

AUSTRALIAN FOREST HISTORY

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'...to advance historical understanding of human interactions with Australian forest and woodland environments.'

AUSTRALIA'S CHANGING FORESTS: SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AUSTRALIAN FOREST HISTORY CRESWICK, VICTORIA 3-6 DECEMBER 1992

The second national conference on Australia's forest history will be held at the Victorian School of Forestry at Creswick on Thursday and Friday 3-4th December followed by a field trip at the weekend.

The first national conference was held in Canberra in May 1988. The proceedings were published as:

Frawley, K.J. and Semple, N.M. *Australia's Ever Changing Forests*. Campbell, ACT: Dept of Geography and Oceanography, University College, Australian Defence Force Academy.

The second conference will follow much the same format as the first with papers welcomed from the whole range of interests that 'advance historical understanding of human interactions with Australian forest and woodland environments'. People with an interest in forest history are welcome to attend, whether they are already members of the Society or not. Members are requested to make the conference known as widely as is possible.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Papers on all aspects of Australia's forest history are invited. Intending authors should contact John Dargavel (address below) and send a one-page abstract to him by 30th June.

It is intended to publish the papers after the conference, though funding for this still has to be investigated. Guidelines for authors will be distributed later in the year.

TIMETABLE

Wed. 2 December.

Most people arrive in Creswick in the evening

Thursday 3 December, Conference 9-5

Friday 4 December, Conference 9-5

Saturday 5 December, Field trip

Sunday 6 December, Field trip (cont) and depart

Creswick is 137 kilometres north-west of Melbourne in the gold-fields region. Its forests were devastated in the gold-rush period but have a subsequent history of regeneration, management, and plantation establishment.

A fully equipped Conference Centre has been booked for our meeting and accommodation reserved in the student hostel. It is fully catered. There are also motels in Creswick. Full details of accommodation, registration, field trip and costs will be sent out in the next Newsletter.

VICTORIAN SCHOOL OF FORESTRY, CRESWICK

The Victoria School of Forestry was established in 1911 as one of the two early training centres for Australia's foresters. The campus now contains part of the Forestry Section of the University of Melbourne as well training facilities for the Department of Conservation and Environment.

Editor this issue: Dr John Dargavel
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In 1916, D.E. Hutchins made some disparaging comments about teaching at the Creswick Forest School but concluded:

It would be hard to find a better site for a Forest school in Victoria. The days I spent there on my two visits I reckon as quite the pleasantest of my Australian forest tour; and the British Association members are not the first visitors who have been aroused to enthusiasm on visiting the Creswick Forest School. (*A discussion of Australian forestry*. Perth: Govt. Printer, 1916, p.323).

It seems to be a good place for us to be aroused to enthusiasm too!

NOTES ON RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Dr Les Carron is continuing his study on the changing nature of federal-state relations in the forest sector.

Jenny Mills is working on her history of the Western Australian Forest Products Association.

A project on the Economic History of South-East Asia is under way in the Research School of Pacific Studies at ANU. Lesley Potter from the Department of Geography at the University of Adelaide will be writing the environmental monograph in the series.

Journalist and writer Gregg Borschmann has signed a contract with publishers Simon and Schuster to produce an Oral History of the Australian Forests. The book will be called 'The People's Forest'. The National Library of Australia is supporting the project and the tapes from the 50 published oral histories will be deposited in the Library's Oral History archives. There are also plans to produce a major radio series and mount an exhibition based on the work.

The oral histories will be more than simply a story about forestry or the development of forestry in Australia. They will be a history to the present day, seeing the forests through the eyes of many different people - from the sleeper cutter and bullocky to the scientist, the farmer and others.

Contact: Greg Borschmann 35 Carysfort St, Blackheath, NSW 2047 (047) 878873 or C/- The Oral History Unit, National Library of Australia, Canberra, ACT, 2600, (06) 2621493 or 2621638.

ABORIGINAL CARVED TREES IN THE WET TROPICS OF N.E. QUEENSLAND

Carved trees in the Wet Tropics are the subject of on going research by Cairns based Resource Consulting Services Pty Ltd (RCS) under the leadership of Gordon Grimwade - a cultural heritage consultant.

