

Turangawaewae - A brief history of our place



The descendants of the *Ngai Tai Ki Tamati* people settled in the Auckland - *Tāmaki-makau-rau* region over 600 years ago. The footprint in the logo refers to a fossilised footprint found on Motutapu Island after a volcanic eruption on nearby Rangitoto. Larger footprints refer to the leaders of the past who helped to navigate their people to these shores and smaller footprints refer to their descendants who helped to settle here.

Following conflict with neighbouring tribes and the British, much of their land was confiscated or sold leaving the tribe with only traditional sites like the *Umupuia Marae* south of Maraetai. During this time the tribe's Chief, *Te Irirangi*, became an influential figure in preserving the identity and mana of his people.

A significant financial compensation was granted to *Ngai Tai Ki Tamati* in 2015 and an undertaking by the government to restore historical sites.

Today we are fortunate to enjoy a close association with *Ngai Tai Ki Tamati* and as our school is situated on land belonging to *Ngai Tai Ki Tamati* we carry with us a sincere commitment as guardian and custodians to protect and preserve the land and Tāne forest in particular.

Our connection is illustrated by our school haka "Kia mana ake" which contains references to our origins and the land we occupy:

Ngā taonga o tātou tipuna	The treasures of our ancestors
E tū ana tātou i raro i te maru o Puke Ariki	We are standing under the protection/shelter of Puke Ariki and
Me te mana o Ngāi Tai e!	The prestige of the people and land of the Ngāi Tai iwi!

Umupuia Marae

Ko Kohukohunui te Maunga	Kohukohunui is our Mountain (in the Hunua ranges)
Ko Wairoa te Awa	The Wairoa is our river (which flows from the Hunua ranges to the sea near Maraetai)
Ko Maraetai te Moana	Maraetai is our ocean which we travelled through to Aotearoa
Ko Tainui te Waka	The Tainui is our waka/canoe which sailed from Polynesia to Aotearoa.
Ko Ngai Tai te Iwi	Ngai Tai is our tribe
Ko Umupuia te Marae	Umupuia is our sacred place
Ko Ngeungeu te Whare Tupuna	Ngeungeu is (the name of) our meeting house
Ko Tara Te Irirangi te Ariki ki runga	Tara Te Irirangi is the paramount chief who stands on our meeting house
Ko Raukohekohe te Whare kai	Raukohekohe is (the name of) our dining hall
Ko St Marys te Whare karakia	St Mary's is our place of prayer (chapel)



Maraetai - 1882



Umupia Marae



Portrait of Te Irirangi