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7th May, 1937.

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MEMORANDUM for :-

The Under-Secretary,
Native Department,
WELLINGTON.

Part Niwarau A Block - Proposed acquisition for scenic purposes.

By Proclamation published in Gazette of 1912, pages 2434-5, two areas of 48 acres 1 rood and 2 acres 2 roods 8 perches respectively were taken for scenic purposes and compensation amounting to £100 as assessed by the Native Land Court was later paid. The land acquired is that shown within the red border on the attached plan.

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It is now desired to acquire as an addition to the reserve the area of approximately 9 acres 3 roods shown bordered yellow on the plan. The acquisition of this area would preserve the whole of the old fighting pahs and a beautiful stand of mamaku and would also materially reduce the amount of fencing required to properly protect the whole reserve.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands, Gisborne, has seen one of the principal owners and reports that the Natives would not be likely to raise any objection to the Crown acquiring the area. The Scenery Preservation Board, at a recent meeting, recommended the acquisition of the area and the Hon. Minister in Charge of Scenery Preservation has approved.

The area is a portion of part Section 189, Waitohi Parish, (Niwarau Block) which is native land subject to a lease expiring on the 20th December, 1939. The latest Government valuation of the whole property is dated the 3rd April, 1934, and is as follows -

Area: 683 acres 2 roods.
Capital Value: £1820.
Unimproved Value: £1090.
Improvements: £520 (owners), £210 (lessees).

The area of 9 acres 3 roods which it is desired to acquire is practically all unimproved. The north eastern corner has been swept by fire and is now in bracken fern and grass, which, even if claimed as an improvement, can have only a low valuation.

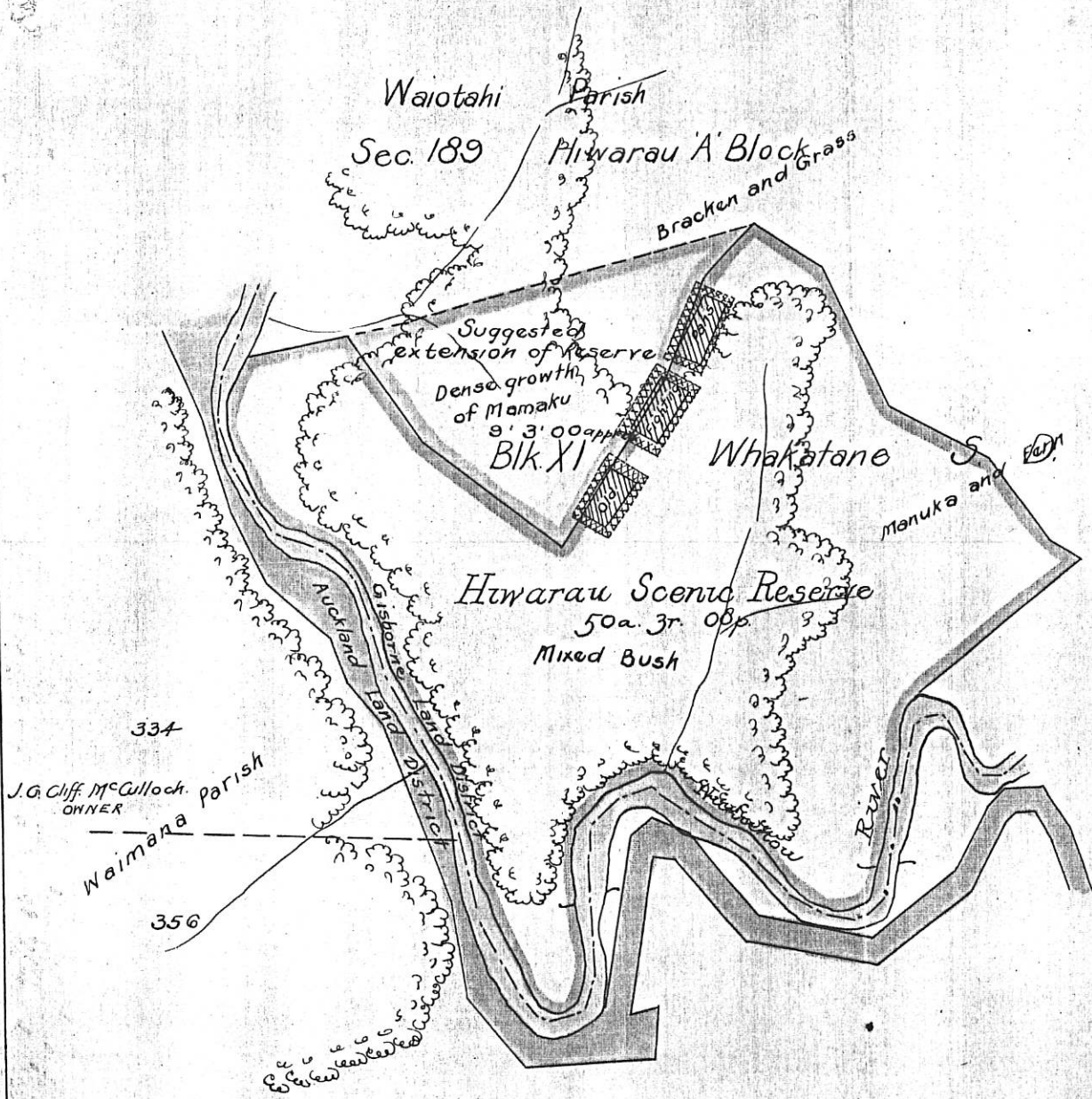
I should be glad if you would kindly acquaint the owners of the Government's intention to take the area of 9 acres 3 roods and obtain, if possible, their consent to such taking.

37/1

(Sgd.) W. Robertson
Under-Secretary.

OFOTIKI 1-0-37

Gisborne Land District



Sketch showing
Suggested extension of Hiwarau Scenic Reserve
Blk. XI Whakatane S. D.
Scale 5 chains to an Inch.

G. P. 3080

Nat. 66.]

M.O'B.

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N.D.

From: HEAD OFFICE

To

Our file: ... N.L.P. 1924/9

Your file:

Subject: ... PART HIWARAU A BLOCK
Proposed Acquisition for Scenic Purposes

Date: ... 2. 6.37.

Previous ref.:

Enclosures checked:

10,000/8/36-8012

To

Opetiki



The Registrar,
Native Land Court,
ROTORUA.

Opetiki

I attach copy of a memorandum received from the Under-Secretary for Lands with reference to an area of Hiwarau A Block which it is proposed shall be taken for scenic purposes.

Kindly take steps to inform the owners of this land of the intention to take the area and, if possible, secure their written agreement thereto, or at least that of the principal owners.

The plan forwarded by the Lands Department is enclosed herewith. After the necessary tracing has been made for your records kindly return the plan to Head Office, together with your report as early as possible.

Outsambell

Under-Secretary.

Encl:

Mr. Paul

Solomon Opetiki Panui

28/6/37

*Refer back as
written 1-9-1937
see G.P. sub. 24/163.
U.S.D. 32*

OFOTIKI 1-9-37