

**BEFORE THE WAITANGI TRIBUNAL  
TE ROOPU WHAKAMANA I TE  
TIRITI O WAITANGI**

**WA**

**Wai 686 #W4  
Wai 349 #A14  
Wai 720 #A4  
Wai 778 #A14**

**IN THE MATTER** of the **Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975**

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of the **Hauraki Inquiry District**

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER** of a claim by **Te Wiremu Mataia Nicholls, Tamatehura Mataia Nicholls, Wharenui Piahana and Te Runanga o Ngati Tamatera for and on behalf of themselves and all the descendants, whanau and hapu and the constituent whanau and hapu of the NGATI TAMATERA of the MARUTUAHU TRIBAL CONFEDERATION**

---

**BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF KIRI RAMANUI-HIRAMA  
DATED 29 JULY 2002**

---

---

Rangitauira & Co  
Barristers and Solicitors  
PO Box 1693  
DX JP30025  
ROTORUA  
Ph: 07 348 0034 Fax: 07 3462933  
e-mail: [rangitauira.office@clear.net.nz](mailto:rangitauira.office@clear.net.nz)  
Counsel Acting: John David Rangitauira and Haimona Hemi Te Nahu

1. My name is Kiri Ramanui-Hirama I am a great-great-great grand-daughter of Meha te Moananui from the Tuiho line, and also of his first cousin Te Teira from the Kihau line. Tuiho and Kihau were great-great grandchildren of Tawhaki and Te Kore. Tawhaki was a grand-daughter of Tamatera.
2. I live at 7 Burns Court, Hamilton.

### **Ngati Tawhaki Research**

3. I have been delegated by my extended whanau to help carry out research into my ancestors and their lands on my Ngati Tawhaki side. So far we have identified fifty-two land blocks in which our branch of Ngati Tawhaki were granted titles.<sup>1</sup> These have ranged over a wide area of the Hauraki rohe, from the northern most Moehau area of what is now known as the Coromandel Peninsula, to southwards to areas of the Thames Coast, and further south again, to the Ohinemuri and Hauraki Plains. We know there are further areas and blocks to explore. To date, we have used only the Minute Books of the Native and Maori Land Courts, and material from National Archives, to develop our knowledge.
4. We have had no outside help and have fund-raised within the whanau to achieve this.
5. We have been able to build up knowledge of our own family history and the ways in which we are related to the other Ngati Tawhaki families, and we have compiled numerous whakapapa from the statements our tipuna have given in these sources, and through the Succession Orders which have been recorded.
6. In addition, the whanau information given in the Succession hearings provides probable supportive evidence to the way in which the infectious diseases introduced by European settlers were taking a heavy toll on us. A number of our ancestors died with no surviving children to succeed them, or died as young adults, and there is evidence of many children dying before they were of an age to be included in land titles, but simply recorded as having been in existence.

7. As an example, my great-great grandfather, Tera Te Teira succeeded to all the land interests of his sister and two brothers who died at a relatively young age, and of his nephew, who died aged 7, because there were no other children who survived. There are also records of the males marrying successive wives because of the early deaths as young adults of the earlier wives.<sup>2</sup> This family evidence complements that given by Dr Cybele Locke about the consequences of introduced diseases plus the hardships of re settlement.

### **Matariki Block**

8. I will make reference here to one specific land block, Matariki, for which we have extensive records. The Matariki block of 415 acres was situated at the southern entrance of what is now known as the Manaia Harbour,<sup>3</sup> and was awarded exclusively to Ngati Tawhaki hapu.
9. Because the chiefs were in dispute about the degree of inclusion for entitlements to the block, the evidence given in the Investigation of Title hearings is rich in the history and movements of Ngati Tawhaki between its various land entitlements. The sequence of events is confusing in the record, having been given out of time sequence by the various witnesses and with some differences of opinion. I have therefore summarized and placed the events in time sequence for the sake of coherence.<sup>4</sup>
10. The original Investigation of Title hearings were held at Paeroa commencing on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July 1907, a comparatively late date, with Judge Edger presiding. The survey costs were £26.15.0.
11. Matariki had been obtained by conquest carried out by the ancestors Katohau and te Poporo over Ngati Huarere, and had been occupied by some of the descendants of Katohau, that is three of the children of Irikapua, who were born on the land, and had occupied the land from that time intermittently to the time of the NLC hearing, and by others related through blood and through marriage, who they had placed there through aroha. Although Te Poporo was

