

## Nikau

A small school situated on the road to the Pahiatua Track if you turn off State Highway 2 at the Mangamaire turnoff going north. Then cross the single lane bridge over the Mangahao River and wind up the right hand hill to the flat lands 17 Kilometres from Pahiatua via Mangamaire

### 1894-1896

1894		Nikau	Not yet Open					
1895	19	Nikau	Floyd	Edward		Master	£67	\$12,147
1896	13	Nikau	Hardwick	Kate		Female	£70	\$12,613

31<sup>st</sup> May 1894 A request was received from a number of settlers at Nikau, asking for a grant of £10 in aid of a school

31<sup>st</sup> August 1894 Mr T. R. Fleming, B.A., one of the Education Board inspectors, has returned from a three weeks' visit to schools in the Forty Mile Bush. During his absence he paid surprise visits to 16 schools between Masterton and Mangatainoka, all of which were fairly satisfactory, with the exception of two or three, in which changes have already been decided upon by the Education Board. He also made enquiries as to the requirements of Scarborough and Nikau in regard to school accommodation.

26<sup>th</sup> April 1895 Mr T R Fleming Inspector to visit Nikau School on the 9<sup>th</sup> March

31<sup>st</sup> July 1895 Wellington Education Board Mr. McCardle promised to report regarding the question of erecting a residence at Nikau.

Mr. Flood [Sic Floyd] was appointed sole teacher of the Nikau School

28<sup>th</sup> August 1895 Wellington Education Board On the motion of Mr. McCardle, the Chairman was instructed to apply to the School Commissioners for five acres of the Nikau education reserve as a school site.

Edward Floyd only taught for the Wellington Education Board at Nikau. An Edward Floyd was often in Court for Drunkenness but not in 1895 when a Edward Floyd was teaching at Nikau.

Kate Hardwick started teaching in 1892 at Mt Cook Infants and finished in the next three years as a pupil teacher at Kaitara school before moving to Nikau for one year and then going to Nireaha for 1897

1899/1375	Kate	Hardwick	Henry	Means
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Kate Hardwick and Henry Means are difficult to follow

A Henry Means had 4 children with a Catherine Means and this could be the above.

Neither a Kate or Catherine Means died in New Zealand

29<sup>th</sup> January 1896 Miss McKenzie was appointed to take Miss Hardwick's place [Kate Hardwick was still at Nikau in December 1896]

10<sup>th</sup> April 1896 Inspector Lee to inspect Nikau on the 30<sup>th</sup> April

1<sup>st</sup> June 1896 Miss Hardwick, formerly of "Wellington, who was assistant teacher at the Kaitara school for some time, has been promoted to the charge of the aided school at Nikau, near Pahiatua.

25<sup>th</sup> June 1896 Wellington Education Board The chairman was deputed to appoint teachers for Nikau and Levin schools.

5<sup>th</sup> November 1896 Drawing Examinations Nikau Louis Gardner passed

### 1897-1898

1897	14	Nikau	Bowden	Thomas R		Master	£56	\$9,994
1898	14	Nikau	Bowden	Thomas R		Master	£80	\$13,704

11<sup>th</sup> February 1897 A new school at Nireaha, a few miles beyond Newman, is to be opened on Monday-, 5th March, under the charge of Miss Hardwick, who has been promoted from the Nikau school.

16<sup>th</sup> February 1897 Inspector Lee to visit on the 19<sup>th</sup> March

30<sup>th</sup> March 1897 NIKAU. On the west by the Pahiatua County boundary ; on the north by the Makomako School District; on the east by the Mangahao River ; on the south by the southern boundary of the Pahiatua County,

14<sup>th</sup> April 1897 he aided school at Nikau, near Pahiatua, which has been closed since the appointment of the late mistress to another school, was re-opened this week with 12 scholars. Mr. T. R. Bowden now has charge.

7<sup>th</sup> March 1898 Inspector Lee to visit on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March

T R Bowden only taught for the Wellington Education Board at Nikau School In 1894 T R Bowden was teacher at Mangaweka. In 1900 he was teacher at Te Awaite the whaling station in Queen Charlotte Sound then he went to Cullensville for the Marlborough Education Board He then went to Fairhall school just out of Blenheim

### 1899-1902

1899	16	Nikau	Wilson	Mary H		Female	£80	\$14,195
1900	27	Nikau	Wilson	Mary H		Female	£90	\$15,647
1901	28	Nikau	Wilson	Mary H		Female	£117	\$19,752
1902	27	Nikau	Wilson	Mary H		Female	£128	\$21,103
1903	20	Nikau	Davies	Jane E		Female	£124	\$20,554

25<sup>th</sup> January 1899 Wellington Education Board Petitions for and against the removal of the Kaiwarra School were ordered to stand over, and requests for new schools at Mangamaire and Nikau were referred to the Inspector.

