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ENCOUNTERING TE WAIMATEMATE
AN HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION OF ENGAGEMENT WITH A LOCAL LANDSCAPE

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment
Of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts in History at
Massy University

KAREN BEKER
1999
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- Karen
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<td>Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives</td>
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The Old Place

No one comes
by way of the doughy track
through straggly tea tree bush
and gorse, past the hidden spring
and bitter cress.

Under the chill moon’s light
no one cares to look upon
the drunken fence-posts
and the gate white with moss.

No one except the wind
saw the old place
make her final curtsy
to the sky and earth:

And in no protesting sense
did iron and barbed wire
ease to the rust’s invasion
nor twang more tautly
to the wind’s slap and scream.

On the cream-lorry
or morning paper van no one comes,
for no one will ever leave
the golden city on the fussy train;
and there will be no more waiting
on the hill beside the quiet tree
where the old place falters
because no one comes any more

No one.

Hone Tuwhare
(Deep River Talk, Collected Poems
Auckland: Godwit Press, 1993)