---

<sup>1</sup> List: Supplementary Paper I

<sup>2</sup> This whanau evidence complements evidence given by Dr Cybele Locke in this Marutuahu Claim The Social and Economic Circumstances of Marutuahu 1840-1960.

<sup>3</sup> Map: Supplementary Paper 2

<sup>4</sup> Hauraki Minute Books (HMB) 56/2-27. 30-48, 106-7, 112

one of those who had conquered this land, his descendants had no right, because they came back to live at Te Puru, Waiomu and Ohinemuri-There had been no occupation of Matariki during the time of Ngapuhi.<sup>5</sup>

12. Matariki was of significance not only to Ngati Tawhaki, who occupied it, but was of strategic significance to the Ngati Tamatera peoples of the northern areas as a whole.
13. When any of these people requested prior to their deaths that their remains be eventually removed back to Hauraki from Koputauaki and Papa Aroha, the waka rested at Matariki on the way back to Tuputetaheke and Kopurarahi, for example.<sup>6</sup>
14. Occupation at Matariki was not always continuous, but Ngati Tawhaki's entitlement was continuously asserted and rarely disputed. Movement of groups of people between entitlements was normal for a variety of reasons, including seasonal planting and harvesting of crops and seasonal fishing and seafood harvesting. The pressures of preparation for and attendance at Native Land Court hearings from the 1860's and as far away as Tauranga, had brought stressful interruptions to these normal hapu rhythms.
15. Haora Tareranui stated "After the death of Te Tupua, and also before, we lived at Matariki, that is, Meha and myself, and my father and our slaves and all Ngati Tawhaki ..... Reweti was the only one left on Matariki when we went to Waiaro. This was about 1857-58."
16. Meha and Hirawa te Moananui spent a period in Waiomu, then returned to Matariki to settle, perhaps from around 1864. Others had returned directly from Waiaro to Matariki. Alfred A. Preece (snr) noted extensive cultivations at Matariki, and also fruit trees; peaches, cherries, figs and pears. Meha had been bom at Waipatukahu (Tapu) and had also lived at Waiomu.
17. "Meha te Moananui was the principal chief of Ngati Tamatera. His was the paramount mana." (Haora Tareranui) Meha had lived at Waiaro to 1863, and claimed occupation at Matariki from 1850 to 1871. Makuini lived at Matariki before she was married. After her marriage she lived at Waiaro. Haora Tupaea was her husband.

---

Hauraki Minute Book (HMB) 562

18. Hirawa's son Hirama was born at Matariki in 1864 and Tihitapu in 1862. Hewai (my great-great-great grandmother) was also born there, and probably her husband-to-be, Tera Te Teira.
19. Taipapaka pa was here, and extensive cultivations. Despite the stony and hilly terrain, and exposure to the sea winds, the land around the Matariki Stream was highly fertile, as Ngati Rangipuata were directed to cultivate food there for the hahunga following the Ongare fight at Tauranga about 1850.<sup>7</sup> Cultivations on the block belonging to Haora, Ihimaera, Keremeneta, Kirikino, Haimona, Waikuku, Meha and Paraku were noted.
20. Haora stated "Later I and others came back to Ohinemuri. We left Meha and others at Waiomu. This would be about 1865. . . In 1867 I went back to live at Matariki...in that year Meha and I went to Tauranga for the hearing of the Katikati. We went from Matariki." Haora again stated "In 1870 Meha and Hirawa Te Moananui and others left Matariki to move to Waiomu, then with others, including Haimona moved to Ohinemuri in 1871...we are all one people."
21. Tetekura, son of Paraku stated that he now lived at Ohinemuri, but had been at Matariki, and that prior to this, in 1891 they had been digging gum at Onetai. They drove horses and sheep belonging to Tamaiwhina off the land, asserting their rights to the land. Tamaiwhina accepted this and drove his animals back to Manaia, to his own kainga.
22. In his Judgement, Judge Edger stated "The Court is quite satisfied that Meha and party are the principal owners of the land. Theirs was the chief occupation of the land." Haora's occupation was less secure, but on the authorisation of Meha he had received a share of the lease money from Mr Robert Wight. So both parties received proportionate shares.
23. The Judge noted in discussing ownership lists: "Paraku should not put in his children, he and his wife being both owners. It is important to keep the number of owners as small as possible, otherwise it is difficult to make any use of the land." The Judge is here setting up controls which make paper entries which limit entitlement. The Paraku family existed and required land to

