The Ngāti Manuhiri tribe called the Orewa, Whangaparāoa and Red Beach regions their home for many generations before conflict with neighbouring tribes, and land sales to white settlers, saw them lose access. Traditionally they would have mostly travelled here, from their stronghold at Warkworth, during planting season to plant and grow crops.

They often set up small pā that they would stay at during the right times of the year. There were many Māori pā sites on head-lands. The biggest pās in this area were on the Weiti river near Waiwera. These settlements were very important as it protected the valuable resource of the hot waters that flowed across the beach. These were used for healing purposes as well as cooking and cleaning. Most pā in the area were placed near a beach so the tribe could collect shellfish and seafood but there was another important resource to consider. Pā were built at the Orewa Estuary and on Nukemea Steam at the northern end of Orewa Beach. Being near a river was important so they had a place to get fresh water, eels and other fish, and they could also travel upstream in a waka. The headland pā were the best way to defend the people and their crops from other tribal groups who would have to attack going uphill.

Ngāti Manuhiri still play a significant role in our local area by keeping Māori traditions and customs alive in the modern world. They speak up about issues affecting nature such as speaking against the new rubbish dump and taking sands from Pākiri. They have also played an important role in trying to protect the sea life in the Hauraki Gulf. Today Ngati Manuhiri are custodians of the land, ensuring that resources they used for hundreds of years will be available for hundreds more.



Questions (look in the text for highlight clues!)

- 1) Where was the main home of Ngāti Manuhiri?
 - a) Whangaparāoa
 - b) Warkworth
 - c) Waiwera
- 2) What was the main reason Ngāti Manuhiri travelled here?
 - a) to be near rivers
 - b) to attack other tribes
 - c) to plant and grow crops
- 3) Where was the biggest pā locally?
 - a) Orewa Estuary
 - b) on the Weiti River near Waiwera
 - c) on the sands near Pakiri
- 4) What was the reason that Māori placed their pā on headlands?
 - a) seaviews
 - b) Best soil to grow crops.
 - c) They were easy to defend.
- 5) What was an issue that Ngāti Manuhiri voiced a strong opinion on?
 - a) a rubbish dump
- b) sea life in the Hauraki Gulf both a) and b)
- 6) Why was the pā at Waiwera so important?
- 7) What two (2) pieces of evidence from the story show how Ngati Manuhiri lost access to the region?

Word Salad

Find the meaning of these words and put each of these words into a sentence.

- 1) custodian
- 2) valuable
- 3) stronghold

Naming Words (Nouns)

For each sentence find the word that names something.

- 1) The eels slithered together.
- 2) Crops grew well here.
- 3) Slowly, the waka went forward.

Māori Origins, Voyaging and Adaption

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