25<sup>th</sup> February 1899 Mr T R Fleming inspector to visit on the 28<sup>th</sup> February

8<sup>th</sup> July 1899 Sole teacher Nikau average 15 Salary about £80

27<sup>th</sup> July 1899 Wellington Education Board The resignation of Thomas R Bowden was accepted

7<sup>th</sup> August 1899 Miss Wilson, at present in temporary charge of the Makomako School, has been appointed teacher of the Nikau School, and will be succeeded at Makomako by Mr. W. Philip, of the Pahiatua School.

27<sup>th</sup> September 1899 Wellington Education Board was resolved to erect schools at To Aupapa and Nikau, when funds are available.

30<sup>th</sup> November 1899 The questions of erecting a school at Nikau and making additions to school, etc., at Hamua; were postponed till next meeting;

14<sup>th</sup> December 1899 Wellington Education Board approved additions at Nikau school

29<sup>th</sup> March 1900 Wellington Education Board Erection of new school at Nikau, £206, J. J. James, Mangatainoko

18<sup>th</sup> June 1900 Mr. Archibald McDougall, Clerk of Works for the Board of Education, left for the Wairarapa this morning for' the purpose of inspecting the schoolhouses in course of erection at Mangamaire and Nikau,

26<sup>th</sup> July 1900 In a review of salaries paid to teachers it was found Miss Wilson should be paid £20 per annum

8<sup>th</sup> November 1900 Wellington Education Board The Land and Survey Department was granted a right of road through school site at Nikau.

7<sup>th</sup> February 1901 Further lists on proposed salary changes Nikau M H Wilson Current £80 proposed increase £33 6s

20<sup>th</sup> February 1901 T R Fleming to be at Nikau School 12<sup>th</sup> April

29<sup>th</sup> April 1902 School Committee Nikau. — Messrs A. Gilbert, J. Pinfold, W. Sowery [also written as Soweny in another cutting], J. Draper, Rose, (Chairman and Secretary

7<sup>th</sup> October 1902 Sole Teacher Nikau school Average attendance 28 Salary £128 and £20 house allowance

5<sup>th</sup> November 1902 The Ngaturi(Near Pahiatua) committee have confirmed the Board's action in promoting amiss Wilson from the Nikau to the Ngaturi School

12<sup>th</sup> November 1902 Miss Wilson, now on the staff of the Nikau School, has been definitely appointed to the Ngaturi School.

14<sup>th</sup> November 1902 Miss Jane Davies appointed sole teacher

18<sup>th</sup> November 1902 Miss Davies, the popular lady teacher of Clareville, is to be transferred to Nikau, where she will have solo charge. This lady will be greatly missed, being a decided favourite with all she came in contact with, and more especially the children under her charge.

18<sup>th</sup> November 1903 The Taueru School Committee has accepted Miss E. C. Wilson as we teacher for its school. Miss Wilson's successor at the Nikau School will be Miss Davies, [Miss Wilson this Miss Wilson was Elizabeth C Wilson.

26<sup>th</sup> June 1903 Wellington Education Board here was a long list of requisitions for repairs, fencing and other small works, but as none of them seemed to be important or urgent, it was decided to allow them all to stand over. They included the following:—and Nikau, £-1;

1<sup>st</sup> December 1903 Sole teacher Nikau average 18 Salary about £96

2<sup>nd</sup> December 1903 The resignations of Miss Wilson, mistress at Taueru; Miss Davies, second [?] teacher, Nikau;

## 1904-1907

1904	25	Nikau	Baker Gabb	Mary		Female	£107	\$17,718
1905	26	Nikau	Baker Gabb BA	Mary Mrs	B1	Female	£130	\$20,560
1906	27	Nikau	Baker Gabb BA	Mary Mrs	B1	Female	£144	\$22,379

1907	19	Nikau	Baker Gabb BA	Mary Mrs	B1	Female	£144	\$22,575
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1900	80	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary	Assistant Female	£80.00
1901	85	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary	Assistant Female	£85.00
1902	77	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary	Assistant Female	£95.00
1903	68	Fernridge	Baker Gabb	Mary	Mistress	£95.00
1904	25	Nikau	Baker Gabb	Mary	Female	£107.00
1905	26	Nikau	Baker Gabb BA	Mary Mrs	Female	£130.00
1906	27	Nikau	Baker Gabb BA	Mary Mrs	Female	£144.00
1907	19	Nikau	Baker Gabb BA	Mary Mrs	Female	£144.00
1908	249	Pahiatua	Baker-Gabb B A	M Mrs	Secondary	
1909	241	Pahiatua	Baker-Gabb B A	M Mrs	Secondary	
1910	238	Pahiatua	Baker-Gabb B A	M Mrs	Secondary	
1911	234	Pahiatua	Baker-Gabb B A	M Mrs	Secondary	
1912	195	Pahiatua	Baker-Gabb B A	M Mrs	Secondary	

24<sup>th</sup> March 1904 Wellington Education Board Permission was given Mrs. Baker Gubb, Nikau, to build a teacher's residence in the school ground.

