

**Kōiwi Tangata
Waikaremoana**



January 2009

Background

Te Papa holds one kōiwi tangata in the wāhi tapu from the Waikaremoana area (KT96).

As is the case for many of the kōiwi tangata who came to be in the museum's care prior to the formation of the Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme, information on specific provenance or where this tupuna was found is not available.

Provenance Information

The tupuna was purchased by the Dominion Museum in July 1931 from R. Edwards. We have no further information about the seller or reasons for sale.

The Physical Anthropology registration data records the date of purchase but does not note when this tupuna was collected or taken. It records that the kōiwi tangata (a māhunga) arrived in a fragile condition, missing both upper and lower jaws, and with some damage to the forehead (most likely caused before death).

It is possible that this tupuna had been collected as part of medical research and research into physical injuries.

The only other information contained in the registration data is that the tupuna came from Waikaremoana. There is no information on iwi connections.

Return to iwi of Waikaremoana

This tupuna was returned by Te Papa to the iwi of Waikaremoana on Saturday 24 January 2009 at Te Kuha Marae.