In 1989 RCS undertook a preliminary study for DASETT on this poorly documented cultural resource. Researchers Shane Collins and Anne Duke identified seventeen sites, located twelve of them and recommended further efforts to locate the remainder in remote areas of the rainforest. Undoubtedly many other carved trees once existed but were lost when the Atherton Tablelands were cleared for farming.

Unlike their better known counterparts in NSW, trees in the Wet Tropics were carved only into the bark. Consequently not only is time, climate and man eliminating these trees but they are gradually healing over making once distinct designs hard to locate.

In October 1991 Gordon worked in conjunction with Preparator Karen Mickan of The Queensland Museum to take latex casts of two carvings. These were taken with the two fold purpose of providing three dimensional replicas and of testing the suitability of the process for other similar sites. This phase of the programme was funded by the Queensland Department of Environment & Heritage. Encouraging results were obtained. A detailed report is now in preparation and will be accompanied by a series of 35 mm transparencies demonstrating the process.

SYMPOSIUM ON THE HISTORY OF THE FOREST ECONOMY OF THE PACIFIC BASIN

Held as part of the 17th Pacific Science Congress Meeting in Hawaii from 27 May to 2 June 1991, this second forest history symposium continues the IUFRO Tropical Forest research initiative and follows on from the Australian Tropical Forest history conference in 1988. A third conference on African tropical forests is planned. The Hawaii symposium sought to explore the internationalised character of the forest economy of the Pacific basin as well as examine the local linkages and impacts of forest policy and harvesting.

Jointly organised by John Dargavel (ANU) and Richard Tucker (University of Michigan), the Symposium drew together participants from the USA, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, and Japan. Only Canada and Latin America were major absences. The scope of the papers offered was even wider embracing India, Japan, China, Indonesia, USSR, USA (Washington and Hawaii), Philippines, Fiji, other Pacific Islands and New Zealand. The time frame was equally expansive ranging from 16th century to 1990. Contributors had backgrounds in forestry, economics, economic history, geography, other social sciences, and history (the latter being the largest).

With such complex diversity of interests and viewpoints could the meeting hope to achieve much? Two factors helped the symposium realise some of its objectives. Firstly Richard Tucker and John Dargavel were especially effective convenors. They consistently made links, between separate papers in various sessions,

between sessions, and from specific examples back to the general objectives of the symposium. In this respect John Dargavel's introductory paper, 'Incorporating National Forests into the New Pacific Economic Order: Processes and Consequences' provided the ideal beginning for the Symposium.

For this writer the various papers and subsequent discussion highlighted several issues. Firstly, in the diverse regional experience of different cultures, countries and times there were some unexpected commonality of problems and responses. Secondly, some divergent regional responses to common forestry problems were also raised. Thirdly, most presenters (the writer included) stuck fairly closely to a single national forestry experience. Thus some of the real concerns implied under the 'Forest Economy of the Pacific Basin' rubric were not closed in on. The reasons for this are perhaps twofold. On the one hand, the complexity of the international forest trade is difficult for one individual to come to grips with. On the other hand the sort of models structuring individual accounts were heavily weighted towards a national level of analysis (and where trade was considered it was primarily in inter-country terms). Although Dargavel proposed a political economy framework which provides a means of transcending this impasse, his agenda was not readily taken up by subsequent speakers.

Two useful parallel sessions were that on 'non timber forest products' and the 'Sandalwood trade'. Their size reemphasises that forests are the source of much non timber related social and economic activity. It also brought in valuable contributions from anthropologists and botanists.

All of this tends to foreshadow the question where to from here? The Hawaii Symposium was important for drawing together forest historians from around the Pacific Basin. In the longer term this will be extremely important in sustaining individual research endeavours. It will also lay the ground work for developing collaborative and comparative research programmes in the future. However, to really tap the enthusiasm and energy generated at the Symposium greater attention will have to be developed to the internationalisation of industrial forestry at a conceptual level.

M.M. Roche, Department of Geography, Massey University, N.Z.

REVIEWS

Tregenza, John. 1991

Le Messuriers of Port Adelaide: five generations of enterprise in transport and timber Port Adelaide: The Le Messurier Timber Company Pty Ltd. 168p. \$25.00 plus postage from the company.

