

Searching for Māori Land

This information sheet contains useful resources to help with Māori land research, as listed below. For further assistance regarding other records that may be useful, please contact an archivist.

Māori Land Court Minute Book Index 1865-1910

This index is available for searching on the PCs in Archives New Zealand's Auckland Reading Room. You can search for names or land blocks mentioned in minute books dated 1865-1910. The index provides references to specific minute books and pages.

Māori Land Court minute books

Archives New Zealand's Auckland office has photocopies of MLC minute books for the following areas:

Tai Tokerau	[series 23161]	Tairāwhiti	[series 23162]
Wairiki	[series 23163]	Waikato-Maniapoto	[series 23164]

To find a minute book in Archway choose: *Advanced Search* followed by *Record*. In the keywords field type the name of the minute book e.g. *Hauraki Minute Book 9*. Click *exact phrase* followed by *search*. You can then order the volume for viewing. We cannot copy the minute books, but you are welcome to photograph pages.

Māori Land Court minute books for the whole country are held at the Manukau Research Library (Level 1) and the University of Auckland Library. These records are on microfilm and pages can be printed.

Block and alienation files

These files relate to land blocks that have been alienated (sold or leased) from Māori owners, and then usually gone into the general title system. These files are listed by block name in Archway.

Files are held for the following areas:

Tai Tokerau	[series 11574, 11466, 24043]
Waikato-Maniapoto	[series 15353, 15354, 15355, 25436]
Gisborne	[series 11194]
Tauranga	[series 23533, 23534]
Rotorua	[series 11192, 11195].

Further block files are still held at offices of the Māori Land Court.

QuickMap

QuickMap is searchable database available on a PC in the Auckland Reading Room. The database contains copies of Māori Land [ML] plans, often showing block boundaries or partitions. The following are also included: deposited [DP] plans, survey office [SO] plans, old land claim plans and roll maps.

Māori Land Description books

Series 23798 [North Auckland], series 23995 [South Auckland]

The descriptions of boundaries are generally a handwritten or typed interpretation of the decision contained in the Māori Land Court minutes regarding the area of land to be partitioned. A sketch is sometimes included. The description books are grouped by land district.

Māori Land Description Index

North Auckland [series 23799], South Auckland [series 24703]

The index is arranged under the name of the land block and then by section numbers. The index provides a page number which relates to the page number in the Māori Land Description books (series 23798 and 23995).

Māori Block Index – ask an archivist

This is an index for the North and South Auckland land districts that provides references to land deeds or certificates of title for Māori blocks where the land has gone into general title.