---

<sup>6</sup> Discussion: Tewi Nicholls: 13.7.02

<sup>7</sup> HMB 56/8

sustain the family and no Court decision or paper entry was going to alter this reality.

24. Here is an illustration of what had already become a problem for Maori through the laws governing the purchase of Maori land and the operation of the Native and Maori Land Courts. Any land title confirmed was through a system of individualization through individual names on lists. This resulted in the erosion of the rangatiratanga of the chiefs and the communal rights to traditional land usage, and any decisions regarding this. It also allowed the land purchasing officers to "pick off individuals willing or needing to sell.
25. On 26<sup>th</sup> July 1907 the Matariki block was partitioned into Matariki North of 315 acres for Meha Te Moananui and 21 others, and Matariki South of 100 acres for Haora Tareranui and 14 others.
26. A feature of the operation of the Court, which nowadays might be judged as a conflict of interest, was the fact that Alfred A. Preece operated in four different roles in the transaction and the ensuing sale of the land.
27. First, he gave evidence regarding Maori occupation of Matariki in the NLC.
28. Second, he was operating as agent for the person who was currently leasing the land from the owners, and who purchased it two years later in 1909; Robert Wight.
29. Third, he obtained signatures from all of the owners, gaining agreement to the sale, and then wrote the report recommending the sale to Wight, to the Waikato District Maori Land Board.
30. Fourth, he made application for both blocks to the same organization to "Recommend to His Excellency to remove Restrictions upon, and consent to the sale of Maori Land."
31. This type of multiple involvement by European agents was not uncommon, was confusing to the Maori Owners, for whom these people were often trusted advisors, yet who usually gave advantage to the proposed European purchaser, as in this case.

32. Preece's letter to James Brown, President of the Waikato District Maori Land Board gave an assessment of the land which noted features as undesirable,

many of which are a distortion when compared with the reports in the NLC of 1907, only two years previously. It can only be assumed that this was in order to reduce the value of the land to give financial advantage to the purchaser, and in addition to convince the Land Board that it was of little value towards the ongoing sustenance of the Maori owners. This latter being a consideration to Crown agencies conscious of keeping Maori above the breadline, so that they did not become a burden on the state. The intention was pragmatic rather than altruistic, and certainly not in accordance with the promises of protection of lifestyle guaranteed by the Treaty.

33. Preece stated that the land was steep and stony and "unploughable."<sup>8</sup> In the NLC in 1907, there was mention of grazing by horses and sheep and the land to this day is used for this purpose, which is appropriate for the type of land. "Ploughable" was an irrelevant consideration, included only to influence the Land Board's judgment towards low monetary value for the purchaser, and low use value for the Maori owners.
34. Preece continues: "There are no natives of the present day that I know of that would in these days till this or any other land with the spade as they all revert to the plough, that being an easy way of tillage, which is more suited to their present indolence."(p2)<sup>9</sup>
35. Note Preece's use of the derogatory term "indolence."
36. Preece's emphasis on the stony areas appears at odds with the evidence of the numerous whanau cultivations mentioned in the Court, and the special selection of Matariki as the favoured cultivation area in preparation for a large hakari, noted earlier.
37. Preece notes an important feature, and one for which evidence is rarely discovered; the reason for the proposed sale. He states (p3)

