

Te Peeti Te Awe Awe Statue



Circa 1910



2007

Location: The Square, Palmerston North

Te Peeti Te Awe Awe (c1820-1884) was a chief of the Rangitane tribe and the statue in The Square was erected by his sister Ereni Te Awe Awe. Te Peeti was instrumental in selling the Upper Manawatu land to the Government, this land included the site of the city of Palmerston North. In addition Te Peeti along with other Maori warriors fought under the command of a number of military leaders and was presented with a sword and Union Jack by the Queen in recognition of his loyalty and valour.

The statue was unveiled in the Plaza corner of The Square on the 29th January 1907 by the Hon. James Carroll the Native Minister. A number of other notable guests were present as well as a significant group of Maori from around the region, it was estimated that over 200 people were present. The statue is made of Carrara marble and is a little larger than lifesize. It has remained in the Square largely unchanged to the present day.

For more information about the Te Peeti Statue see the following:

New Zealand and Pacific Zone – 2nd Floor:

Books: Local Collection

- Bradfield, A. G. S. (1956). *Forgotten days* (pp. 73-75).
Palmerston North, New Zealand: Author.
- Matheson, I. R. (2003). *Council and community* (pp. 11).
Palmerston North, New Zealand: Palmerston North
City Library.
- Buick, T. L. (1903). *Old Manawatu* (pp. 32). Palmerston
North: Buick & Young.

Photographs: Palmerston North City Library Photo Collection

Monuments: Mo 5, 6, 12, 20, 21, 22, Tangata Whenua:
Tw 1-1, Square: Sq 258, 368, 379

Newspaper Articles: Newspaper Index

Manawatu Standard card and computer index:
“Te AWE AWE, Te Peeti”

Ian Matheson City Archives – Ground Floor:

PNCC.: 1/5/1 box 9 folder 1, box 10 folder 4 -
correspondence
PNCC: 1/5/5 file 31/8. History and Maintenance
Research File: A175/72/3 Te Awe Awe Statue

Other references and resources on the Te Peeti statue may be found in the New Zealand and Pacific and Archives zones of the library.