

The King Country Postcards of N. Z.

Lindsay Chitty 23/1/2021

The Second Maori King – King Tawhao
Harding & Billing Postcard
Divided Back
Photographer unknown



Why Postcards?

- I have collected Postcards for many years
 - Not because of what is on the front
 - But because of what is on the back
 - 20 years ago every second hand dealer and antique shop had boxes of postcards
 - I would pore through these looking for:
 - Unusual cancellations of small Post Offices – usually transit or receiving PO's
 - Postage Due items.
 - Military Postcards.
 - So I have many hundreds (?thousands) of postcards
 - It is only now I am looking on the fronts
 - They are relatively inexpensive.

What Postcards do I have?

- King Country Postcards.
- Maori Postcards.
- Wellington Postcards.
- Ruhleben Civilian Internee Camp, Germany WWI.
- The Voyage of the American Great White Fleet 1908 -1909 which visited New Zealand.
- Kaori Postcards.

Why King Country?

- I have worked in the King Country for 40 years as a Veterinarian
- The Veterinary Enterprises Group has clinics in:
 - Te Awamutu,
 - Otorohanga,
 - Te Kuiti,
 - Taumarunui and
 - Turangi.
 - My Brother framed at Ruatiti.
 - I had other relatives farming at Bennydale and Ohura.
- So we covered the King Country.
- I Know the King Country.

Map of King Country



What makes the King Country so Special?

It is loaded with History.

- An early home of the Maori King Movement.
- The headwaters to Phipiki of the Whanganui River – “The Rhine of New Zealand”
- The World Famous Waitomo Caves.
- The N. I. Main Trunk Railway Line – One of the greatest engineering feats of the World.
- The Mountains of the Central Plateau.
- The Port of Kawhia and the River Port of Mokau on the West Coast.
- Sheep, Beef and Dairy Farming, and the Timber Industry.

So, Where an I at with this exhibit?

- I entered 5 frames in the Sydney Stamp & Coin Expo 2019
- Got Gold with 86 points.
- Was accepted for London 2020 (5 frames) but this has been postponed.
- Am now extending to 8 frames at National Level.

How is the Exhibit Organised?

1. The History and Maori.
2. The Towns and Villages.
3. The Whanganui River.
4. The Railway.
5. Tourism.
6. Farming and Forestry.
7. Ending.

1. The History & Maori

- During the Maori Wars the Maori King movement was banned from the Waikato.
- They established in Te Kuiti.
- Their cooperation only became important when the Main Trunk Railway needed to pass through the King Country.
- Surveying was fraught with danger and came to a head with the Hursthouse outrage.
- Charles William Hursthouse with an assistant were instructed to investigate a railway South from Te Awamutu to New Plymouth
- They were turned back at Otrohanga. With a consort of friendly Maori including Wetere, they proceeded.
- Taken prisoner at Te Kuiti by Mahuki to Te Kumi.
- Wetere escaped Te Kumi and reaching Alexandra sent a telegram to the Native Affairs Minister. 150 troops were dispatched.
- In the meantime Te Kooti heard about this and staged his own rescue.

Te Kumi Scene of the Hursthouse Outrage



Details:

Undivided back, Card No. 3609.

Photographer:

Alfred Henry Burton.

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie.

Printed by:

Lithographic process.

Reference:

Diane McKay: *The Hursthouse Outrage; The Postcard Pillar*; Vol 91, page 7-10, 2011.

Wetere te Renenga, Wife & Son, and Whaaru, Leader of the Hurstville Rescue Party.



Left

Details:

Divided back.

Photographer:

Alfred Burton (7/6/1885)

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie, No. 3621.

Printed by:

Lithographic process in Germany.

Right

Details:

Divided back.

Photographer:

Alfred Burton (6/5/1885)

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie, No. 3631.

Printed by:

Lithographic process in Germany.

Paranui on the Upper Wanganui



Details:

Undivided back

Publisher:

Brett Printing & Publishing

Photographer:

Brett.

Printed by:

Letterpress half tone.