*"What caused the natives to sell the Matariki blocks was owing to the Native land Court sitting so long and frequent at Paeroa and Shortland; also the Appellant Court, and also strong opposition in land claims all during 1907 and*

---

Correspondence: Supplementary Paper 3. Preece to James Browne; Waikato District Maori Land Bd. August-1909

*1908. Money was badly in want to defray Court and other expenses such as counsel, clerks, witnesses and Court fees, and also for survey charges of various blocks which the Crown has demanded to be paid at once.*

*"Provisions had also to be purchased from stores as there was but little time to crop the lands, on account of the continuous sitting of the Courts in 1907 from May to December and in 1908 from August to December, and in between these dates the Appellant and Commission Courts were sitting. And what few crops were put in had been destroyed by the potato blight."*

38. In November 1909 James Browne wrote in turn to the Under Secretary of the Native Department Wellington, regarding the proposed sale, and recommending removal of restrictions on the alienation, the owners needing the sale monies to discharge debts.<sup>10</sup> There had been no rentals paid between 1909-1912 by Wight, so they were not receiving benefit by his occupation of the land.
39. Purchase of the two blocks by Robert Wight was confirmed on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1911. He paid £317 for Matariki North, and £100 for Matariki South.

### **The Resettlement**

40. The main body of Ngati Tawhaki then began to move from the northern areas of what is now called the Coromandel Peninsula, southwards to the Thames Coast and the Ohinemuri region. In 1863 they moved to Waiomu. In 1868 the Waikawau block was declared a goldfield, and in consequence they went to live at Matariki. In 1870 Meha and others moved to te Puru, then in 1871 they moved again, to Ohinemuri.
41. My ancestors then settled at Tapu Ariki, which had been awarded to Ngati Tawhaki alone. My great-great grandfather, Tera Te Teira, giving evidence in the Kawhitiwhiti.
42. No 2 Block hearing in September 1902, stated that on return from the coast his father.

---

Note evidence from WAI 100 witnesses Heneriata te Moananui (Clauses 3-7) and Eruini te Moananui (Clauses 62-3) who describe extensive whanau gardening on the flat land near Paeroa in the 1920's-1940's using nothing but hand tools.

<sup>10</sup> Correspondence: James Browne; to Under Secretary Native Dept: 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 1909. Supplementary Paper 4.



43. Te Teira had settled there with the family. (H53/127) After Te Teira's death, his widow and the three offspring, Wiremu, Tera, and Pinga cultivated on this block near the Ohinemuri River. (H53/128) When Te Teira and the others of Ngati Tawhaki had arrived south as a body from "the sea side" and from Moehau in 1871, his right to this land was acknowledged, and others who had been using it moved off.
44. In 1902 Tera and his family had only a temporary house on Kawhitiwhiti while planting but had a house at nearby Tukutetaheke and also at Makomako. There was a meeting house at Kawhitiwhiti named Te Whakahaere-o-Hauraki. Tera had directed the surveyors for this Block, which acknowledged his authority to do so, and was awarded Kawhitiwhiti No 2B Block of just over 8 acres for the whanau.
45. My great-great grandfather Tera Te Teira became one of the chiefs of Ngati Tawhaki, although in many situations he deferred to his first cousin Hirawa Te Moananui as the tuakana spokesperson for their people. In 1921 Tera was responsible for the partition and sale of his share of some land at Waiomu; an area of just over 6 acres, which had a meeting house standing on it.<sup>11</sup> There is evidence of the dismantling and removal of this, the plan being to re-erect it at Tapu Ariki near Paeroa.
46. Our family have been traditionally opposed to land sale. Tera Te Teira was in debt for £12. The person he owed the money to added a naught to the sum to make it £120. The only way he could repay was by selling the land.
47. My great-aunt Motea Watene will give evidence of some of our more recent whanau experience.
48. I want to tell you a little about my own family experience. I was born at Te Teko amongst my father's people. I came to Paeroa, married and had a family. I was involved with Paeroa Te Kohanga Reo for nine years and was Kaiako for approximately five years of this. In 1992 my daughter Charity started at Paeroa Te Kohanga Reo. The three Te Kohanga Reo in Paeroa township; Paeroa, Puawai and Taharua, all supported Te Kawenga Whanau and the Total Immersion Unit situated at the Thames South School. There was then and remains today no Total Immersion Unit or Kura Kaupapa Maori

in Paeroa for graduates of the three Paeroa, and two other outlying Te Kohanga Reo, situated at Kerepeehi and Te Aroha.

