

PEOPLE & MIGRATION

Ngāi Tahu Whānui
Alex McNab

Key Ideas What attracted and continues to attract immigrants to the Gore district?

Ngāi Tahu Whānui

Overlooking the district is Matamata, the taniwha of an early Kāti Mamoe āriki, Rakitauneke. When Matamata learned of his master's death and burial at Bluff, Matamata lay upon the hills and turned to stone. We know his hilly bed as the Hokonui Hills and his stony form as East Peak.

The district stretching from the upper reaches of the Mataura to its mouth at Toetoes Bay was highly valued as a seasonal food basket, māhika kai, by the iwi that have lived in the district over many generations including Waitaha, Kāti Mamoe and Ngāi Tahu.

Whānau and hapū came from Clutha, and the south, Rakiura (Stewart Island) to gather food and resources. Nōhaka or temporary homes were built to provide shelter for hunters and gatherers. The swampy environment and cold winters did not attract permanent settlement. Birdlife was abundant in the area - moa, weka, kākārīki (parrots), pāteke and pāpera (ducks). Kanakana (lamprey eel) were a special focus of hunting groups. Some of today's place names hint at food gathering sites of the past. Waikaka was once Waikākahi - a site where there was an abundance of fresh water mussels - kākahi. Harakeke/flax was also another important resource. The leaves were used for weaving baskets for food storage. The flower stalk of the flax, the kōrari, was used to create mōkihi or canoe like rafts that were used to transport the kai to the coast for winter. The use of kōrari was seen as unique to the area.

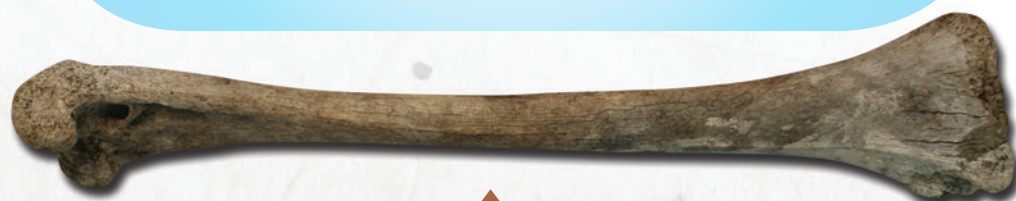
The area was also a stopping point on the way to the interior, Central Otago and the Wakatipu area, to the source of pounamu and other stones used as tools.

Tuturau, the only local permanent settlement, is where the last inter-tribal conflict is recorded when Te Puoho of Ngāti Tama travelled south with a war party in 1836. Te Puoho was killed at Tuturau but there was no further bloodshed. The monument at Tuturau commemorates this event. It was Reko, the Ngāi Tahu rangatira/chief living at Tuturau after the raid, who shared his vast knowledge of the area by guiding and ensuring the safety of early Europeans as they mapped the interior of the lower South Island.

Today, the Hokonui Rūnanga has created a window into the past by transforming part of its property into a wetland planted with native species that once would have covered the area of Gore.

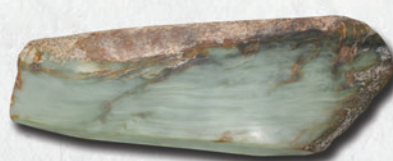
Tuturau monument, erected in 1934 to mark the centennial of the battle of Tuturau.

FUN FACT: Did you know part of Gore was called 'Germantown'? In the 1870s as the railways were built around New Zealand the government of the day assisted migrants who could help. The government looked to Britain and northern Europe. Family names associated from that time still around today are: Kubala, Kreft and Hoffman. Germantown was located near Whiterig, East Gore.



Found in the Croydon/Mandeville area, this South Island **giant moa leg bone** belonged to a female.

For more see: <http://nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/south-island-giant-moa>

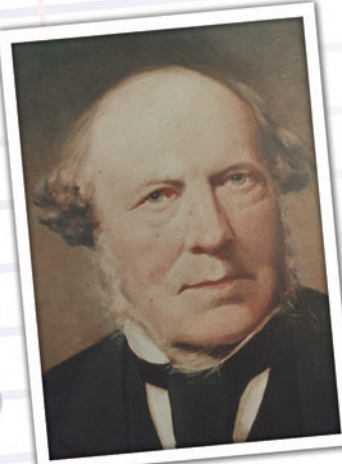


This **pounamu** has been identified as coming from the Wakatipu area. Discovered in the Croydon/Mandeville area, it is an example of the scale of traveling the tangata whenua undertook to obtain taonga, tools and resources.



This **tōki** or adze was a stone tool uncovered inside the Gore boundary. It may have been part of a group of stone tools deposited at a frequently used camping ground for use the next time the whanau stopped by on a hunting expedition. We can tell it was used by a right hander by the way the cutting edge has worn.

Alex McNab



"I want to be as far away as I can from settlement" said Alex McNab. Raised on a farm in Scotland but with no chance to own land himself, he came to New Zealand in 1855. He and friend, Peter McKellar, travelled south stopping atop Pyramid hill, tossing a coin to decide the land they would apply for. McNab didn't win the toss but gained two vast blocks either side of the Mataura River. He named the eastern block 'Knapdale' after his home in the Scottish Highlands and the western block 'Hokanui' as the hill area was known to the Ngāi Tahu whānui. McKellar gained the land to the north, the Waimea Plains. They imported sheep from Australia to Bluff in February 1856 and took months driving them north through land undisturbed by four legged stock.

McNab was a passionate politician and a key voice in creating Southland as a separate province from Otago.

