benchmark excavations for elevation work and determining overland mountain heights above sea level, surveyor's baselines and the clever use of the natural landscape or sea horizon. Beyond these purely surveying related structures there are standing stone circles for astronomy and solar observatories that can also use an equinox or solstice fix for land-based navigation."

Furthermore, eminent British Archaeologist, Aileen Fox remarked on the distinct similarities between Maori Pa (forts) and the ancient, palisade encompassed, pre-Celtic hill forts of Britain. Leading historian Elsdon Best said: "The Maori did not live in this manner in his former home in eastern Polynesia. Did he evolve the pa system after he settled here, or did he borrow it from former inhabitants?" Another pertinent question asked is: If the Polynesian Maori brought their artefacts and cultural symbols and motifs here, then why are they not found in their lands of origin? Professor Thor Heyerdahl wrote: 'Irrespective of how and when the Maori began to cover their carvings with spirals, the habit is absent in their Polynesian homeland.'

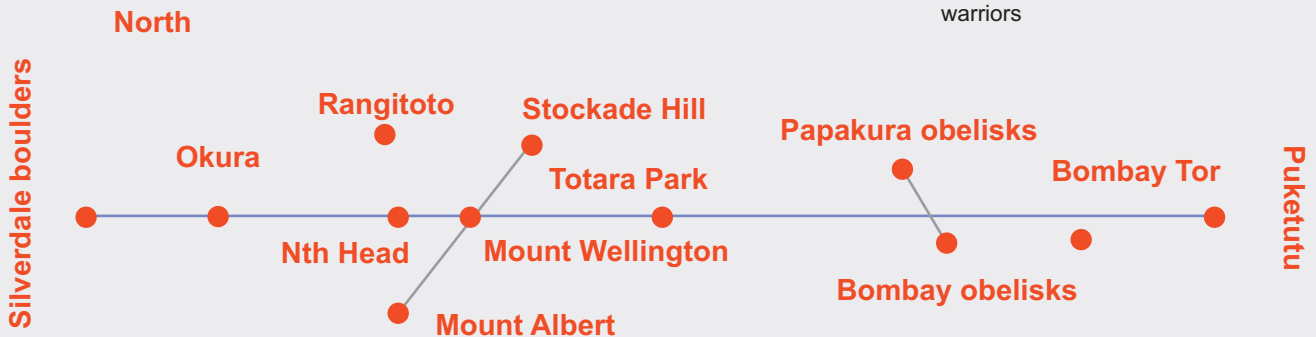
To understand our ancient New Zealanders, we need to look further. Using the well-known, ratio-related measurement standards of the ancient cousin civilisations of the Mediterranean and Europe, Martin is able to demonstrate that many archaeological sites, scattered over several continents, acted as ancient open air 'universities,' constructed by the selfsame confederation of world travellers.



In 2002 the equinox was observed once more from Stockade Hill. A piper played as the sun sank and touched the trench on the crest of Mt Wellington



Three standing stones atop Moehau Mountain, in a remote part of the rugged Coromandel ranges were photographed in 1979. Maori oral history speaks of the people who fled to the ranges, under siege by Maori warriors



Aligned markers cover the length and breadth of New Zealand. In the Auckland area alone, starting from the north at the Silverdale boulders, the line crosses the high ground at Okura and there is another mound marker there, perfectly located on the ridgeline. The line then runs down the coastline, brushing between North Head and Mt. Victoria in Devonport, then crosses a boulder cairn at Bastion point and proceeds onwards to the ancient trig mound on Mt. Wellington. It then passes over the large mound at Totara Park in Manurewa before resolving on the highest point of Mt. William (Puketutu). All along this alignment, off to each side, are secondary markers that relate in a surveying sense to the "main-trunk-line".

These overland-surveying alignment structures were once a part of a larger land-mapping complex, including the Bombay obelisk trig boulders that acted as a major southern marker to the Auckland Isthmus. These interrelated sites stretched through the entirety of Auckland from Bombay to Moirs' Hill north of Puhoi.

The main north-south alignment traverses a shorter east-west equinox alignment extending from Stockade Hill in Howick, through the crest trench at Mt. Wellington and onward to the marker stone boulder atop Mt. Albert. The long alignment from Silverdale to Bombay also traverses another short (true north-south) alignment that extends from an observatory and trig site at Red Hill in Papakura to the obelisk cluster at Bombay. Pukekohe Hill serves as an appendage site to the main alignment and an incised arrow in a rock within the Mt. William complex points at Pukekohe Hill. A secondary trig of double stones at Bastion Point, sitting some four hundred feet offline northeast from the boulder cairn marking the main alignment through Auckland, works well as a solar observatory. It fixes upon the southern side of distant Moehau Mountain on the Coromandel Range as its equinox sunrise marker. It also acts as a centre hub for viewing and taking angle fixes onto prominent hills of the Auckland Isthmus and outlying islands. The hills within full view of the two Bastion Point boulder trigs include Mt Eden, with Mt. Albert tucked behind, Mt. Hobson, Three Kings, One Tree Hill, Mt. Wellington, Mt Victoria, North Head, as well as many outlying Islands including Rangitoto, Motutapu, Waiheke and Great Barrier, with the Coromandel Ranges sitting eastward.