



Date: 8 March 2013

To: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, County Board Chairwoman

From: Ellen Censky, Ph.D., Senior Vice President/Academic Dean, Milwaukee Public Museum
censky@mpm.edu, 414-278-2786

Subject: **Approval to deaccession and repatriate Maori Ancestral Remains as requested by the Te Papa Tongarewa, the official agent for the New Zealand Government**

The Milwaukee Public Museum has received a formal request to repatriate Maori Ancestral remains from the Te Papa Tongarewa, the official agent of the New Zealand Government. All explanatory materials regarding these two requests are attached.

All necessary investigation has been done on this request to confirm that it complies with the MPM Collections Policy.

This repatriation and deaccession request has been approved by all the required staff at the Milwaukee Public Museum and was approved by the MPM Board of Directors at the February 21, 2013 meeting. As policy states, we are now requesting approval for repatriation and permission to deaccession from the Milwaukee County Board and would like these items to be presented at the next possible Milwaukee County Parks, Energy & Environment Committee for initial approval.

Fiscal note

The resolution has no fiscal impact.

Upon these final approvals, please indicate the date approved and return these signed documents to:

Claudia Jacobson
Registrar
Milwaukee Public Museum
800 W. Wells Street
Milwaukee, WI 52213

c: County Executive Chris Able
Supervisor Gerry Broderick, Chairman, Parks, Energy and Environment
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Janelle Jensen, Parks Committee Clerk



REQUEST TO DEACCESSION AND REPATRIATE

The following accession of Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM) material has been requested for repatriation. The MPM Repatriation Committee has met and is recommending the deaccessioning and repatriation of the following material.

Please review the form and attached formal review by the curatorial section and sign where indicated if you approve. Following your approvals, please place this request before the MPM Board of Directors and then the Milwaukee County Board. Following all approvals and posting in the Federal Registry (without receiving any challenges to this repatriation), formal deaccessioning and repatriation will be finalized.

GROUP REQUESTING REPATRIATION:

Te Papa Tongarewa/ Museum of New Zealand
Cable Street
P.O. Box 467
Wellington 6011, New Zealand

CURATOR [Signature] SECTION: Anthropology DATE 1/17/13
SECTION HEAD [Signature] DATE 1/17/13

MATERIAL RECOMMENDED FOR DEACCESSIONING AND REPATRIATION:

Catalog #: E61462
Accession #: 22289
Culture: Maori, New Zealand
Object: Toi moko (preserved human head)
Date accessioned: 30 June 1970 as a purchase from Primitive Arts Gallery II, Milwaukee Wisconsin (Bernard Brown, owner).

APPROVED: Senior Vice President/Academic Dean [Signature] Date 1-21-13
President/CEO [Signature] Date 1/23/13
ACTION BY MPM Board of Directors Unanimous Approval Date: 2/21/13

ACTION BY Milwaukee County Parks Committee and County Board of Supervisors:
Date: _____

MEMO

Date: January 18, 2013

To: E. Censky, Ph.D, Senior Vice President/Academic Dean
Jay Williams, President/CEo

Cc: C. Lupton, Head Anthropology & History
D. Scher Thomae, Assoc. Curator, Anthropology

From: Claudia Jacobson, Registrar

RE: Deaccession and Repatriation – Te Papa Tongarewa (Museum of New Zealand) for the Maori People

The Milwaukee Public Museum has received a formal request to repatriate the items on the attached to Te Papa Tongarewa (Museum of New Zealand) on behalf of the Maori people. All necessary investigation has been done on this request to confirm that the material is repatriable in accordance with the Milwaukee Public Museum Collection Policy and past practices. Therefor, I submit the Milwaukee Public Museum request for deaccession to you for your signature so that the deaccession and repatriation can be completed.

To complete the deaccession, signatures are required of the Senior Vice President and the President/CEO. Please review the attached deaccession forms and sign and date each and return to the Registrar. The request will then be submitted to the Academic Committee and Board of the Milwaukee Public Museum and with their approval to the Milwaukee County Board for final approval.

Attachments:

Repatriation Request
Recommendation by Repatriation Committee
Formal Request by Te Papa Tongarewa
New Zealand Government Mandate
Associated Archival Documentation

MPM Request for Repatriation

Prepared by Dawn Scher Thomaе, Collections Manager with assistance from George Ulrich, Curator Emeritus, MPM Anthropology Department on January 10, 2013

On December 27, 2012 the Milwaukee Public Museum received notification by e-mail from the Te Papa Tongarewa/ Museum of New Zealand with formal letter of request for the repatriation of a Maori Ancestral Remains (koiwi Tangata Maori). Te Papa Tongarewa is the official agent for the New Zealand Government and is authorized to act on their behalf for this purpose. The material requested is:

Catalog #: E61462
Accession #: 22289
Culture: Maori, New Zealand
Object: Toi moko (preserved human head)

Background

The "pakipaki" or "moko mokai" designated by Te Papa as toi moko was accessioned 30 June 1970 as a purchase from Primitive Arts Gallery II, Milwaukee Wisconsin (Bernard Brown, owner). There is no attendant documentation other than that it was obtained from a "German Museum." A cursory search of German museums by Ulrich revealed no records of the sale of the toi moko to this gallery.

