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DRAFT

NGĀTI KAUWHATA AND NGĀTI WEHI WEHI

INTERESTS

IN AND ABOUT

TE ROHE PŌTAE DISTRICT

EXTENDED BRIEF OF EVIDENCE

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Preface

The Author

Peter McBurney is a Pākehā New Zealander of Irish and English descent. He was born in Ōtāhuhu and grew up in Māngere Bridge, South Auckland. In 1994, McBurney completed a BA degree at the University of Auckland, specialising in anthropology, Māori studies and history. Since December 1994, he has worked as a freelance historian, under contract to the Crown Forestry Rental Trust and its clients, the Office of Treaty Settlements, Iwi and other public organisations, which has entailed researching and writing historical reports to support claims to the Waitangi Tribunal and/or direct negotiations with the Crown. Clients have included whanau, hapu and iwi of Hauraki, Te Arawa, Whanganui, Te Tai Rāwhiti, Wairarapa/Tararua, Tauranga Moana, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Te Urewera/Kaingaroa, Te Tai Tokerau, Mahurangi, Te Tau Ihu o Te Ika a Māui and Raukawa.

Over the past 17 years, Peter McBurney has completed more than twenty reports and given evidence to the Waitangi Tribunal on seven occasions. The reports cover a wide range of claim-related issues spanning all periods of New Zealand/Aotearoa's colonial history, including public works takings of Māori land, the operation of the Native Land Court, the New Zealand Land Wars, legal challenges of the colonial regime undertaken by Māori, and the development of Māori organisations aimed at promoting Maori autonomy and self-determination. While they are often supplemented by interviews with kaumātua and other tribal experts, the reports are primarily based on archival research.