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The Future Promise of Tau Henare Marae

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#### Abstract

This article explores how traditional knowledge and the aspirations of Tau Henare Marae whānau, of Ngāti Hine iwi and Te Orewai hapū, shaped an architectural design response – a proposed master plan for future development. This plan embeds their identity within both natural and built environments. Findings are presented from a Master of Architecture (Professional) thesis employing kaupapa Māori (Māori approach) methodologies such as pūrākau (a collection of traditional oral Māori narratives), Te Aranga Principles (Māori design principles), wānanga (discussing and learning about tribal knowledge) and whānau interviews in a comprehensive qualitative analysis of Tau Henare Marae buildings and landscaping. The research revealed that integrating kaupapa Māori approaches into architectural design significantly enhances iwi (tribe) and hapū (subtribe) engagement and promotes a strong sense of identity, leading to innovative re-imaginings of the built environment.

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