

shingle river floodplain will disappear. Under tall willows, evergreen trees and shrubs whose seeds are dispersed by birds will become important as will sycamore maple. Blackberry will diminish. On the edge of the trees old man's beard and *Muehlenbeckia* will be rampant. If a parasitic fungus arrives to attack the old man's beard *Muehlenbeckia* will succeed it. The upper terraces will be dominated by *Pittosporum ralphii* which is fast growing and tolerant to drought. All this assumes no human intervention. In fact we are planting natives in the swamp and upper terraces and clearing scrub from the latter. Our hope is that these will seed and succeed the present woody plants in these places.

NOTE: MAORI LORE OF PART OF CENTRAL CHRISTCHURCH – SOME ANCIENT TI KOUKA (CABBAGE TREES)

The Maori name for the original Pakeha Market Square of the 1850's and 1860's, now Victoria Square, is Te Uranga U, the landing place of the canoes or waka. The site of Puari pa stretches from the Carlton Mill Corner to the Town Hall, including the Law Courts and the Old Provincial Council Chambers area on the banks of the Avon river. Puari, a large and important pa, is an old site belonging to Waitaha and Kati Mamoe people, dating from before 1700. On this pa site beside the Avon is a very old ti kouka, actually in the form of a ring – an original old tree sent up shoots around its base; they form a circle of mature trees around the site of their now dead parent.

The central tree was there at the time of the occupation of the Puari pa. Another single old ti kouka tree is within the enclosed courtyard beside the Council Chambers, and there is another old, ring ti kouka tree across Gloucester Street at the Law Courts area of the Avon.

The Maori name for Victoria Square was given to me by Bill Karaitiana; the other information was from a kaumatua at Taumutu, the late Riki Ellison. He passed it on to Terry Ryan (Ngai Tahu Group Management Ltd) who told it to me.

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