

# ORAL HISTORY

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Te Pakaru lived at Waireporepo Pa and invited Whareupoko of the Takoremu Pa to join forces with him: *“In time of war your taiaha and my taiaha would defeat the enemy. In time of peace your food and my food would defeat the greatest eaters.”* Whareupoko refused the invitation, so Te Pakaru attacked and defeated him.



## The Tapu Stone-Te Ana O Te Aomutua

Stories are told of the bodies of high ranking people being transported over the ridge to rest overnight on the Tapu Stone.

The following day the body was taken across the swamp and up to an ancient limestone cave on Kaokaoroa for burial. The Tapu Stone rests near the road entry to Pekapeka.

### Eeling

The Pa at the southern end of the wetland was a fishing camp. Nets were used to catch the eels in the stream and when the net was full it was rolled across to hand dug ponds where the eels were stored. The eels were processed by the women and children by threading them onto flax strings and hung up to dry.



Te Ana O Te Aomutua  
The name means “the cave or shelter of Te Aomutua”.