Famous Maori: - Te Heu-Hue



- Paramount Chief of the Ngati Tuwharetoa
- He supported the Maori King movement.
- In 1885 asked the Native Court to investigate titles of the land.
- The result was that Ngati Tuwharetoa was awarded Ruapehu, Tongariro and Ngaruhoe.
- To preserve the sacred nature of the area, he offered them in partnership with the Crown, so Ngati Tuwharetoa would never lose their association with them.

Details:

Undivided back, Moore & Moodie, 3780.

Photographer:

Alfred Burton (7/6/1885).

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie.

Printed by:

Lithographic process.

Cancelled:

"DUNEDIN 25 JY 04"

Famous Maori: - Rewi Maniopototo



- An important supporter of the Kingatanga (Maori King) movement.
- He led the rebel forces during the Government invasion of the aikato during the Maori wars.
- After their defeat at Orakau in 1864 he took refuge in the King Country.
- He extended the King Country into Wester Taupo, and upper Whanganui.
- Reached a peaceful settlement with the Government in 1878 with no land confiscation.
- In 1882 he broke with the King movement and allowed surveyors into the King Country.

Details:

Divided back, F.T. Series No. 48.

Photographer:

Josiah Martin (JM 644)

Publisher:

Harding & Billing.

Printed By:

Relief half tone.

2 Towns and Villages Otorohanga



Details:

*Divided back, Real
Photo coloured, The W.A.P
Colour Photographic
Series No. 1713.*

Photographer:

William Archer Price.

Publisher:

*The Price Photo Company,
Northcote Auckland;.*

Printed by:

Real Photo.

Dated:

Undated.

Modern Otorohanga Postcard



Postcard plus Original Photograph
Richard Wallace Photographer

- He claims it is probably the worst postcard that he has provided a photo for!



Government Accommodation House, Waitomo



Details:

Divided back, Real

Photo FGR No. 44326.

Photographer:

*Frederick George
Radcliffe.*

Publisher:

*Frederick George
Radcliffe.*

Printed by:

Real photo.

Te Kuiti : - Panoramic View

Panoramic View of Te Kuiti

Taken from the North West, the hills to the East can be seen and the Rangitoto Ranges in the distance. Te Kuiti is a farming area and the town developed as a centre with many Government departments.

The Whole Town as it Existed at the Time is Shown here.



Frank Duncan & Co. Auckland, Real Photo Postcards, Nos. FGR 4492, 4357 ND 4381; Photographer Frederick George Radcliffe; Divided back.

General View of Te Kuiti



The only thing we know about these postcards is that Sutton was the publisher, and he was the Te Kuiti Stationer.

Taumarunui – Panoramic View 5 Postcards

Panoramic View of Taumarunui – 5 Postcards

Taken from the North West, the town, along with the all-important railway can be seen. Taumarunui is a farming area with the Whanganui River passing through and being close to the Tongariro National Park. Activities in the Taumarunui area include jet boating on the river with the longest jet boating river in the Southern Hemisphere – 229 rapids over 254km.

"Taumarunui on the Main Trunk Line"

Tanner Bros. Real photo;
Nos 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, & 2e;
Photographer S. C. Smith;
Divided back; Printed in
England.

Postcard scenes with 5
panoramic views are
uncommon.

Difficult to mount because
the cards do not quite line
up in a straight line.



Anglican Church, Taumarunui



Details:

*Divided back,
Muir & Moodie No.
6289 Prot. 1/10/12.*

Photographer:

Muir & Moodie.

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie.

Printed by:

Real Photo.

Same Photo 2 Different Postcards



Details:

Divided back, with border, Muir & Moodie No. 3585

Photographer:

Alfred Burton

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie

Printed:

Lithographic process in Saxony

Kakahi School

10 Km upriver from Taumarunui



Details:

Divided back.

Photographer:

William Archer Price.

