

George Fuller  
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23 May 2006

The President,  
Friends of the Park Inc.,  
Mr. Karl Rossiter.

Dear Karl,

**Re: Reference to the Smith/Fuller Notable Tree Survey in the Friends'  
submission to the NPDC Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016.**

The reference occurs in the section 'Recognition of previous submissions.....' in the context of encouraging the council to first take heed of documentation already in their possession before calling for more. This being so, I need to provide an update on the circumstances surrounding ~~that particular document~~.  
*the progress of the tree survey.*

There are four major parties involved.

- Cory Smith who in order to fulfil the final assignment for an arboriculture qualification run by Wintec, Hamilton, was required to survey and update 100 New Plymouth trees recorded in a Forestry Research Inst Publication dated 1973.
- Because I played a major role in the compilation of the above records and knew the location of the trees, I was asked by Cory for assistance. It developed into a major undertaking, ultimately embracing <sup>over 200</sup> trees, most with photographs. Two hundred and fifty <sup>FR!</sup> ~~five~~ pages are involved. It has always been our declared intention that the NPDC should have access to the data compiled when it reached the finished form. Field-work began in 2001. More recently I have been involved in the laborious task of editing the text and photos, adding page numbers, correlating text and photos etc.
- Rob Graham, tutor in arboriculture at Wintec, Hamilton.
- Bryan Gould, Manager, Premier Parks, NPDC.

The major field-work was completed and typed up by Cory about <sup>late 2003</sup> ~~2004~~... When the Wintec computer was confronted with its task many problems emerged and incompatibilities revealed. I believe that when photos were added plus my page numbers and correlations it groaned loudly and crashed. However, an 'interim' draft was available for Cory's graduation and he gained a pass with distinction as a consequence.

Without going into too much detail I will try to clarify Bryan's involvement and its relevance to the submission.

<sup>in the survey</sup>  
The information is crucial for his database and to his credit he has been pro-active in trying to expedite completion of the document. When I received <sup>the first</sup> ~~the first~~ rough draft in hard copy for editing it was minus page numbers and had formatting errors etc etc

all over the place but he requested a copy regardless. It was in such a mess I declined. In response he had two copies run off so that I could hold the original as master then duplicate corrections in the two subsequent copies. This provided me with the security of being able to send one corrected document to Cory in Hamilton and hold the other as back-up, for which I am very grateful.

In the interim Bryan has made repeated contact with me, Cory and Rob in efforts to hasten completion of the project and gain access to its contents. To his credit any gaps in the council tree records which could be filled from information from our survey are not due to any neglect on his part.

As to the completion date, after about three revisions Cory and I are happy with the *modifications to* the last draft *for which he had to borrow a pc in order to insert the* ~~for which he had to borrow a pc for minor adjustments.~~ After such an incredibly drawn-out and convoluted sequence of to-ing and fro-ing he indicated last week in a call from Hamilton that he hoped to complete the *latest stage of editing in* ~~the latest stage of editing in~~ this great saga within about a week. *inclusion of the latest corrections*

I hope this will clarify the background to this matter.

Sincerely,

George Fuller.