

William Isaac Haberfield, born in Bristol in 1815, took up shore whaling at Moeraki in 1836 under the direction of John Hughes. Like many other whalers in the southern regions, Haberfield entered into a customary marriage with a Ngãi Tahu woman, Merianna Teitei. After her death he married Akari, the former partner of Banks Peninsula whaler Joseph Price, and their relationship was formalised in a Christian marriage ceremony. In 1875 Alexander Mackay believed Haberfield had deprived his children of their land. There is no evidence to support Mackay's claim. [E1796/5, Hocken Collections/Uare Taoka o Hākena]