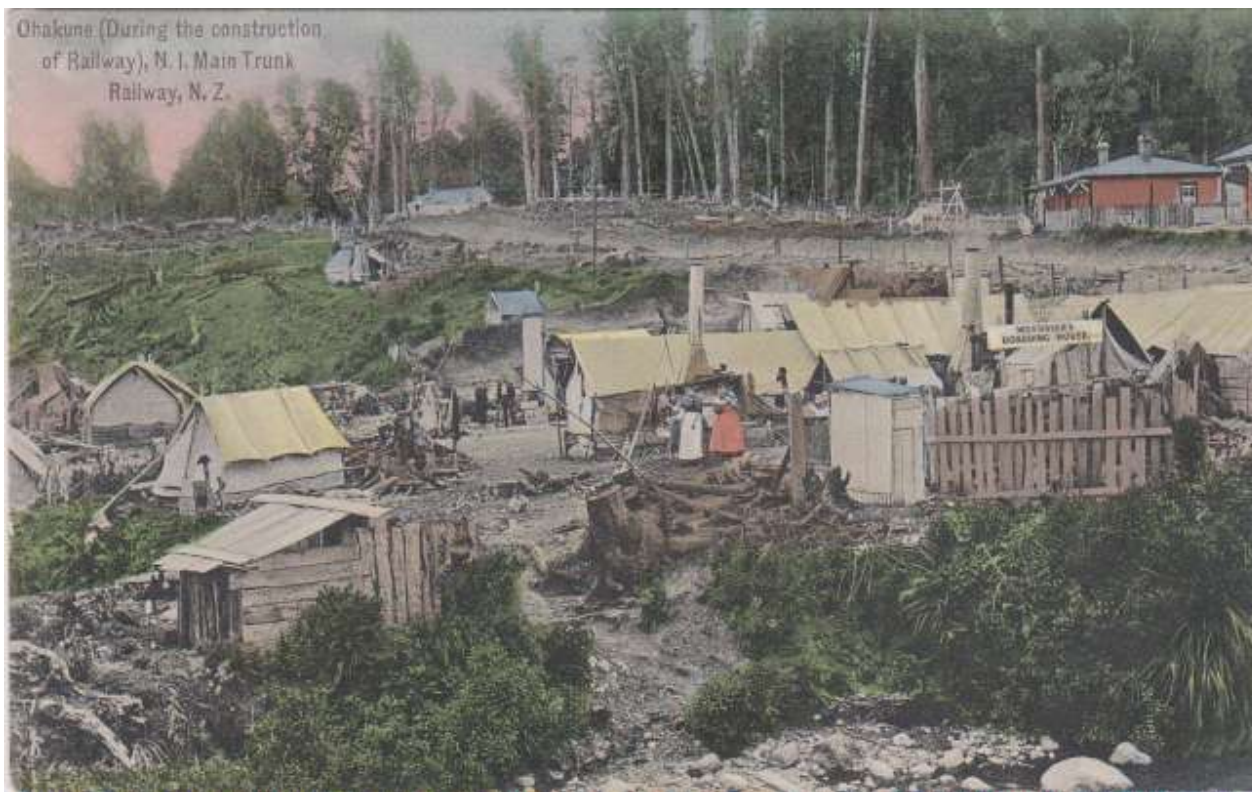
Publisher:

*Price Photo Co., Northcote,
Auckland.*

Printed by:

Real Photo coloured.

Ohakune During the Construction of the Railway



Details:

Divided back, Gold medal
Series No. 910 (Also 587).

Photographer:

Fergusson.

Publisher:

Fergusson Ltd.

Printed by:

Lithographic process in
Germany.

3. The Whanganui River – The Houseboat



Details:

Divided back.

Photographer:

Muir & Moodie.

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie No 3611 PC.

Printed By:

Lithographic process in Austria.

Cancelled:

"WELLINGTON DEC 5 06".

Pipiriki Hotel



Details:

Divided back:

Publisher:

Unknown.

Photographer:

Unknown.

Printed by:

Colour lithographic process.

Dated:

6/5/09.

Wanganui River, N. Z.



Details:

Divided back.

Photographer:

Unknown.

Publisher:

Raphael Tuck & Sons.

Printed by:

Colour lithographic process.

Dated:

AU 15 ?06

Ottmar Zieher Card – Wanganui River



- Divided Back.
- Publisher Muir & Moodie No. 59.
- Printed by Colour Lithographic Process.
- Dated 21/9/07.

Note: These cards displaying stamps were disapproved by the Post Office. Prior to 1907, they were permitted in NZ, but banned to the UK 11/9/05.

There were contradictory explanations by the NZ Post Office including Supplement No.49 to the Guide, dated 10th January 1907 (the same month of the original disapproval), allowing these.