12<sup>th</sup> July 1904 St. Patrick's Church, Masterton, this morning, a marriage of more than usual interest was solemnised, when Mr Bernard J. Dolan, junior partner of the firm of Messrs Bunny and Dolan, solicitors, of Masterton, was married to Miss Gertrude Rosa Baker-Gabb, third daughter of Mr Charles Baker-Gabb, of Nikau, Pahiatua. The ceremony, which was performed by the Very Rev. Dean McKenna, was witnessed by several friends and well-wishers of the happy couple.[Charles Baker Gubb lived in the Pahiatua electorate and later went to the Hawkes Bay

Mary Baker Gabb didn't marry in New Zealand. In 1913 The Tainui had an collision in Fog on its way to England and one of the passengers was an M Baker Gabb which would tie in with the above table on dates. There is one reference in a newspaper to her being at Taranaki Girls College as Miss Montgomery. Mary Baker Gabb was on the electoral roll in the Taranaki in 1896

26<sup>th</sup>

1944/19182	Baker-Gabb	Mary	83Y
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21<sup>st</sup> February 1905 he many Masterton and Fernridge friends of Mrs Baker-Gabb (who is at present schoolmistress at Nikau), will be pleased to learn that she has received intimation by cable from London to the effect that she has passed the final of the B.A. examination.

29<sup>th</sup> March 1906 The bridge over the Mangahao River, between Mangamaire and Nikau, has just been completed, and the contractor, Mr McCalmont, has carried out his work in a creditable manner. The bridge will, no doubt, be of great service to the settlers and the various creameries and sawmills in the neighbourhood.

22<sup>nd</sup> March 1907 Wellington Education Board Permission to erect posting boxes

### 1908-1910

1908	15	Nikau	Lock	Matilda Mrs	E4	Female	£110	\$17,245
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1909	15	Nikau	Trainer	James J		Master	£90	\$14,302
1910	14	Nikau	Trainer	James J		Master	£90	\$14,109

1874/12388	Matilda	Murphy	Charles Henry Wilson	Lock
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1895/11551	Lock	Beatrice Mary	Matilda	Charles Henry Wilson	-
1894/3237	Lock	Daisy Maud	Matilda	Charles Henry Wilson	-
1876/12453	Lock	Gertrude Jane	Matilda	Charles Henry Wilson	-
1875/11220	Lock	Charles	Matilda	Charles	-
1882/17664	Lock	Frederick William	Matilda	Charles Henry Wilson	-
1880/7992	Lock	Albert Dudley	Matilda	Charles Henry Wilson	

Matilda Lock taught for 3 years at Korora and then one year at Nikau for the Wellington Education Board

#### Interesting story

13<sup>th</sup> December 1904 C H W Lock was headmaster of Aramaho School Wanganui and he didn't resign until December 1909. His wife Matilda was teaching for the Wellington Education Board during this period. By 1914 Mrs Lock was living in Wellington

2<sup>nd</sup> October 1931 FORMER PALAIERSTON NORTH SCHOOLMASTER. For many years a prominent figure in the teaching profession, Mr C. H. W. Lock, St. Heliers, Auckland, was 90 years of age yesterday. Soldier and scholar, He played a worthy part in the life of the colony during the difficult days of the Maori wars, and now, still the possessor of a robust constitution, lie devotes his leisure to reading and the joys of a well-stocked garden. Born at Notting Hill, London, on October 1, 1841, Mr Lock received his education at Rugby, and on leaving the famous school obtained a commission in the Army, serving as a sub lieutenant in the 43rd Infantry. He sailed for New Zealand in the ship King of Italy, arriving at Auckland in 1865. As soon as lie landed he joined the Armed Constabulary and was on military duty at Opotiki when the Poverty Bay Massacre occurred, and Rev. Mr Volkner was murdered by the Maoris. He served three years in the constabulary at Gisborne, and on obtaining his discharge entered upon his life work as a school teacher in 1875.

