

alone working in his maize field: around & adjoining it were small patches of wheat turnips & potatoes defended from the inroads of stray pigs by trenches & banks thrown up by the indefatigable industry of 1 man. He dropped his hoe on perceiving friends & led the way to his flimsy weatherboard house despite 2 sash doors in its front designed a double debt to pay as door & window combined & a few English flowers creeping up the posts of a small shingled verandah: the domicile looked very hovel like as to its back premises wh were raupo huts. Some fowls, 2 or 3 pigs & a solitary cow, a valuable piece of live stock in the incipient colony formed a sort of farmyard. The host kindly asked us to take a draught of milk but when I looked at the distrained well drained udder of the poor beast I lost all thirsty ideas...²⁰



Whangarei H. N.Z. Manganese rocks [1844] ink 12.3 x 18.3cm. (In his Sketchbook, 1843-1844) Shows Whangarei Harbour. Drawings & Prints Coll. E42/33

He arrived at Port Jackson, 15 February 1844.²¹ The Mitchell Library holds detailed drawings of Sydney buildings which suggest that he may have spent some months there before going on to work in Hongkong for the remainder of 1844 and 1845. Back in England Ashworth wrote on Chinese architecture and gave many papers on church architecture to the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society. He rebuilt and restored churches and built new ones at Witcombe, Exmouth, Topsham and Exeter where he had started practice in 1846 and lived until his death.

He died at the age of 81, leaving a widow, two sons and two daughters.²²