The Bridge to Nowhere Wanganui National Park

Close to Ruatiti and Pipiriki.



* BRIDGE TO NOWHERE * (M. WANGANUI NATIONAL PARK, NORDINSEL

Modern Postcard

Details:

Divided back.

Photographer & Publisher:

Clemens Emmeler

Printed by:

Photogravure.

Travel - Getting There

Zieher Card En-Route to Pipiriki



Details:

*Divided back, Zieher card,
No 59 (New Zealand).*

Photographer:

Muir & Moodie.

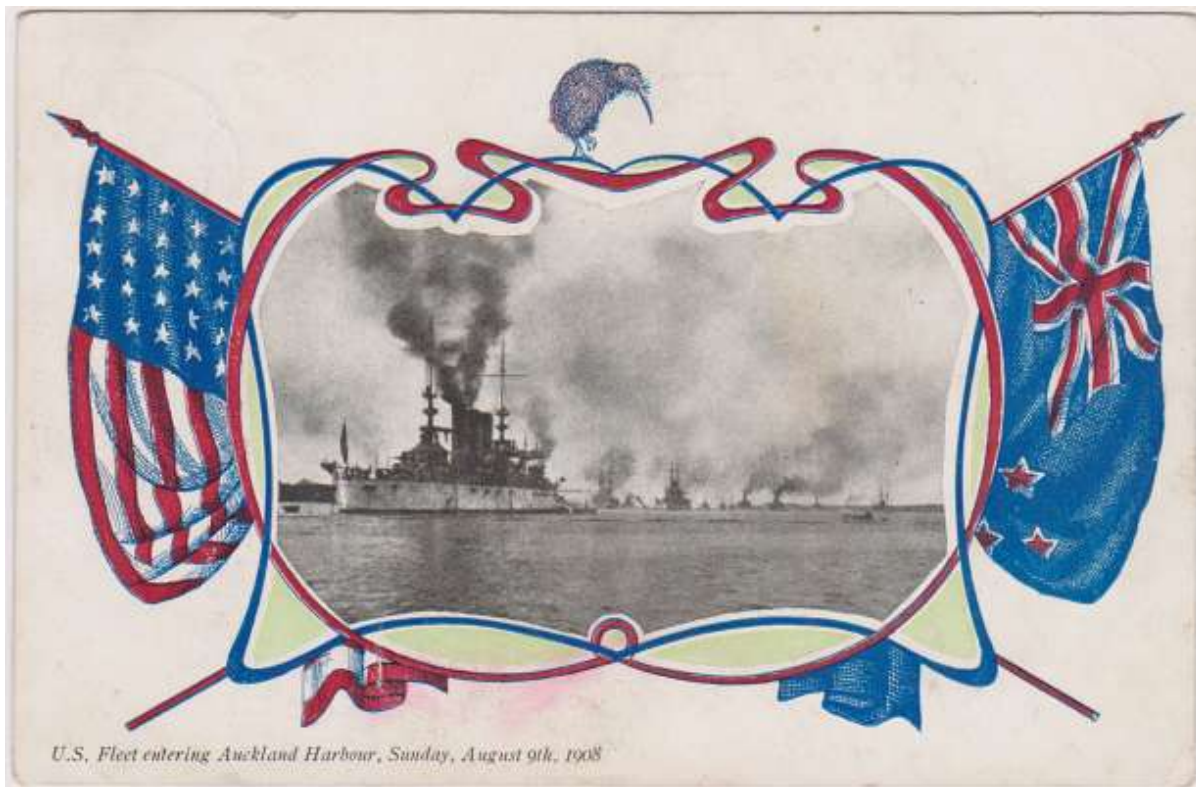
Publisher:

Muir & Moodie.

Printed by:

*Colour lithographic
process in Germany.*

4 The Railway – The Great White Fleet Visit



Details:

Collins Bros, Divided back.

