

1350s

Puhirangi Pā was built a the primary fortress for Ngāi Tara iwi. It was later occupied in the early 1500s by Ngāi Tara chief Te Rangitūpewa. Covering around 1630 m2, it included around 30 wharepuni (houses) and a large marae complex.



1835

Ngāti Te Whiti people settled at Te Karaka and at Te Māhanga. Te Karaka became a permenant settlement until the end of the 1800s.



1340s

Te Motu Kairaingi's oldest and most prestigious fortified pā, Te Whetūkairangi, was built by Tara and his people.



C1460

The Haowhenua earthquake uplifted Miramar, turning it from an isolated island into a connected peninsula.



1835

Final migration of three Te Āti Awa hapū from Wairapa to Motukairangi / Miramar.



1897

Te Whetūkairangi pā was demolished to make way for Worser Bay School, the first school on the peninsula.



1825 - 1835

Te Ngāti Mutunga iwi established a kainga (village) at Marukaikura / Shelly Bay.



1830

James 'Worser' Heberley began living with Te Āti Awa, marrying Maata Te Wai Naihi, and worked as a ship's pilot, guiding vessels in and out of the harbour.



After three years of intensive trapping, Miramar Peninsula was declared possum-free. This allowed native birds such as the tuī to return

to the peninsula.



2023

After years of trapping and monitoring by community groups and residents,
Miramar Peninsula is declared predetor free. Native bird and invertebrate populations continue to grow.



1942

The Point Halswell Anti-Aircraft
Battery was built to house large guns
that would defend New Zealand
against air attack during WWII.



1907

Planting of pines by prisoners began on the eastern slopes, then around Point Halswell and by April 1915, 140,000 trees had been planted with plans for 90,000 more that year.



1885

Terraced hut sites and massive tōtara posts at Te Māhanga pā were excavated by prisoners to build Fort Balance. Built in response to the threat of Russian invasion, it is a large defence structure still mostly intact today.



1920

Point Halswell Women's Prison opened as New Zealand's first prison to house women completely separately to men.



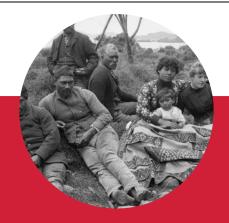
1927

The Terrace Gaol was demolished and the new Wellington Prison (also known as Mt Crawford prison) was built by prisoners.



1954

A new greenhouse was built for the Miramar Prison Garden, built by prisoners and using plans drafted by a returned serviceman, based on an English design



1910s

The last Te Āti Awa whanau leave Te Motu Kairangi / Miramar Peninsula due to increasing urbanisation and social prejudice.



1844

James Coutts Crawford purchased and subdivided most of the Miramar Peninsula, leaving the northern end as a military reserve.



1847

Para Lagoon, which filled the flat area of Miramar Peninsula and was a source of eel and crayfish, was drained by James Coutts Crawford to create a cattle farm.



2011

Cabinet agreed that Te Motu Kairangi /
Watts Peninsula should be protected and
preserved for the celebration and
enjoyment of national heritage, culture
and arts.



2012

Wellington Prison permanently closed due to building age and poor living conditions. An open day was held attracting large crowds.



2023

Fast-track approval was sought by
The Wellington Company and Port
Nicholson Settlement Trust for a 700+
home development on the site of the
former prison. It was rejected after
community objection.



2013

The Miramar Prison Garden was established as a community garden on the grounds of the former Wellington Prison.



1968

The same storm that caused the Wahine ferry to wreak off the coast of Seatoun beach also knocked down most of the pine trees growing all over Mātai Moana. These trees were grown and planted by prisoners.

