

Excerpt from “The Notable Trees of New Plymouth”, 2002

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Based on a review of S.W. (Bob) Burstall's Mensuration Report # 19, 1973.

Notable Tree 6+
"Great Grandini" p38

NATIVE TREE: 6+
SPECIES: *Agathis australis*.
Kauri Grove

NATIVE TREE: 6 +

+The "Great Grandini kauris" (**Fig. 25**) are located at Loyld and Frances Grundy's property, 53 Brooklands Rd.

In 1939 the Grundy family went on holiday to the Waipoua Kauri Forests in Northland. At some stage on their holiday the family encountered maintenance teams removing kauri saplings that were growing in close proximity to the road. Fred Grundy (alias The Great Grandini) parked the car further up the road, out of sight and removed 12 saplings that would subsequently have been destroyed. Upon his return home he planted the kauris along the rear boundary of 53 Brooklands Rd. This boundary borders on Brooklands Park and is defined by a stream. The row of kauri has random spacing and is slightly staggered. It runs almost parallel with the stream and Brooklands Rd, ranging from 6 m to 10 m distant from the stream. The trees are associated with numerous kahikatea which are about the same age, (1935, 36).

These kauris are all healthy with the majority growing vigorously. They range in size and form, from multi-stemmed trees to classic kauri rickers. It is anticipated that they will form a very prominent row in the future. The following is the distance between each tree (starting from the city end of the row) plus the dbh,

Tree #1: dbh = 46.1 cm

Tree #1 to tree #2 = 4m. Tree#2: dbh = 47.4 cm.

Tree #2 to tree #3 = 7.7 m. Tree#3: dbh = 42.4 cm.

Tree #3 to tree #4 = 3.3 m. Tree#4: dbh = 37.9 cm.

Tree #4 to tree #5 = 2.7 m. Tree#5: dbh = 37.9 cm.

Tree #5 to tree #6 = 5.7 m. Tree#6: dbh = 53.5 cm.

Tree #6 to tree #7 = 3.9 m. Tree#7: dbh = 36.9 cm.

Tree #7 to tree #8 = 3.3 m. Tree#8: dbh = 37.3 cm.

Tree #8 to tree #9 = 7.8 m. Tree#9: dbh = 48.4 cm.

Tree #9 to tree #10 = 3.2 m. Tree#10: dbh = 39.8 cm.

Tree #10 to tree #11 = 3.8 m. Tree#11: dbh = 48.1 cm.

Tree #11 to tree #12 = 4.2 m. Tree#12: dbh = 33.8 cm.

Complete measurements for tree #6 with the largest dbh (53.5 cm).

15.7.02: Height = 18.1 m; spread = 5.1 m. This is not the tallest. Other trees are at least 20 m tall and some have better form.

(27.7.02: A two-stage maintenance plan has been initiated on one of these trees that have a major co-dominant leader).