Engraver:

C. E. Mackie.

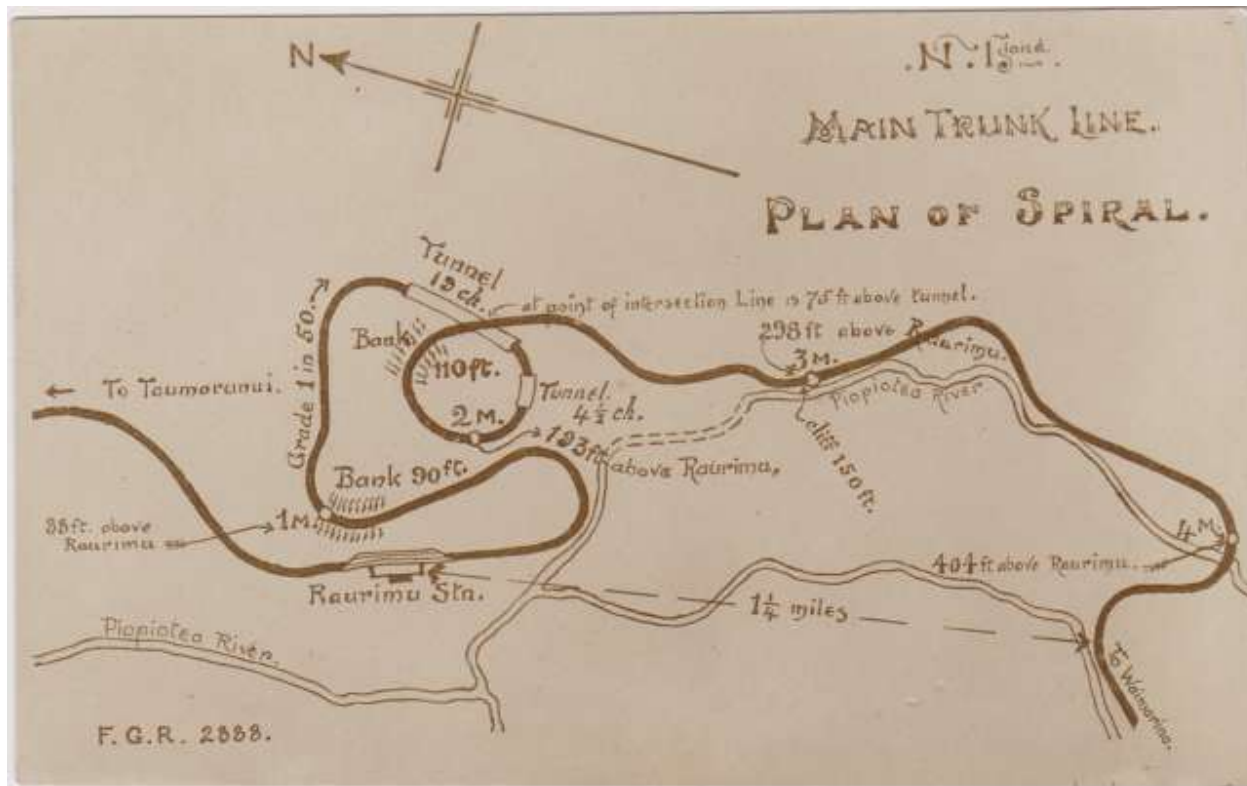
Publisher:

Clark & Matheson.

Printed by:

Colour lithography &
vignette, Letterpress half
tone.

The Raurimu Spiral



Details:

Divided back.

Photographer:

