

IN THE MATTER OF The Treaty of Waitangi
Act 1975

AND

IN THE MATTER OF Claims by
 HUHURERE
 TUKUKINO and
 OTHERS known as the
 HAURAKI CLAIMS

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF WHAITIRI MIKAERE ON
BEHALF OF NGATI HUARERE**

1. My name is Whaitiri Mikaere. I belong to Ngati Pukenga and Ngati Huarere.
2. After the death of Tamatekapua and Tuhoromatakaka, Ngati Huarere settled and occupied Moehau.
 - The hapu of Ngati Huarere radiated out - Ngati Pare, Ngati Raukatauri, Ngati Piri and Ngati Koheri.
 - I will now give an outline of hapu lands, with emphasis on the lands and occupations of Ngati Raukatauri.

- There were many acts of manawhenua which occurred before and after settlement by other incoming tribes. One example was the trading of resources between hapu and iwi of other areas throughout the country. Also, take involving tukuwhenua to the ancestors of Ngati Tamatera, such as Tokatea.
 - I will now discuss the tribal territory of Ngati Raukauri (or Te Mango as they became known), including significant pa, settlements and urupa.
 - I will now talk of the infighting which occurred among the hapu of Ngati Haurere.
3. I will now talk about the arrival of the hapu of Marutuahu and the gradual decline in population and tribal territory, including the impact of the Ngapuhi excursions, the flight of Ngati Maru and Ngati Huarere during times of war in Hauraki, the battle of Taumatawiwi and the resettlement period of Hauraki, and the occupation of Ngati Raukauri territory during and after wars.
4. I will now talk of the descendants of Te Wharekiri, the last reigning ariki of Ngati Raukauri, focusing on Wikitoria Nohohau, Heni Te Ruahoho and Hei Te Poru.
- Ancestral land remained in the possession of Wikitoria Rangipiki, Arama Karaka and Wikitoria Nohohau, who were thought to be the only surviving descendants of Paeke. These people exercised the mana of their lands, an example being the gifting of Kennedy's Bay to Ngati Porou.
 - I will now talk of the lands and settlements these descendants occupied.
 - I will now discuss the return of Pera and Wiremu to Ngati Raukauri and Ngati Pukenga in 1884.

This concludes my outline of the traditional history.

5. I will now talk about the history regarding the alienation of the majority of the land block known as Matamataharakeke.
 - Prior to the Native Land Court Title investigation there was timber milling of kauri rainforests and also goldmining on this block of land.
 - Following this investigation and subsequent Court decision, full ownership of this block was granted to one Paraone Te Awa, who was placed on the block to work by Arama Karaka and Wikitoria Rangipiki.
 - Following an appeal in 1871, this decision was changed by the Court to include Arama Karaka, Wikitoria Rangipiki and Wikitoria Nohohau as owners of Matamataharakeke.
 - This block of land was eventually sold with the exception of 300 acres, which was partitioned to create a Maori reserve.
 - There was succession to interests of Ngapera Te Akau, by her helper's relations, who were of Ngapuhi origin. At this point, Matamataharakeke was alienated from us again by the actions of the Native Land Court and the Crown.
 - Eventually Ngapera Te Akau's helper's children sold 223 acres of the Maori reserve to Goudie, a Pakeha farmer.
 - In 1964 the Maori trustee declared the remaining 70 acres of the Maori reserve uneconomic, and this remainder was put up for sale. Muri Aroha Andrews, a granddaughter of Pera Taamati, bought this land, and it is presently owned by her son, Alan Andrews.

Although the remaining land is currently in the possession of a branch of the original genealogical tree, the possession is significant in that it marks the fact that the land has been in the continuous ownership of Ngati Raukatauri for over one thousand years. However, because collective ownership of the block was undesirable in a Pakeha framework of landownership, my rights and those of my mothers and grandmothers generation were extinguished.