

Received	17/10/78
Ackrd.	George
	acknowledge
	please.

ROGER KING
 Private Bag
 P.O. Box
 15th October 48

GEORGE FULLER
 6 TORBAY ST.,
 NEW PLYMOUTH, N.Z.

Korotaru Kaitiaki
 P. B.
 New Plymouth

Dear Mr. Fuller

I'm sorry to be so long
 replying to your letter but I have
 been away overseas.

My parents moved to Gilbert
 St in 1926 & from then to 1938
 I spent a lot of time in the
 park. Unfortunately it is
 hard to remember so long ago &
 especially to put dates to actions.

My first recollection of
 planting trees was of going up
 to the Filler St gully & there
 were lots of holes dug in

readiness for us. We were
 instructed how to plant the
 trees & young children like
 myself held the trees while
 older ones filled the holes etc.

I think the children involved
 were the pupils of Central School
 & it was done as an Arbor day
 effort. I think that these
 trees must have been the Filler
 St end of the Kaitiaki plantation.

Major Sandford who was
 the Senior Scout leader in NP
 at the time got the idea from
 this effort that the Scouts
 should clean up & plant the
 Filler St gully which at that
 time was mainly blackberry.

Every Arbor day from then
 until I left NP we planted
 trees along the road frontage.

at first & then worked back
with various road clearing
working bees in between times.
Most of these trees were destroyed
when they bulldozed the section
for the kindergarten.

I would think that 1930
would be the year the last of the
kauris were planted. I feel that
the labour the park had working
on these trees was unemployed
relief workers & they only had
them for so long. In sorry
I can't be much more explicit
& hope that this information
is of some use to you. I was
surprised to see how big these
trees were as I didn't think
kauris would grow that fast.
I can't think of anyone who
could tell you much more except

possibly Jack Corrigan who
was living opposite the park gates
at that time but who may have
been at high school by then.

Yours faithfully

Reggie Kidd