Frederick George

Radcliffe (FGR) No. 2888

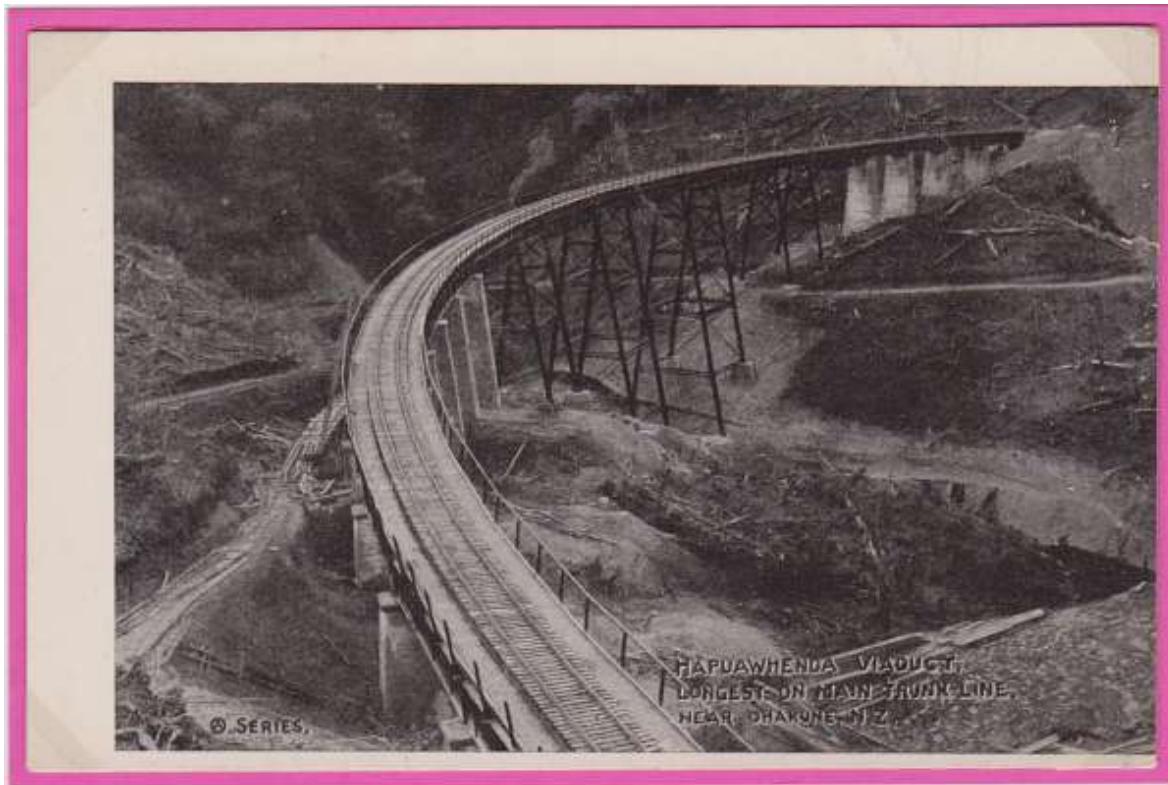
Publisher:

Industria Series.

Printed by:

Real photo.

Hapuawhenua Viaduct Main Trunk Line



Details:

Divided back. Real Photo "A" series.

Photographer:

Unknown

Publisher:

Harding & Billing.

Printed by:

Real Photo.

Harding and Billing Real Photos are extremely scarce. (Personal Communication Jeff Long).

Getting There – By Train



Details:

Divided back.

Combination of FGR

2888 and another photo.

Photographer:

William Beattie.

Publisher:

Frank Duncan & Co.

Auckland.

Printed by:

Real Photo, Tourist series

No. 4610.

Cancelled:

"OKOIA 7 JA 07"

Transport by Horse and Carriage



Details:

Divided back. W. Beattie & Co. No. 5062 (The Moa Series) not recorded Jackson¹.

Photographer:

William Beattie.

Publisher:

W, Beattie & Co.

Printed by:

Colour lithographic process in Germany.

¹<https://www.postcard.org.nz/beattie-real-photo-postcard-list/>

Transport by Car



Details:

Divided back, Moa Series.

Photographer:

Josiah Martin.

Publisher:

Josiah Martin.

Printed by:

Real Photo.

Josiah Martin had a photographic business in Smeeton's buildings, Queen Street, Auckland.

Postcard of Joanne Wilson and Joanna Dodds (cousins), in motor vehicle at Auckland Exhibition, residents of Hangatiki, King Country. Card addressed to father (and uncle), Andrew Wilson, one of the original surveyors of the King Country.

The most Southern Kaori in New Zealand is close to Kawhia



Details:

*Divided back, Valentine
Series, No. 17238 JV.*

Photographer:

*George Dobson
Valentine.*

Publisher:

Valentine.

Printed by:

*Lithographic process
in England.*

Cancelled:

"24 MR 08"



Details:

*Divided back, Valentine
Series, No. 17230 JV.*

Photographer:

*George Dobson
Valentine.*

Publisher:

Valentine.

