



Boiler and Milling Equipment

Mangapapa Rd, Mt Damper

1926

Use:	Historic Interest Site	Historic Value:	3 out of 5
Materials:	Concrete, rusticated iron	Architectural Value:	- out of 4
NZHPT Registered:	Not registered	Technical Value:	2 out of 2
Legal Description:	Secs 2 9 Blk XIII Secs 14 - 23 50 Pts Sec 1 Pt Sec 2 Blk XIV Waro SD Secs 4 12 Blk I Sec 1 of 1 Secs 12 14 19 22 - 34 39 40 Pt Secs 5 13 35 Sub 1 of 10 Pt Subs 1 of 9 & 1 of II Blk II Pouatu SD - Moki SF No.91	Symbolic Value:	1 out of 3
		Rarity Value:	1 out of 2
		Townscape Value:	1 out of 2
		Group Value:	- out of 2
		Overall Heritage Value:	8 out of 20

The Moki Forest was quickly realised by settlers as being a mature forest full of some of the fastest and most attractive regenerating bush in New Zealand. For this reason, a reasonably large amount of milling took place, especially during the 1930s and 1940s.

The original way of milling timber was to split the slabs (usually Totara) with an axe. This method was followed by pit sawing of logs, which was the popular method used by sawmill companies. The earliest sawmill to use the Moki Forest as its main resource was the Tahora sawmilling company, situated just north of Tahora village. This was managed by Mr. John Robson, and later Mr. Bartholomew. The Erni's sawmill started on the Tangarakau Flat in 1926, and consisted of a 44 horse-powered portable engine and a boiler, which had a vertical breaking down bench and a three-sided planar. Another mill was operating on Rangi Road, Mt Damper by 1936, but was only a small, 2-man venture.

The Moki Road Sawmill, or Fazackerley Mill as it is known, was owned by the Fazackerley brothers and Mr. Harrison. By 1927, it was operating on a large scale, supplying many people with job opportunities. The mill was later owned by G.E.H. Fazackerley Ltd., a brother of the original owners. Mill managers included Mr. Mick Dillion, Mr. Blackmore, and Mr. Jack Turner, who had been a bush logging contractor. Mr. Turner remained the manager until the closure of the mill in 1947.

Some of the equipment used in Fazackerley's mill was brought together and placed at the present site to act as a reminder of the days of sawmilling.

Bibliography

Heritage Trail
Council Records