The McNab family suffered a great tragedy in 1871 at the Knapdale homestead. Four of his children died of an unknown illness within a month of each other. A baby born later in the year died within days. Alex moved his wife and one remaining son to Invercargill. There four further children were added to the family.

Where We Live
Project Tūrangawaewae



PEOPLE & MIGRATION

► Then & Now
► Population

Key Ideas What attracted and continues to attract immigrants to the Gore district?

THEN & NOW:

Venn diagrams explore the similarities and differences. This one shows WHY people might migrate to the district.

Then & Now Activity:

Fill your trunk and suitcase with treasures that you might take with you if you were coming to Gore:

1. 150 years ago
2. Today



Why people immigrated 1860-1910

- Escape established class system
- Opportunity to own land - large amounts of land for purchase
- Work on new farms
- Work in Freezing Works
- Join settlement effort - clearing bush, draining land, fencing, building
- Government assistance

- Better life for children, and descendants
- To be with family who have already migrated
- Established communities of immigrants e.g. Scottish, Philippine
- Work opportunities
- Rural lifestyle

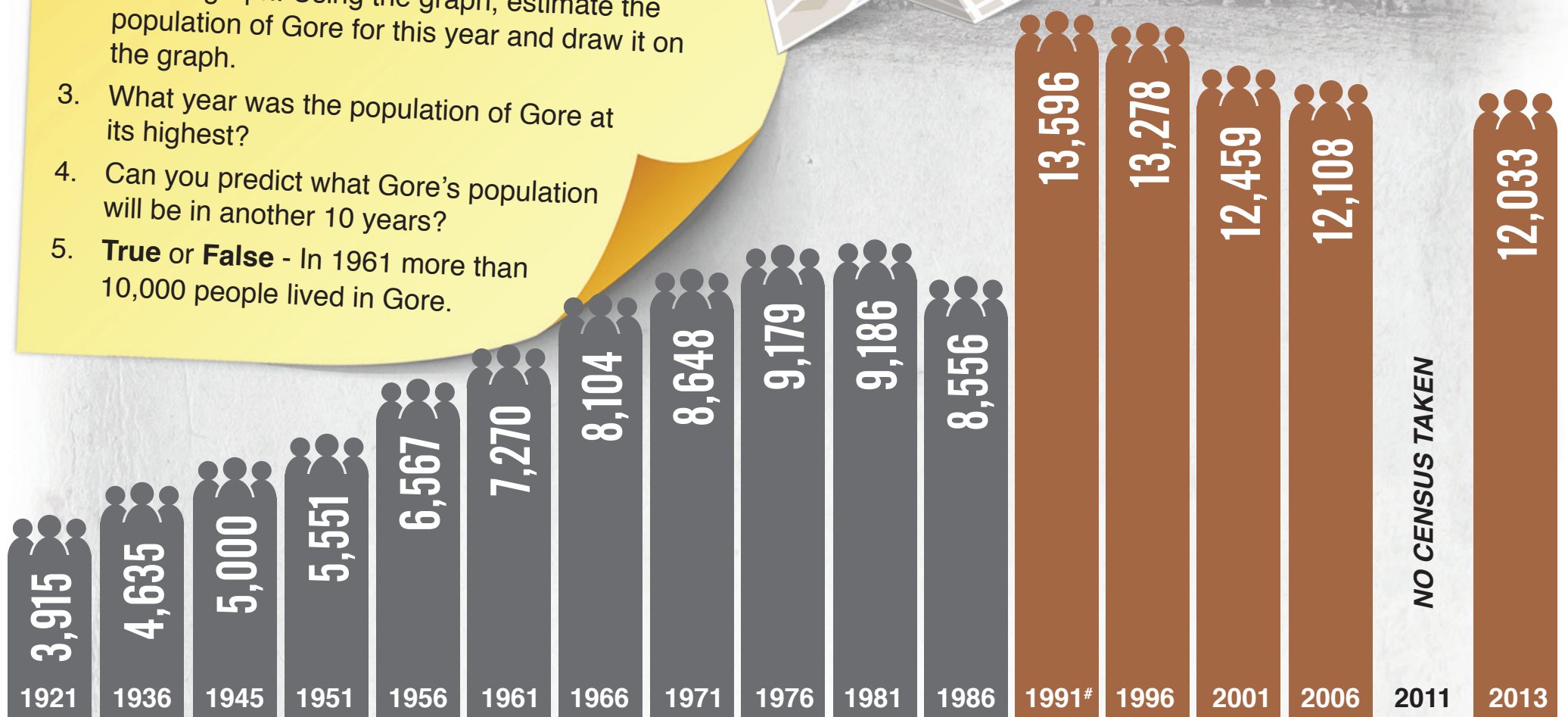
Why people immigrate today

- Education - SIT and 'zero fees'
- Work - dairy farming
- Cheaper cost of living (compared to rest of NZ)
- Environmental - close or in rural
- Located close to popular attractions e.g. Queenstown, Catlins

Analysing The Graph

1. How many times has the population decreased since it started being measured in 1881?
2. The census results for 2011 were not recorded on this graph. Using the graph, estimate the population of Gore for this year and draw it on the graph.
3. What year was the population of Gore at its highest?
4. Can you predict what Gore's population will be in another 10 years?
5. **True or False** - In 1961 more than 10,000 people lived in Gore.

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POPULATION

■ Gore Borough ■ Gore District

NOTE that a change in the district boundaries has altered the area of the population counted from this census onwards.