

106 years after its eruption, Mt. Tarawera still rises majestically above the tranquil waters of Lake Tarawera, near Rotorua, New Zealand. Photo: Solitaire Lodge, Rotorua, New Zealand

oday's visitors to New Zealand can easily retrace "Hinemihi's" path back to Te Wairoa and visit the site where it originally stood. The Buried Village - as the site is now known - can be found next to a quiet winding road near Lake Tarawera, a few miles outside of Rotorua, one of New Zealand's most popular areas.

Excavations on Te Wairoa began in 1936 and many scars from the dramatic night back in 1886 are now on show, with new relics placed on view as they are uncovered.

The city of Rotorua itself is one of New Zealand's oldest resorts and a long-time centre of the Maori people, who took advantage of its hot springs for cooking and bathing. It is still also the best place in New Zealand to see aspects of their culture, including concerts displaying dancing and singing, replicas of traditional buildings, fortified villages, plus unique Maori arts and crafts.

Like the tourists of yesterday who travelled to New Zealand to see the eighth wonder of the world, the New Zealand Tourism Board invites Clandon visitors to experience today's scenic wonders in the land the Maori originally called 'Aotearoa - land of the long white cloud'.



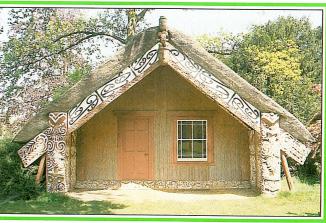
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'HINEMIHI' THE MAORI MEETING HOUSE AT CLANDON PARK A CENTENARY EXHIBITION



The Maori Meeting House - known as 'Hinemihi' - has been standing in the grounds of Clandon Park, Surrey for one hundred years in 1992.

Photo: New Zealand Tourism Board

In the summer of 1992, the Maori Meeting House known as 'Hinemihi o te Ao Tawhito' will have been standing in the grounds of Clandon Park, Surrey, for exactly 100 years.

It was brought to Clandon by the 4th Earl of Onslow, New Zealand's youngest ever Governor-General (1888-1892). Clandon has been the home of the Onslow family since 1641, and was presented to the National Trust in 1956. The 7th Earl and his family live in a house in the park.

Prior to being carefully dismantled and shipped 12,000 miles to England, 'Hinemihi' had stood derelict for three years, the only building left standing after volcanic Mt. Tarawera - thought to be extinct - suddenly erupted without warning in June 1886.

'Hinemihi' originally stood at the entrance to the small village of Te Wairoa, close to Rotorua, on New Zealand's North Island. It was built by the noted Maori craftsman, Aporo Wharekaniwha, and used by local Maoris to entertain tourists.