49. Charity commenced at Te Kawenga in Thames in 1994. Other children from Paeroa attended and we shared transport costs and driving. We drove the Paeroa children the 35 km trip daily to Thames, returning to collect them later. No funding was made available to assist us. We fundraised for this and also for vehicles large enough to transport the growing number of Paeroa area Te Kohanga graduates needing Total Immersion Te Reo. No funding was available for vehicles either.
50. Because of the demand and our lobbying for a Total Immersion Unit in the Paeroa area, Te Ara Hou o te Reo was established at Paeroa Central School during 1997-8, yet was closed at the end of 1998 owing to the unavailability of any appropriate teacher, on the unilateral decision of the principal.
51. Government education policy promises a commitment to the provision of qualified Te Reo teachers, and all support facilities. The reality in practice is that such mainstream schools are using funding provisions to window-dress for appearances, while having low commitment and energy for provision of Maori Total Immersion needs.<sup>12</sup>
52. As a result of this closure I home-schooled Charity in Te Reo Maori from 1999 through to term two of 2000. She enjoyed her home school experience although she suffered from lack of social interaction with other students, which was detrimental to her well being. Following this she commuted daily to Hamilton to Toku Mapihi Maurea Kura Kaupapa Maori. We then moved the family to Hamilton, and Charity attended her final senior years at Te Ara Rima Kura Kaupapa Maori. She now attends Fraser High School Total Immersion Unit as a college third-former, and is a very happy girl.
53. However, now my children are an hour's drive from their Kuikui, their kin group and their Marae, and miss out on whanaungatanga and manaakitanga that had previously been theirs day by day. To follow our dream for Te Reo for our daughter has not been without cost. We have done this for her to

---

" Agreement between A.Ruzich and Tera te Teira: 17<sup>th</sup> April 1923. Supplementary Paper 5.<sup>12</sup> See Evidence WAI 100 by Ngakoma Ngamane regarding failure of government in all areas to provide services which in practice implement its own educational policies regarding education of Maori.

have the right to speak in her own language and to think in her own concepts. This gives her a sense of self-worth and identity. She is a whole person because of her upbringing in tikanga and Te reo.

54. I want to see a Kura Kaupapa Maori leading to Wharekura in Paeroa and for other parents and children not to suffer the struggles our family has endured and for the graduates of Kohanga Reo to not be "mainstreamed" in an inadequate education system which does not supply their needs.
55. The Treaty promised us no less than this, and has still not delivered.

---

KIRI RAMANUI-HIRAMA

---

DATE

**Original Land Blocks identified with Ngati Tawhaki Ownership,  
to date 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2002:**

AHIRAU (Otautu)	TIHIOUOU No 2
ARAWHAKAPEKAPEKA	TIRITIRI No
HUHURAUMATI C No2 - Moanakapiti	3C2 TUITAHI No1B
HURUHURU No 2	
IWITUAROA C	
KAWHITIWHLTI No 2B	TAWA ATA KUAO
KOPURARUWAI 4B	TOWN OF HASTINGS lot 13, Sec 14 and 44
KORONAE Nth No 2	
KUAOTUNU 4B MATARIKI	TE PAPA 25 AC
North and South	TE HAPE Nth No 3 and Ngamoko
MOEHAU 1C, 1E, 1G, (Waiaro West) 1HC, 3D2	TE HAPE No3 & Ngamoko
MATARIKI ISLANDS (4)	TUTUKAKA
OHINEMURI No 3, 5A, 6, 8, 9, 14B, 17,20	
OMAWHLTI	WAIHI No 2
OTAKEAO No's 1 and 2	WAIOMU 2B1C1A and 2B1D1B, and 2B1E
OTAMAURUNGANUI	
OTUTURU No 2	WAIOMU 3B1B2 and 3B2B2
PAKIRARAHl No 2B4B3	
PAPATUROA No's 1,2, 7, 10	WAIPATUKAHU No 1 and Tapu
PARAKETE	WHANGAMATA No 6
PATUWHAO	
POKAPOKA	WHARENGA C
REPANGA (Cuvier Island)	
ROKOKOHU No6 (Mangakotukutuku)	

