



25 July 2026

Tēnā koe

Re: Official Information Act (OIA) Request – taonga ME11584 removed

Thank you for your general enquiry dated 28 June 2026, which included requests for the following information:

A written explanation of how this taonga, registered as ME11584, came to be removed from your collections and presented at Te Wainui Marae without my consent;

Details of the chain of custody from the time the anchor was registered as ME11584 in your collections to its recent presentation, including who authorized its release and whether they were aware of my exclusive authority

Te Papa has searched its records related to taonga ME11584. Our records indicate that ME11584 remains in Te Papa's collection and is currently housed in Te Papa's storage facilities. There has been no record of movement of taonga ME11584 from the museum since it was moved to the Cable Street site. We have identified no record that ME11584 has been removed from the collection, loaned, transferred, or presented to Te Wainui Marae.

Following enquiries with relevant staff and a physical verification of the taonga, Te Papa has confirmed that ME11584 remains in our possession. Accordingly, the information requested is refused under section 18(e) of the OIA, as the information requested does not exist.

Te Papa has responded on the basis of the taonga identifier (ME11584) provided in your request. If you intended to refer to a different taonga, please contact us with any further identifying information that may assist.

If you are not satisfied with this response, you have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request, please contact OIA@tepapa.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

Peter Corley
Chief Finance and Strategy Officer