

Section 7.—About 50 acres shallow peat swamp, balance easy to steep spurs covered with fern; nearly all ploughable; watered by spring.

Section 8.—Easy fern-covered slopes, which are all ploughable; watered by several small springs.

*Block VII.*

Section 10.—Easy fern spurs, all ploughable; about 10 acres good swamp; good flats along Mangatarata Stream; watered by springs and Mangatarata Stream.

Section 11.—Easy fern spurs, all ploughable; good swamp in gullies, where water can be obtained.

Sections 14 and 20.—Easy fern spurs, practically all ploughable; good flats along Mangatarata Stream, which provides permanent water.

*Block VIII.*

Section 1.—About 20 acres good peat swamp, balance low-lying ploughable spurs; watered by springs.

Section 2.—About 40 acres good peat swamp, balance low-lying ploughable spurs; watered by drains.

Section 3.—About 40 acres good peat swamp, balance low-lying spurs; nearly all ploughable; watered by drains.

Section 4.—About 35 acres low-lying ploughable spurs, balance shallow to deep peat swamp; water can be obtained from the drains.

Section 5.—About 50 acres low-lying ploughable spurs, balance shallow to deep peat swamp; water can be obtained in gullies.

Section 6.—About 20 acres low-lying ploughable spurs, balance shallow to deep peat swamp; water can be obtained in drains.

Section 7.—About 30 acres shallow peat swamp, balance low-lying fern spurs; practically all ploughable; water can be obtained in gullies.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

The sections included in the settlement are situated near Waitakaruru, on the western side of the Hauraki Plains.

The access is from Waitakaruru, four miles and a half distant from the northern end of the settlement, of which distance two miles and a half is formed dray-road, the balance being passable for dray traffic. Waitakaruru has a regular bi-weekly launch service from Thames, twelve miles distant, while launches run at irregular intervals in addition.

At Waitakaruru there is a post-office which has telephonic communication with Thames, two stores, and a saleyard, but before long a small township will be cut up in the vicinity. From Waitakaruru there is a good road to Pipiroa, five miles and three-quarters distant, on the Piako River, where there is a regular daily launch service to Thames. Of this road three miles and a quarter have been metalled, the balance being formed dray-road.

Access can also be obtained from Pokeno Railway-station on the Main Trunk Railway, about thirty-one miles distant, but the last five miles of the road have not been formed yet.

Morrinsville Railway-station is thirty-six miles distant from the south end of the settlement, the whole distance being suitable for dray traffic. The last two miles and a half of the road outside the settlement are not formed, but this work will be undertaken at an early date.

Ohinewai Railway-station can also be reached by means of the Kaihere Road, a distance of thirty-one miles, of which two miles and a half are unformed.

The nearest school is situated about two miles from the block, on the road to Waitakaruru, but a school-site has been reserved at the junction of the Cross Road with the Morrinsville-Waitakaruru Road.

The sections comprise good peat swamp, covered with wiwi and flax; and the adjoining low-lying foothills, which are in most cases ploughable, are covered with fern and manuka and a few clumps of bush. The altitude ranges from 20 ft. to 350 ft. above sea-level. Most of the sections are watered by springs or small streams.

As witness the hand of His Excellency the Governor, this seventeenth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and fourteen.

H. D. BELL,  
For Minister of Lands.

*Opening Settlement Lands in Auckland Land District for Selection.*

LIVERPOOL, Governor.

IN pursuance and exercise of the powers and authorities conferred upon me by the Land Act, 1908, and the Land for Settlements Act, 1908, and amendments, I, Arthur William de Bricq Savile, Earl of Liverpool, the Governor of the Dominion of New Zealand, do hereby declare that the

settlement lands described in the Schedule hereto shall be open for selection on renewable lease on Tuesday, the sixteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and fifteen, at the rentals mentioned in the said Schedule; and I do also declare that the said lands shall be leased under and subject to the provisions of the said Acts.

SCHEDULE.

AUCKLAND LAND DISTRICT.—OTAMATEA COUNTY.—PARAHU SETTLEMENT.

*First-class Land.*

Section.	Block.	Area.	Rent per Acre per Annum (approximate).	Half-yearly Rental.
MATAKOHE SURVEY DISTRICT.				
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1	I	386 3 37	0 3 10	39 12 0
1	V	252 1 30	0 5 9	36 9 0
2	"	260 3 6	0 6 10 5	45 0 0
3	"	321 3 0	0 6 1 5	49 10 0
4	"	349 3 0	0 4 2 5	36 18 0
5	"	198 0 0	0 9 1	45 0 0
6	"	168 1 0	0 10 8 5	45 0 0
7	"	123 0 0	0 14 7 5	24 1 8 †
7	"	123 0 0	0 14 7 5	45 0 0
TOKATOKA SURVEY DISTRICT.				
1	VIII	59 0 0	0 16 2	23 17 0

\* Interest and sinking fund on buildings valued at £250; payable in cash, or by twenty half-yearly instalments of £16 3s. 9d. Total half-yearly payment, £65 13s. 9d.

† Interest and sinking fund on buildings valued at £500; payable in cash, or by thirty half-yearly instalments of £24 1s. 8d. Total half-yearly payment, £69 1s. 8d.

DESCRIPTIONS OF SECTIONS.

*Block I, Matakoho Survey District.*

Section 1.—Altitude, 80 ft. to 350 ft. above sea-level. Undulating to hilly land, well watered. That part of the section along the Mangonui River is flat and low-lying, and subject to overflow from the river. Along this flat there is kahikatea bush, trees small and of no commercial value. The greater portion of the section has been at one time sown with grass, but fern has made its appearance. Section is ring fenced, but fences on east and west boundaries are inferior. Situated thirteen miles from either Ruawai or Matakoho by formed road, except 70 chains access road.

The improvements which are included in the capital value of the land consist of half share in 25 chains boundary fence, £15 12s. 6d.; 27 chains internal fence, £16 17s. 6d. The inferior fencing above referred to has not been valued or charged for.

*Block V, Matakoho Survey District.*

Section 1.—Undulating land. Altitude, 100 ft. to 360 ft. above sea-level. Covered with grass and fern. Small patches of bush left for shelter. Well watered by small streams. Eleven miles and a half from Ruawai or thirteen miles from Matakoho by formed road, except 50 chains access to section.

The improvements included in the capital value consist of half share in 25 chains boundary fencing, £15 12s. 6d.; sheep-yards, £30; and 66 chains internal fencing, £41 5s. The eastern boundary has an irregular post and rail fence which has not been valued.

Section 2.—Undulating land. Altitude, 100 ft. to 350 ft. above sea-level. Practically all in grass. Soil of heavy nature; well watered. Small patches of bush left for shelter. This section is a portion of what was known as the "fattening paddock." Eleven miles and three-quarters from Ruawai or thirteen miles from Matakoho by formed road, except 30 chains access road.

The improvements included in the capital value consist of half share in 62 chains boundary fence, £38 15s.; 69 chains internal fence, £43 2s. 6d.; and 23 chains irregular road fence, £6 18s. This latter fence will require to be removed slightly to correct boundary.

Section 3.—270 acres easy hilly country, in good grass; 49 acres mixed bush and grass. Altitude, 100 ft. to 500 ft. above sea-level. Eleven miles from Ruawai or twelve from Matakoho by formed road.

The improvements included in the capital value consist of half share in 48 chains boundary fencing, £30; 128 chains give-and-take road fencing, £38 8s.; and 150 chains internal fencing, £93 15s.