TAPUARIKI

TAWAHINGA 1B

TE AROHA

TE HORETE No 2C2

TE KAUANGA (Whitianga)

TE MATA NORTH

TE MUTU

WAITAKARURU 1C3C2

TE PURU Blk14 Sec2A4B4 & Reserve

WAIARO

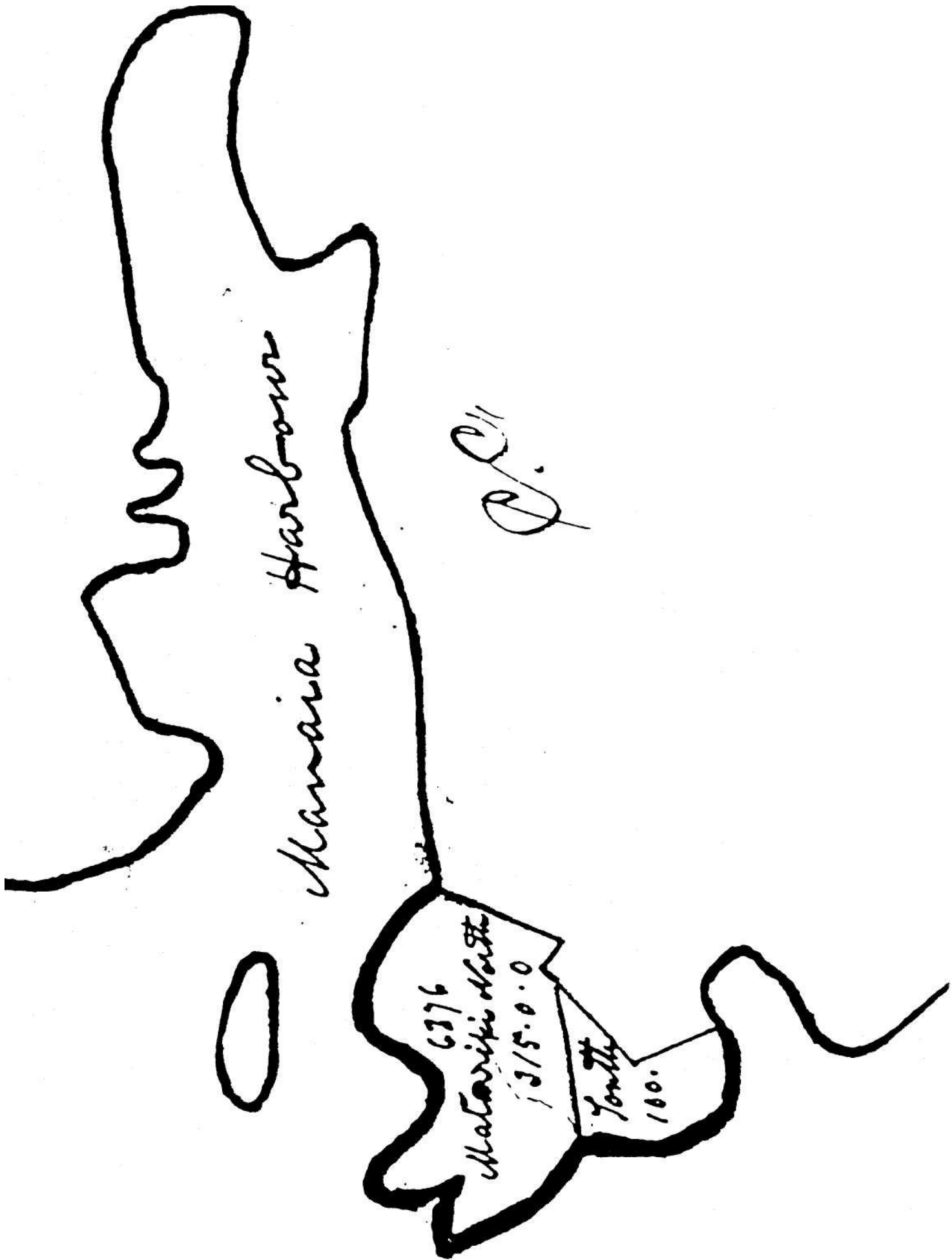
TE PARAPARA (Whitianga)