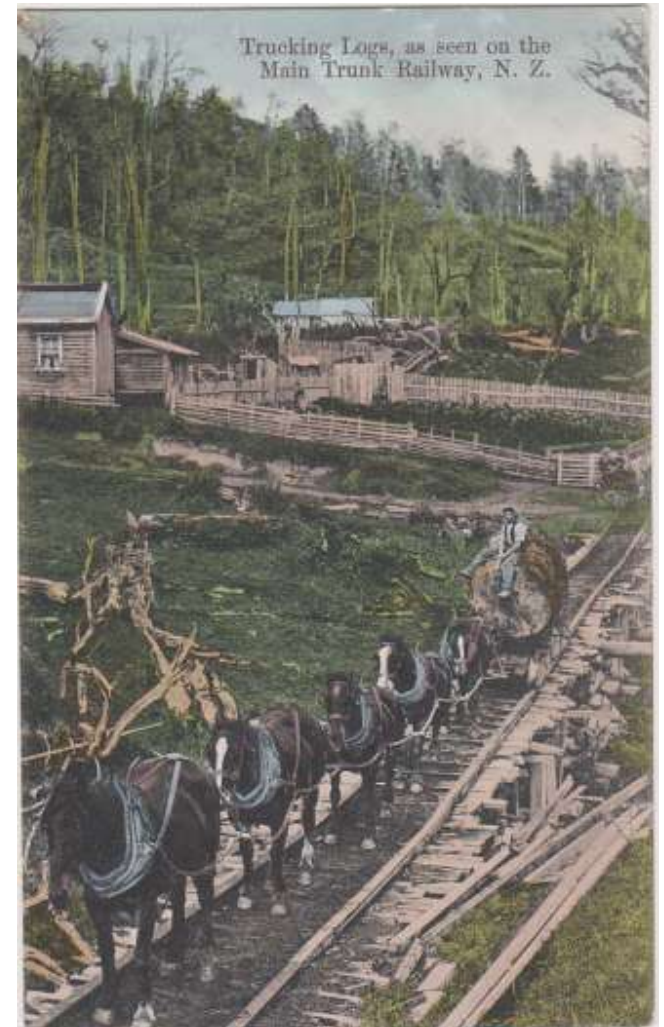
Printed by:

*Lithographic process
in England.*

Cancelled:

"PAEROA 13 FE 07"

Bullocks and Horses Hauling Logs



Wooden Postcard from Manunui



Details:

Wooden Postcard with plywood veneer, Divided back.

Typesetter:

Unknown.

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie.

Printed by:

*Letterpress process for
Ellis Veneer Co. Ltd
Manunui..*

Cancelled:

"DUNEDIN 1 FE 26"

Note: Posted from the New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition, held in Dunedin 17 NO 1925 until 1 MY 1926.

And Finally: - A Maori Tomb King Country



Details:

*Divided back, with border,
Muir & Moodie No.
3608.*

Photographer:

Alfred Burton.

Publisher:

Muir & Moodie.

Printed by:

*Lithographic process
in Austria.*

A Number of Different Photographers Exhibited

- R. J. Rendell. Tauranga. Kawhia Photos.
- Muir & Moodie Throughout King Country
- Alfred Burton.
- F. G. Radcliffe.
- Josiah Martin. Auckland.
- George Dobson Vallentine.
- A J Tibbutt
- Brett
- Wilson
- William Beattie
- F. I. Gilbert Te Awamutu

References

- <https://lindsaychittyphilatelist.nz>
- “Send me a Postcard”: William Main, Craig Potton Publishing
- “Post Marks”: Leo Haks, Colleen Dallimore & Alan Jackson’ Kowhai Media Ltd, Auckland.
- Through the King Country with the Camera. — A Photographer's Diary – Diary of Alfred Burton; Victoria University website.
- The King Country – Explorations in N.Z. by J.H. Kerry-Nichols
<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/53244/53244-h/53244-h.htm>
- *Diane McKay: The Hursthouse Outrage; The Postcard Pillar; Vol 91, page 7-10, 2011.*

So, What am I Looking For Now?

- Any Postcards of Bennydale – the only township in the King Country with a non-Maori name.
- Any Postcards of Pureora National Park.
- More Postcards of Awakino and Mokau.
- Postcards of Ohura, especially coal mining postcards.
- Older Agriculture Postcards of the King Country.
- Any Maori postcards relating to the King Country.