

Maori Place Names, Nelson and district.

Aorere	Flying or moving clouds
Atawhai	Liberality or kindness
Kaiteretere	<i>The bay just north of Stevens Bay.</i> As spelt means to eat hurriedly
Mahepuku	<i>Pepin Island.</i> A rounded sinker
Maitahi	<i>The river running through Nelson.</i> Now called the Matai. This is a very old name. Refers to one particular mai or matai (black pine)
Marahau	<i>A bay and farming settlement north of Sandy Bay.</i> Wind on a garden.
Matangi Awhea	<i>A very ancient name given to the flat land known as Auckland Point.</i>
Maungatapu	<i>The name usually refers to the double curved bush-clad hill lying east of Nelson at the head of the Maitai Valley</i>
Moturoa	<i>The tidal inlet adjoining Richmond and Stoke.</i> Probably the name of Rabbit Island
Motuweka	<i>Motueka.</i> Popular meaning is an isolated bush where the weka is found
Moutere	<i>The island between the bluffs and Motueka.</i> Name now given to the surrounding district. An island
Parapara	The soft mud used for dyeing flax
Pikimai	<i>Church Hill.</i> Site of Nelson Cathedral
Pohara	Beyond: the place of the long view
Riuwaka	<i>The district known as Riwaka.</i> The Inside or bilge of a canoe
Rotokura	<i>Cable Bay.</i> A red glow on the water
Takaka	Killing stick for parrot: bracken

Te Tahuna a tama i ea	<i>The Boulder Bank</i>
Totaranui	The place of the big totara tree
Waimeha	<i>The district known as the Waimea Plain.</i> Brackish or insipid water
Wainui	Big bay, many waters
Wakapuaka	Heaps of aka vines
Whakatu	To cause to erect. such as a canoe over a burial place for a Chief
Whangamoia	<i>The river which joins just north of Maunganui.</i> Haven of the moa

Street Names of Nelson

Ngatitama Street Ngatiawa Street	The Maori tribes which came to Nelson in the 1882 invasion. Te Atiawa and Ngatitama were tribes from Taranaki
Tipahi Street	May have originated from Maori Te Pehi who visited England in the 1820s
Emano Street	The name is thought to be derived from Manu - a Maori Chief, WI Katene Te Puoho

Bibliography:

Old Tasman Bay - J.D. Peart
A Dictionary of Maori Place Names - A.W. Reed
Street Names of Nelson - B.E. Dickinson