John Tregenza's history of the Le Messurier family and companies is a welcome addition to the literature of the Australian timber industry. It nicely complements Benita Carter's history of Gunnersens with which the Le Messurier timber interests were closely related (*Gunnersen in Australia*. Port Melbourne: Gunnersens Pty Ltd, 1986). A history of Softwood Holdings in which both companies were involved is also being prepared by Diane Sydenham.

These histories are particularly important because Le Messuriers, Gunnersens and Alstergrens set up a quite remarkable network of production and trading interests in timber. It started formally in 1915 when Gunnersen Le Messurier Ltd was founded by Thorry Gunnersen Senior in Melbourne and Roy Le Messurier in Adelaide. Both put money into Alstergrens from 1925. In the late 1920s, the network extended to involve the timber merchant Norman Moore and the new Western Australian interests being developed by Tom Cullity. W.G. Nosworthy was a prominent director.

With varying combinations of interests from the participating companies, the network established a number of new enterprises: Timber Holdings and Kildried Industries in Tasmania and Softwood Holdings in South Australia being the most notable. The interlocking interests served to spread risks and provide an Australia-wide marketing network.

The Australian history of the Le Messurier family was started when Captain Peter Le Messurier and his wife Betsy emigrated from Guernsey to Adelaide in 1853. Already an experienced master, he set himself up as a shipping owner, agent and merchant. Timber was part of the business. In 1867 he built a steam saw and moulding mill in Port Adelaide, however coastal shipping was the principal business. The family ran a small fleet of coastal vessels, mostly under the flag of Coast Steamships until it was taken over by Adelaide Steamships in 1915. It continued as shipping agents and had financial interests in sailing vessels until the late 1920s.

Timber provided the main business from 1915. The family company, A&E Le Messurier, conducted the import and merchant business in Adelaide while the complex network of interlocking interests was built up. These stood the Le Messuriers in good stead during the timber shortages of World War II and the subsequent period. Various excursions and investments were made in South-East Asia in search of supplies, but the main avenue for expansion was in South Australia's pine plantations. The Le Messuriers with the Gunnersens and Bill Nosworthy formed a sawmilling company in the 1940s in Mount Gambier. This company, Softwood Products, expanded and diversified until it was finally taken over by the corporate giant CSR in 1988. The

family is still in the timber business, with merchant operations in Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

We can be glad that the Le Messuriers commissioned a professional historian to write their history, for John Tregenza has produced not only a detailed well-documented history of an important part of the Australian timber industry, but a very readable account of family business that has lasted through five generations.

Reviewed by John Dargavel

McNeill, I.J. 1991.

Simsville and the Jarrah Mill: a history of the timber industry at Simsville, New South Wales. Light Railways. No. 113.

The July 1991 issue of the Light Railways Research Society of Australia's journal, *Light Railways*, is devoted to Ian McNeil's history of a sawmilling enterprise that originated in the Myall River State Forest near Stroud in New South Wales. The mill was built by Millars Karri and Jarrah Company in 1912. It was a large mill employing 150 men in the mill and bush. The milling township was named Simsville after the first manager, William Sims.

In 1922 Millars sold the mill to a Queensland Company, Pines and Hardwoods of Australia, who modernised the mill and extended its tramway system to enable it to ship out timber on the Karnah River rather than send it to the railway at Stroud. The Simsville enterprise was sold again in 1928 to Stroud Timber Ltd which immediately faced the Great Depression. By 1931 its production had fallen to one-eighth and in 1933 the mill burnt down.

In 1933, a Sydney firm, Smith and Ellis, took over and leased the operation for 15 years. By 1938 roads and tracks were taking over and the extensive tramway system was dismantled. In 1941 Allen Taylor & Co Ltd took over when the Simsville mill burnt down again. It was not rebuilt and the settlement was abandoned.

Ian McNeil has provided a very thoroughly researched study of the Simsville operation that has drawn on extensive interviews with former employees and has surveyed the old tramway systems. It is well illustrated with several maps and numerous photographs.

Reviewed by John Dargavel

PUBLICATIONS

Pyne, S. 1991.

The burning bush: a fire history of Australia. New York: Henry Holt. 520pp. Covers the period from 1960s. \$US27.95

Searle, S. 1991.

The rise and demise of the black wattle bark industry in Australia. Canberra: CSIRO, Division of Forestry (Technical Paper No.1).

