

### **Te Kiri's 40 Acres:**

West of Wellsford and within the Kourwhero Block there is an ancient Wahi Tapu known by the Pakeha as Maori Hill or Te Kiri's 40 acres (section 6) of the Mahurangi purchase. This piece of land was sold by Te Kiri and his tuakana Te Urunga for £300 in 1854 as part of the Kourawhero and Ahuroa purchase. The land was sold under the authority of the Te Kawerau iwi. Te Kiri signed under his grandfather's name Te Kirikaiparaoa, but he was buried under his name Te Kiripatuparaoa

This block of land was an important Wahi Tapu, however, unfortunately Te Kiri never revealed who was buried there. Due to the closeness of the Pa Maioro at Kikitangiao one may assume that the Tupuna buried on the block were Tahinganui (Ngati Tahinga) and his uri.

Te Kiri having realised his mistake in selling a Wahi Tapu, re-purchased the block from the Government. After the death of Te Kiri on the 19 November 1914 Te Rahui resold the land to a Pakeha farmer named Martin. The receipt was signed with an X by Rahui and witnessed by Jane Harris.



We the descendants of Te Kiri and Pepei from the Omaha Pa whakapapa to Tahinganui through our Ngai Tahu Tupuna. From Haukapaia we trace our lineage to Te Wananga ka moe aia ia Turangi (Ngati Manuhiri) and eventually connect to Te Matire and Te Wera, a kaputa ko Te Urunga raua ko Te Kiri.