

Manunui

Ko Manunui te waha o te Marangai, hō!
Manunui, the mouthway to Ngāi Tamarāwaho

The bountiful garden beds of Manunui Pā at the borders of Hangarau. Renowned for prevailing winds or turbulence of this section of the Tauranga harbour.

Manunui is a significant pā site, a pā tūwatawata, a fortified pā. Manunui Pā gave protection and security to the Ngāi Tamarāwaho tribal lands from its high vantage point.

This maunga and pā overlooks Te Waha o te Marangai down below toward Bethlehem, north-west into the harbour to Hangarau, and north across to Oreanui pā and Matuaiwi pā on the end of Matua Peninsula.

A significant history of Manunui talks of a karoro, a seagull, witnessing and singing the tale of a wāhine called Hinawa down below in a nearby estuary. Where she took it upon herself to avoid a great wrong being done to her, and in doing so preserving what she saw as an unwanted future. From the lament called E Rere Te Karoro, her legacy of mana wāhine was forged for eternity.