WAIKAWAU

TUKUTETAIHEKE B2

WAIMARINGIRINGI  
(Whitianga)

Original



FOR  
KIAI RAMANUI-HIRAMA  
O TAMATERA  
TAHARU  
P. 1 OF 4.

Criterion Hotel Taerua

August 1909

James Browne Esq  
President Waikato District Māori Land Board  
Auckland

Sir

Re Matariki North and Matariki South Blocks.

I have the honour to forward you the following report in respect of these blocks.

Matariki North block contains 315 acres, and is situated at Teahimanui Point at the entrance of the Manurewa Harbour.

This block is extremely rough broken and stony and therefore is unploughable.

The whole coast line of the block is bounded by high broken cliffs ranging from 50 ft to over 500 ft in height, with the exception of a few chains in length along a small opening on the western shore thereof, where in days gone by an old Native settlement did exist.

This settlement was partly deserted & destroyed by Te Moemua in 1863 at time of the Waikato war, and was finally destroyed & deserted in the year 1871, and from that date up to the present time there has been no Native settlement there of any kind or description, and no Native cultivation or occupation of any kind whatsoever by Natives and they make no use whatever of the land at the present time and have not since 1871.

At and during the periods this block was occupied by the Natives they cultivated the best spots of the block but the mode then adopted by them for tilling the ground was by the Spade only, as the land was unploughable on account of the very rocky nature thereof.

It is not uncommon to see patches of bare blocks of Rock in a chain or a chain in extent on this block together with numerous small sized patches uncountable.

There are no Natives of the present day that I know of that would in these days till this or any other land with the spade, as they all revert to the Plough, that being an easy way of tillage, which is more suited to their present incline.

On this block of land there is but one stream of fresh-water together with its two or three branches, but this supply of fresh-water only exists during the winter months or during wet weather, as when the dry season sets in the streams become perfectly dry, and therefore there is no fresh-water obtainable for man or beast upon the said block.

This being the case artificial means will have to be adopted such as making deep wells in various places throughout the block, and through very hard-boned Rock, and wind-mills will have to be erected, or other means adopted to furnish a fresh-water supply for the stock, which will incur a great cost.

and owing to the high mountainous nature of the block, very long lines of galvanized-iron piping will have to be laid down in every direction to convey the water to convenient concrete troughs which will have to be erected in suitable spots so as the Sheep and Cattle or Horse can conveniently get at the water, without having to travel far or climb the high mountains for that purpose in the hot weather.

All this work will incur a considerable cost, which the Natives would never attempt to do for themselves, as it is too costly for them.

The water supply that has hitherto been used for the stock remaining on this land, is within the Kereta block boundary, this having been now fenced off there is therefore no fresh-water for the stock.

As the ground thereon there is nothing but Fern



and second growth manuka and a few trees of no marketable value, which are all required for shelter purposes, as the situation of the land makes it very bleak, being surrounded by the sea on all sides but one.

The block is so situated that there is no road whatever to it, except by sea beach, and only then at low-water, without going through private land, therefore the only access to it without trespassing is by the sea, which can only be accomplished in good and moderate weather.

The land will have to be fenced, cleared and sown with grass seed, as it is unproductive.

The land is situate at the extreme outer point of the Mounaia Heads, and of no prospective value, as no wheel road can be ever made to it, and it adjoins no other land.

