



HERITAGE NEW ZEALAND
POUHERE TAONGA

Ngā Kōhatu o Aotearoa

Ancestral Maori travelled the length and breadth of the country in search of stone.

These precious lithic resources – stretching from the bottom of Te Wai Pounamu to the top of Te Ika a Māui – were adapted and used by Māori for a range of purposes.

Examples of their craftsmanship survive today in the form of taonga shaped by tools and skilled hands.

How Māori used stone

Taonga

Tools

Weapons

Fishing

Cooking

Horticulture

Pounamu

Taonga

Nephrite



Mau Taringa (ear pendant)

Te Papa Collection.: ME012478



Hei tiki

Te Papa Collection:
OC00099

Pounamu

Taonga

Serpentine



Mau kakī (reel necklace unit)

Te Papa Collection.: 130360



Whaturei, or Kōuma (pendant)

Canterbury Museum, Jessie Creative Cultures: E148-79

Pakohe

Tools

Marlborough
Argillite



Toki (adze)

Te Papa Collection: ME007972



Toki (adze) blade

Te Papa Collection:
BL000244



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Karā

Tools

Tahanga Basalt



Toki made from Karā

Toki made from Karā

Tairāwhiti Museum, *Te Whare Taonga o Tairāwhiti*
ID2269



Pounamu

Tools

Nephrite



Toki Pounamu

Te Papa Collection.: ME023992



Toki Pounamu being cut

Te Papa Collection: ME002040



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Kiripaka

Tools

Chert



Pirori (string
drill) with chert
tip

Te Papa Collection.: ME000981



Whaorei, or Whao — drill tip made from
kiripaka (chert).

Te Papa Collection: ME016311

Matā

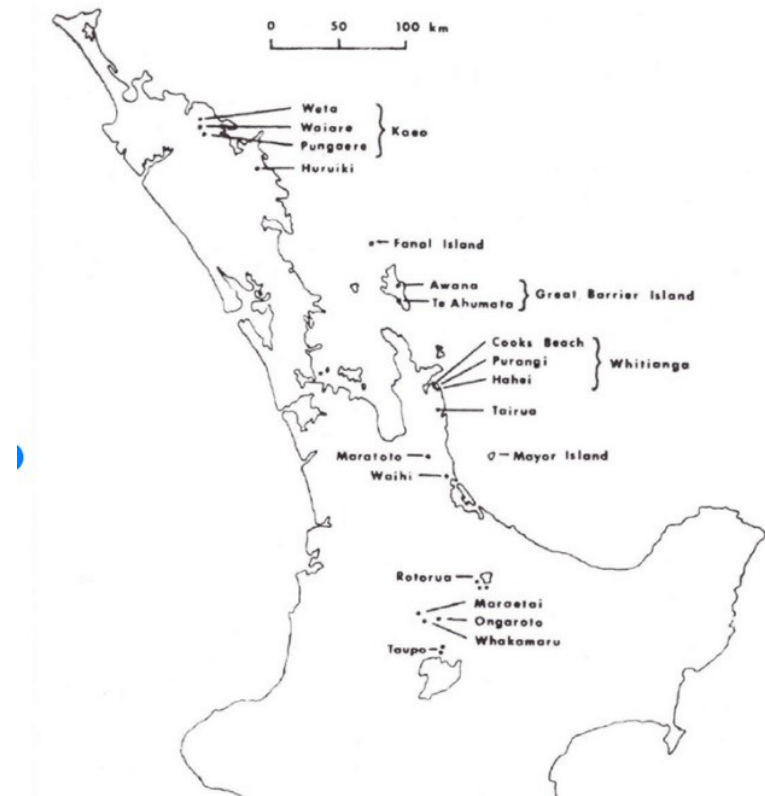
Tools

Obsidian



A sample of Matā (or Tūhua)—obsidian

Te Papa Collection: ME017141



Sources of Matā in Aotearoa.



Tunaেকে

Tools

Sandstone



Hoanga (grindstone) made from Tunaেকে

Te Papa Collection.: ME006210



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Kōkawa

Tools

Andesite



Te Papa Collection: ME002045/2



Te Papa Collection: ME001500

Patu Muku (stone pounders) for working flax fibre



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Pounamu

Weapons

Nephrite



Patu Pounamu

Source: lithiccastinglab.com



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Ōnewa

Weapons

Basalt



Patu Onewa (left), and Patu Pounamu and Onewa (above)

Source: lithiccastinglab.com



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Pounamu

Fishing



Mataua (fish-hook) left, and Pa Kahawai (minnow lure) made from what is believed to be serpentine, right.



Kōhatu

Fishing

Stone



Te Papa Collection: OL000564



Te Papa Collection: FE008552

Mahe (fishing sinkers) made from greywacke (left) and basalt (right).

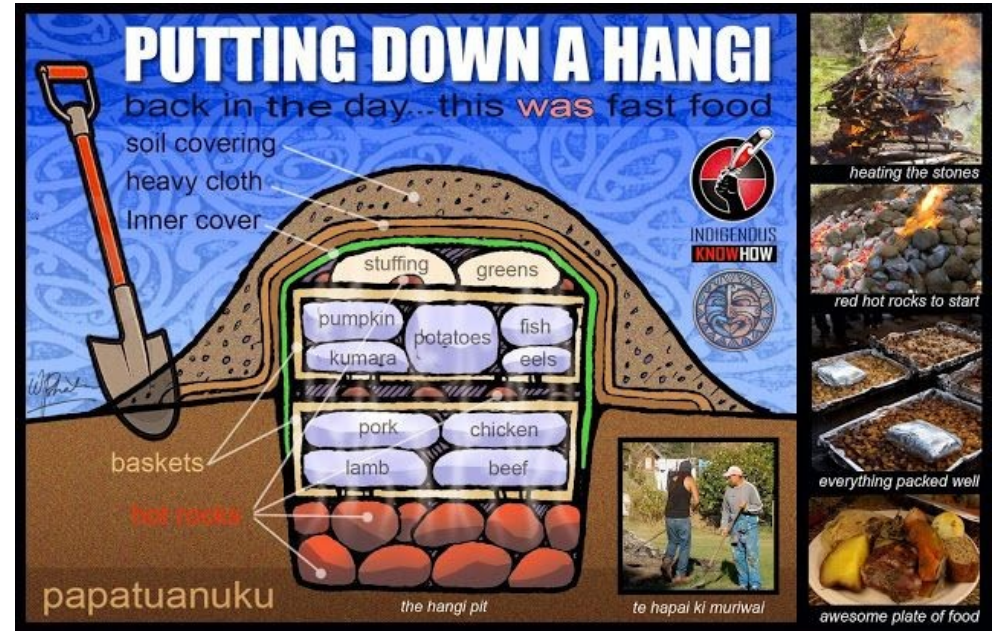


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Kōhatu

Cooking

Stone



Hangi stones

Kōhatu

Horticulture

Stone



Stone gardening feature near Pakaraka.



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