Mr Lock has been headmaster of schools at Lower Rangitikei. Bulls and Palmerston North. At Palmerston North he was the fourth headmaster of the original Central School which stood on the site now occupied by the Princess Hotel. He was assistant master at the Wanganui Boys' High School, first assistant at the Newtown School, Wellington, and in 1883 was appointed headmaster of Aramaho School, Wanganui, a position he hold for a number of years. He retired in 1906 [Sic], and after spending many years in Wellington, he took up his residence in Auckland nine years ago.

Mrs Lock is 74 years of age and there are nine children, one of whom is Mr H. W. Lock, who is a teacher at Colyton.

James J Trainer taught in 1908 at Levin DHS [Listed as John J] then 1909 and 1910 at Nikau Then until 1915 was at Shannon School in the Horowhenua. In 1916 he came to Masterton to teach at the DHS before joining the armed forces in 1917 as a Lieutenant

13<sup>th</sup> May 1908 Wellington Education Board Mrs M Lock appointed

28<sup>th</sup> May 1908 Mrs M. Baker-Gabb, B.A., mistress of the Nikau School for four years past, who has been promoted to the position of secondary assistant at the Pahiatua District High School, was entertained in the schoolroom at Nikau, subsequent to the annual prize-giving ceremony, on Friday evening last, The past and present pupils presented her with a case of silver-backed hair-brushes, and the residents with a copper kettle, with stand and spirit lamp. A musical and elocutionary programme by scholars and others was followed by a dance.

1<sup>st</sup> August 1908 Wellington Education Board Nikau: That for the convenience of the teacher the residence on the site be allowed to remain, subject to one month's notice that it be removed.

29<sup>th</sup> January 1909 Mrs M Lock resigned

13<sup>th</sup> February 1909 Mr J J Trainer appointed to Nikau

15<sup>th</sup> November 1910 Appointment Mr J. Duggan sole teacher at the. Nikau School, [In 1910 John Duggan was actually teaching at the Shannon School for the Wellington Education Board]

## 1911-1917

1911	16	Nikau	White	Minnie		Female	£90	\$14,234	
1912	17	Nikau	White	Minnie		Female	£108	\$16,563	
1913	18	Nikau	White	Minnie		Female	£112	\$16,804	£15.00
1914	13	Nikau	White	Minnie J		Female	£121	\$17,331	£15.00
1915	11	Nikau	White	Minnie J		Female	£131	\$17,480	£20.00
1917	10	Nikau	White	Minnie J		Sole	£135	\$15,131	

Figures in right hand column means that a school residence wasn't provided

26<sup>th</sup> April 1911 School Committee Nikau.— F. Cuff (chairman). A Welch, J. Morton, W. Sowry, S Coleman.

27<sup>th</sup> July 1911 Of the thirty-two pupils of the secondary department of the Pahiatua District High School, twelve come from outside the school district, five, being from Mangatainoka, four from Scarborough, one from Puketoi, one from Nikau and one from Konini. As the railway time-table is unsuitable, no pupils use the train. Nine travel by cycle or on horseback and three board in Pahiatua.

24<sup>th</sup> April 1912 Nikau. — Messrs Cuff (chairman), Graham, Thompson, Smith and Pinfold.

28<sup>th</sup> May 1913 Mr Hogg Member of Wellington Education Board in a long article on the falling off of rolls of all Wairarapa Schools included Nikau in 1901 28 in 1912 17

25<sup>th</sup> June 1913 Nikau £5 for minor repairs Wellington Education Board

29<sup>th</sup> October 1913 Wellington Education Board Nikau (school painting), W. E. Greaves, £25

11<sup>th</sup> September 1914. Wellington Education Board ambulance equipment fund Nikau 6 shillings and 5<sup>th</sup> November 1914 10s

31<sup>st</sup> July 1917 Christmas Pudding Fund Nikau 4 shillings

4<sup>th</sup> May 1918 Corporal Godfrey D. [David] White has died of wounds. Deceased was brought up at Carterton and Napier and resided at Pahiatua for sometime. The late soldier was thrice wounded. His sister is Miss White, teacher at the Nikau school. [Miss M J White teacher was his sole relative in New Zealand] Their parents lived in England.

Miss M J White taught at Kaitawa until January 1919 and then disappeared from Wellington Education Board lists [I wonder if she went back to England]

### 1919-1923

1919	12	Nikau	Moloney	John		Sole	£150	\$13,551	
1921	12	Nikau	Rice	Jessie		Sole	£180	\$15,496	

In 1917 John Moloney taught at Mara. In 1919 at Nikau and 1921 at Puketoi School

Jessie Rice taught at Coonor in 1919 and at Nikau in 1921

31<sup>st</sup> January 1919 Mr R Charles relieving sole teacher Nikau

24<sup>th</sup> February 1919 Mr J Maloney appointed