What caused the Estates to sell the Matariki blocks was owing to the Native Land Court sitting so long and frequent at Paeroa and Thorndon; also the Appellant Court, and also strong opposition in land claims, all during 1907 and 1908. Money was badly in want, to defray Court and other expenses, such as Council, Clerks, Witnesses and Court fees, and also for survey charges of various blocks which the Crown had demanded to be paid at once; provisions had also to be purchased from stores as there was but little time to crop the lands, on account of the continuous sitting of the Courts in 1907 from May to December and in 1908 from August to December, and in between these dates the Appellant and Commission Courts were sitting.

And what few crops were put in, had been destroyed by the potato blight.

Matariki South Block contains 110 acres and adjoins Matariki North block on the south end thereof. This is all high mountainous country, bounded by high cliffs on the west side. The land is unproductive on account of the rocky and steep nature thereof, and the land is totally unwatered.

SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER NO 3  
KIRI RAMANUI-HIRAMA  
P 4 OF 4

(41)

summer or winter. The growth thereon is fern and second  
growth manuka of no value.

In this block there is no Road whatsoever except by  
Matariki North.

I am

Yrs

yours truly

Alfred A. Preece

The consent to the sale by all the owners in  
Matariki North and Matariki South have now been  
obtained, all having signed the agreement thereto.  
A.A.P.

Waikato 1909/26-27

SUPPORTING PAPERS No 4.  
KIRI RAMANUI-HIRAMA  
W. TAMATERA  
TANHAKI P. 1 OF 2.

4th November 09

The Under Secretary,  
Native Department, Wellington.

Matariki North and South Blocks

I have the honour to forward herewith for transmission to His Excellency the Governor recommendations by the Waikato District Maori Land Board for the removal of the restrictions on the alienation of the above Blocks so as to permit of the proposed sale to Robert Alexander Wight of Coromandel.

Several of the owners appeared before the Board and gave evidence in support of the application. Their evidence went to show that the land has never been occupied by the Natives since 1871 and is now of no use to them being very broken and stony country. The proposed purchaser at the present time holds an informal lease over the Blocks, but the Natives wish to sell as the rentals they derive are too small and they are anxious to have the consideration money in order to discharge debts which have been incurred in proceeding cases before the Native Land and Appellate Courts. The land has no road access at the present time and can only be reached from the sea in moderate weather. Both the members of the Board are well acquainted with the land and inform me that it is too rocky for the Natives to ever make use of it unless at considerable expense, and they consider that the price proposed to be paid is a very good one. All the owners have sufficient other lands with the exception of the Pake family who are owners in Matariki North, but a list has been lodged showing interests to which they are entitled to succeed as successors to their deceased father, and it was pointed out that to partition out their interests would be of very little use to them and they could derive very little benefit from the land when it was cut out, and the expense of effecting such partition would in all probability cost more than <sup>the</sup> value of the land which would be awarded to them.

P.2. of 2 ( 2 )

decided to grant the required recommendation.

The Board's file of papers is forwarded for your information.

Actg. President Waikato District  
Maori Land Board

17094

NATIVE DEPARTMENT  
RECEIVED  
APR 19 1923  
AUCKLAND.

Shames

17<sup>th</sup> April 1923

Augustus Ruzich, for the purpose of removing the meeting house at present situated on waqoum 382<sup>B</sup> 32<sup>A</sup>, at any time during the next six months, this is in accordance with a request by Yera te Yera that the building be allowed to remain as at present until the site to where it is to be removed, on the Tepeuariki Block at Parou is ready.

Witness to Signature, A. Ruzich  
J. P. Bush  
Clerk of Court, Thames.

The above extension for removal of meeting house at waqoum situated on waqoum 382<sup>B</sup> 32<sup>A</sup> Block is granted at my request to enable the site for reerection of same to be prepared before the removal commences, so that the reerection can be carried out as the material arrives.

Dated at Thames this 17<sup>th</sup> April 1923.

Witness to  
Signed by the same  
Yera te Yera, after the  
contents had been read  
over and explained to him,  
by me.

Yera te Yera

J. P. Bush  
Clerk Thames

