

for progress and preservation

According to Legend, the taniwha protecting the papakainga at Te Ohaaki takes the form of a pair of shags,—Makawa, the female who lives in a cave in the Waikato River beside the marae, and Mataehu, the male who dwells at the favourite fishing spot at the confluence of the Waiotapu stream and the Waikato, just north of the Mihi bridge.

But what has this legend to do with the Ministry of Works and Development?

The shags of the legend and the aerial view of the completed Ohaaki project illustrated here are part of a series by Val Raymond, the well known Taupo artist, for the Ministry of Works and Development's brochure on Ohaaki, the new Power development at Broadlands



geothermal field. Several originals are now in the hands of the Ngati Tahu, the tangata whenua of the Reporoa-Broadlands area, the people most affected by the Ohaaki Power project. Many areas surrounding the Ohaaki site held deep meaning for the land owners, the Ngati Tahu, and it was this landscape behind the landscape we see that the Ministry of Works and Development had to consider when planning site construction. The development of Ohaaki, MWD's latest geothermal project, is the happy culmination of the extensive negotiations with the Ngati Tahu. Negotiations that have allowed for continued progress in the area but which have respected the Ngati Tahu meeting house and sacred and historic reserves.

MWD AND NGATI TAHU partners in progress and preservation

