

## Elsthorpe Scenic Reserve

Notes made by Geoff Walls 1st July 1987<sup>1</sup>

Geoff drafted a vegetation map and typology and I have transcribed it here.<sup>2</sup>

### Type 1

- Tall primary and secondary kahikatea and matai totara rimu emergent and scattered over most of the area 20 to >40m tall.
- Secondary very diverse mixed low canopy 8-18m in height composed of titoki, kowhai (both species), kohuhu, lemonwood, matai, lacebark, kahikatea, cabbage tree, *Streblus microphylla*, Maire (*Nestegis cunninghamii* and *N. lanceolata*), totara, mahoe, rohutu, pokaka, *Myrsine divaricata*, lancewood, mapou, tawa, putaputaweta, kaikomako. Dense understorey of above plus *Melicytus micranthus* *Coprosma areolata* *Coprosma rotundifolia* tawa but especially titoki, *Melicytus micranthus*, *Streblus microphylla*, *Lophomyrtus obcordata*, mahoe, tawa. On ground mosses, ferns (*Asplenium gracillimum*, *Polystichum richardii*, *Pellaea rotundifolia*, *Blechnum fluviatile*, *Uncinia uncinata*, *Hydrocotyle elongate*

### Type 2

- On margins, rank grassland and herbs, mainly cocksfoot. Some native shrubs, bracken, blackberry, *Carex* sp.

### Type 3

- Where grazed short pasture grasses and herbs – some trees in Eastern portion of totara, kahikatea, tawa, titoki and lancewood.

### Type 4

- Kowhai, kahikatea, totara, maire, titoki, lancewood, cabbage tree, willows, lackebark, tawa, *Streblus*, *Melicope simplex*, kaikomako

### Type 5

- Where road encroaches on SE and NW portion they have tar-sealed road plus verge area on which gravel, soil and other spoil has been dumped for temporary or long term storage. Many weeds here: teasel, thorn apple, lupin, wild cabbage, fennel, hemlock, thistles etc.

### Type 6

- Rather different from type 1 comprised of very large trees of kahikatea, matai, totara under a sub canopy of slender tawa, titoki, kahikatea, matai, maire. Beneath this, a relatively sparse understorey of mahoe, *Streblus microphylla*, *Melicytus micranthus*, *Coprosma rotundifolia*, tawa, *Lophomyrtus obcordata*. On the ground, mainly litter, but some ferns (*Asplenium gracillimum*, *Polystichum richardii*, *Pellaea rotundifolia*) and hook grass. Lianes scramble up trees *Metrosideros colensoi*, *M. diffusa*, *Passiflora tetrandra*, *Muehlenbeckia australis*, *Rubus schmidelioides*.

### Type 7

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<sup>1</sup> Typed by Bec Stanley July 2002. Plant species list not transcribed – see notes in BIM cabinet.

<sup>2</sup> We have modified this map and typology and amalgamated some categories. Geoff's Type 1 and 6 really are the same – '6' is just more disturbed.

- Along old water channel through reserve and on N&S margins many large willow and some large poplars. Regenerating and covered in places by entanglements of blackberry.

#### Type 8

- Logged over more recently and also burned and grazed (but no longer) secondary & primary trees of kahikatea and cabbage trees, tawa, titoki, lancewood, totara, matai, lacebark, maire species. Beneath this a tangled mass of shrubs (esp *Coprosma robusta*, *C. rigida*, *C. propinqua*, *Lophomyrtus obcordata*), bracken, rank pasture grasses, blackberry, various native lianes *Passiflora tetrandra*, *Rubus schmidelioides*, *Parsonia* spp. and sedges. Vigorous regeneration.

#### Type 9

- Some slender primary kahikatea, half of them dead, clumps and scatterings of smaller trees and shrubs, hawthorn, cabbage tree, kahikatea, lacebark, *Lophomyrtus obcordata*, *Coprosma robusta*, *C. rigida*, *C. propinqua*, *Myrsine divaricata*, lancewood, also some willows and much privet.

#### Weeds Seen by Geoff

Hemlock, Lombardy poplar (*Populus nigra*), wild gooseberry<sup>3</sup>, blackberry, buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), thistles (*Cirsium arvense*, *C. vulgare*), crack willow (*Salix fragilis* & *Salix cinerea*) hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), ragwort, thorn apple (*Datura stramonium*), privet (*Ligustrum sinense*), fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*), lupin (*Lupinus arboreus*), Jerusalem cherry (*Solanum pseudocapsicum*), stinking iris (*Iris foetidissima*), wild cabbage, teasel, Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), plum.

Locations of weeds in notes:

Privet: East of NW section & in E section (SW especially), very established, spreading, a real problem and needs to be removed.

Stinking iris: especially in N of East portion, spreading

Willows: heaps in East portion, need cutting out

Hawthorn: SW of East portion needs to be removed

Jerusalem cherry: Only a little at present

Japanese honeysuckle: SW of east portion

Geoff notes Willow, poplars, iris, and privet as serious infestations, but notes others will become so.

#### Other notes

There are other notes on effects of grazing, extension to reserve, tracks, fences, boundary etc. See Geoff's notes in the BIM cabinet, Napier.

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<sup>3</sup> No scientific name provided

Our vegetation typology combining Geoffs information & local staff for the BIM project (Alan Lee, Ken Mills, Bec Stanley)

TYPE 1 Forest 75% Kahikatea-matai-totara-rimu

TYPW 2 Forest 10% Hawthorn-cabbage tree-lacebark-Coprosmas-willows-privet

TYPE 3 Grassland 5% cocksfoot

TYPE 4 Shrubland 10% *Coprosma robusta*, *C. rigida*, *C. propinqua*, *Lophomyrtus obcordata*-blackberry-hawthorn