Description of E61462

61462/22289 is an adult male complete head preserved by a technique called "pakipaki" (alternate steaming and drying to arrest decay). The cheeks and forehead of the *toi moko* are tattooed and are apparently created post-mortem. The relic measures 27cm length, 15cm cranial breadth, 16cm height, and the cranial circumference is 53 cm.

Recommendation from the MPM Repatriation Committee (1/9/2013)

This item (E61462) has limited research value and is poorly documented. It was removed from exhibit over 20 years ago in the belief that this item was deemed inappropriate for exhibition by the original culture. The toi moko has deep significance to the Māori and it is our desire to respect their repatriation policy as we honor the repatriation policy of the United States (NAGPRA) in the return of human remains to ancestral groups. In deference to Māori beliefs, we recommend that the toi moko be returned to Te Papa Tongarewa/Museum of New Zealand in accordance with established museum and statutory procedures.

ACTION BY MPM REPATRIATION COMMITTEE

Committee Meeting Date: 1/9/2013

Final Review and Recommendation: 1/14/2013

Recommendation to Repatriate: Approved [X] Denied [] Date 1/17/2013

MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND
TE PAPA TONGAREWA

Cable Street
PO Box 467
Wellington
New Zealand

Phone 64-4-381 7000
Fax 64-4-381 7070
mail@tepapa.govt.nz
www.tepapa.govt.nz

28 December 2012

Jay Williams
President / Chief Executive Officer
Milwaukee Public Museum
800 West Wells Street
MILWAUKEE, WI 53233
UNITES STATES OF AMERICA

Tēnā koe (Greetings)

REPATRIATION OF KŌIWI TANGATA (MĀORI SKELETAL REMAINS)

This letter follows on from correspondence which took place in 2009 between Dawn Scher Tomae, Anthropology Collections Manager, and a previous staff member at Te Papa Tongarewa, Tania Te Whenua. This correspondence involved discussion of the Milwaukee Public Museum's Māori holdings, along with Te Papa's intention to make a formal request for repatriation of one Toi moko (tattooed preserved head of Māori origin) held by the Museum.



Repatriation Programme

To provide some background, following a series of discussions with Māori the New Zealand Government agreed in 2003 to provide support for the repatriation of Māori human remains. Te Papa was tasked to progress repatriation and considers it an extreme privilege to work alongside a group of Māori customary and scholarly leaders to request and negotiate the return of Māori and Moriori kōiwi tangata (skeletal remains from New Zealand and the Chatham Islands) and Toi moko (tattooed heads).

We have observed a change in museums, universities, and other institutions perspectives, about the appropriateness of retaining Māori human remains and their perspectives about repatriation of indigenous human remains to countries of origin. Across Europe, there is an increased willingness to repatriate indigenous human remains, and you may be aware that France changed its legislative framework to enable Māori human remains to be repatriated to Aotearoa New Zealand. Parts of North America have also been active, although we are aware that giving effect to NGAPRA seems to be an important starting point.

Any information gathered by Te Papa reveals that each kōiwi tangata and Toi moko has a different journey; some were exchanged between museums or universities for research purposes, other kōiwi tangata were taken from sacred burial caves, found during excavation work, or uncovered with sand dunes movements. There are also instances where human remains were traded by Māori.

Request to repatriate koiwi tangata (skeletal remains)

In your case, the information provided to Te Papa indicates that the one Toi moko (tattooed preserved head) is held in the collection of the Milwaukee Public Museum, having been purchased from Mr Bernard Brown in 1969.



Cat. Prefix	Cat. No.	Acc. No.	Object Description	Source	Acc. Method	Location
E	61462	22289	Tattooed Head	Mr. Bernard Brown	Purchase 07/01/1969	Exhibition 3C045

The purpose of this letter is to formally request the repatriation of this Toi moko (E61462) held by the Milwaukee Public Museum.

Process going forward

Should Milwaukee Public Museum agree to repatriate the Toi moko, Te Papa would organise an appropriate time with Museum staff for the formal handover of the remains.

The formal handover involves a cultural ceremony to acknowledge the tupuna (the ancestor), an acknowledgement to the museum for their role in caring for the tupuna since 1969, and the signing of an agreement that acknowledges the deaccession of the human remains from the museum collection and transfer to Te Papa. As Te Papa's role is one of facilitator, the tupuna is not accessioned into Te Papa's collections, but is recorded as being received and to be cared for by Te Papa until decisions are made about their final resting place.

MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND
TE PAPA TONGAREWA

Cable Street
PO Box 467
Wellington
New Zealand

Phone 64-4-381 7000
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www.tepapa.govt.nz

Te Papa arranges and meets the costs of collecting, crating, packing, and freighting the human remains to Aotearoa New Zealand.

The tupuna is ceremonially welcomed by Te Papa and other Māori community leaders to acknowledge that he has arrived on home soil. The tupuna then rests in a dedicated repository room (Wāhi Tapu) until their provenance research is completed. Once their provenance is confirmed, we negotiate onward journey to the area that they were uplifted from.

Next steps

Attached to this request is a mandate letter from the New Zealand Government's Ministry of Culture and Heritage setting out Te Papa's role in the repatriation programme; further information can also be accessed through our website on webpage: <http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/AboutUs/Repatriation/pages/overview.aspx> Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to make contact me on teherekiekieh@tepapa.govt.nz.



I look forward to receiving your response to this formal request to repatriate the tupuna held by Milwaukee Public Museum.

Ngā mihi (Kind regards)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Te Herekiekie Herewini".

Te Herekiekie Herewini
Kaiwhakahaere Kaupapa Pūtere Kōiwi
Manager Repatriation

cc: Dawn Scher Tomae, Anthropology Collections Manager.

TE MANATŪ TAONGA
MINISTRY FOR CULTURE AND HERITAGE

31 August 2004

Dr Seddon Bennington
Chief Executive
Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa
PO Box 467
WELLINGTON

Dear Dr Bennington

**REPATRIATION OF KOIWI TĀNGATA MĀORI (MĀORI ANCESTRAL
HUMAN REMAINS)**

The purpose of this letter is confirm that the New Zealand Government, in May 2003, approved a repatriation policy for kōiwi tāngata Māori (kōiwi) and in particular, mandated the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa (Te Papa) to undertake this important work on behalf of the New Zealand Government.

Mandated to act as Crown agent, Te Papa will in most cases be the first point of contact in New Zealand to consider any proposal to return kōiwi from overseas and is responsible for the facilitation of the repatriation of kōiwi. This includes direct negotiations with overseas public institutions through to the physical return of kōiwi to New Zealand.

As you will be aware, Te Papa is required to implement the repatriation policy in accordance with the following parameters:

Definition of 'Kōiwi Tāngata Māori': The term 'kōiwi tāngata Māori' is defined as:

"any part of the human body (skeletal or soft tissue) of Māori or Moriori origin, which is in an unmodified state since death. This includes all Toi Moko which are tattooed, preserved heads of Māori or Moriori origin".

Kōiwi does not include items that have been modified entirely or partly from human bone (eg. carved or decorated).

Kōiwi Tāngata Māori Principles: The repatriation policy is governed by six kōiwi principles:

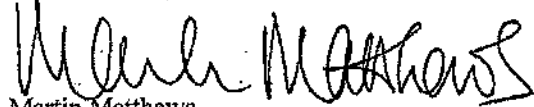
- the government role is mainly one of facilitation - it does not claim ownership of kōiwi;
- repatriation from overseas institutions and individuals is by mutual agreement only;
- the repatriation policy does not cover Māori remains in war graves maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, or other similar institutions;
- no payment for kōiwi will be made to overseas institutions;

- kōiwi must be identified as originating from New Zealand; and
- Māori are to be involved in the repatriation of kōiwi, and to determine the final resting place, where possible.

It is important that repatriation of kōiwi is carried out in a low key manner to accord kōiwi their rightful respect and dignity.

I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the work already undertaken thus in the area of repatriation. Te Papa's institutional knowledge and expertise in this area is well recognised internationally together with its well-established tikanga capability to carry out this work in a culturally appropriate manner. These attributes will no doubt assist in the repatriation work that Te Papa is undertaking under its Karanga Aotearoa Repatriation Programme.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Matthews
Chief Executive

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**MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM
ACCESSION CARD**

Acc. No. 22289 Estimated value \$2800.00

Received June 29 19 70

Classification Ethnology

Estimated Number of Specimens 7

Locality Various

Cataloged June 30 19 70

Catalog No. 61459-61465

<u>Pambara musical instrument (Masamba)</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Maule mask</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Yoruba iron sacrificial altar (Osenyi)</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>Maori tattooed head</u>	<u>200</u>
<u>Folding stool</u>	
<u>Surinam (Bush Negro)</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>Surinam peanut pounding board</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Ekoi head</u>	<u>100</u>
<u>Nigeria</u>	

F.O.M. OPPORTUNITY FUND

Donation	<input type="checkbox"/>	F.O.M. Inc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mus. budget	<input type="checkbox"/>	F.O.M. Inc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	F.O.M. Genl.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collected	<input type="checkbox"/>	Museum	<input type="checkbox"/>			Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Made	<input type="checkbox"/>						

Purchase P. C. No. _____

From whom Gallery 11

Street Milwaukee

City _____

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