Sinclair, E.K. 1991.

The spreading tree: a history of APM and Amcor. North Sydney: Allen & Unwin. 278p. Hardback \$29.95, Paperback \$19.95.

(We hope to have a review of the Searle and Sinclair books in the next issue).

KEY DOCUMENTS IN NEW ZEALAND'S FOREST HISTORY

NO 1: APPOINTMENT OF A CONSERVATOR OF KAURI FORESTS, 1840-41

Prepared by M.M. Roche

An early intersection of the Royal Navy's timber problem and Crown colony status for New Zealand was the Admiralty request of 1840 that Governor Hobson appoint a Conservator of 'Cowrie' Forests. Kauri (*Agathus australis*) as well as the less suitable Kahikatea (*Dacrycarpus dacrydioides*) had been cut for spars as early as 1794. Itinerant gathering gave way to a number of shore based spar gathering stations by the 1820s, while the Royal Navy itself let spar contracts and dispatched vessels such as *Dromedary* and *Coromandel* to gather kauri spars, the qualities of which were acknowledged and appreciated.

Captain Sir William Symonds, the Surveyor of the Navy was instrumental in again drawing the forests resources of New Zealand, to the attention of his superiors in 1840. Although the Admiralty was favourably disposed towards Symonds' propositions, the Colonial Land and Emigration officials dissented, expressing concern that the proposals for Forest reserves were not compatible with the extension of settlement in the new colony.

Reproduced below are documents from Admiralty's Correspondence, Governor's Correspondence and Executive Council Minutes. One sentence in the EC1/1 document from Sir William Symonds to the Admiralty is difficult to read and has been omitted from this version. The gist of the sentence is the potential for forest reserves under the legislation formalizing review of old land claims.

DOCUMENTS

Governor's Correspondence
G1/1

Admiralty
13 March 1840

Sir

Having read in the New Zealand Journal dated London Saturday Nov 7th, 1840, that in the Council of New South Wales, a Bill has passed to empower the Governor to appoint Commissioners to examine and report on claims to grants of Land in New Zealand.

I cannot help calling their Lordships attention to the great importance of the "Kaurie" "Cowdie" or "New Zealand" Pine Forests, of New Zealand which to a large extent may now be obtained on reasonable terms and, exclusively appropriated to the uses of Her Majesty's Navy, furnishing the yards and the top masts of Line of battleships, which cannot now be obtained from Riga, or from other sources, from which they were formerly derivable. The same Forests would also furnish timber for the purposes of the Decks, and outside planking of Steam Vessels, for boat building and many other purposes for which it had been found very superior in its quality and durability. I would therefore recommend that steps be taken immediately taken to secure so inestimable a resource and that a proper person be selected, who understands the growth and quality of this fine timber, to and examine the forests before the Colonists are allowed to locate upon them and hence some conclusion may be formed as to the quantity of timber to be held in reservation for such purposes. I understand from several quarters that great waste and destruction is at present perpetuated in the Kaurie Forests of New Zealand, and that the forest trees are being sacrificed to minor and wasteful purposes and that many are burned. I have also learned that the French Government intend to avail itself of the same resource, and it may not be out of place to submit that it could be a great advantage to the Country, if the fine timber in question was allowed to be imported into this Country free from duty.

Signed W. Symonds

G1/1
Copy

Colonial Land & Emigration Office
9 Park St Westminster
7th January 1841

Robert Smith Esq.
Sir,

We do ourselves the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 26th November last in which you request us to report for Lord John Russell's information our opinion upon the recommendation of Captain Sir W. Symonds forwarded to the

Colonial Dept by the Board of Admiralty relative to the reservation of the Pine Forest of New Zealand for the uses of Her Majesty's Navy.

We observe that Sir W. Symonds states that those Forests would furnish Timber for the purposes of the Decks and outside plankings of Steam Vessels, for Boat Building, and for many other purposes for which it has been found very superior in its quality and durability, - but above all that they would supply wood for the Topmasts of Line of Battle Ships, which cannot now be obtained from Riga or from other sources from which they were frequently formerly derivable. Under these circumstances it appears to us very reasonable and proper that every facility consistent with the rights of property should be afforded for the acquisition of this Timber for the uses in question. We cannot however recommend that any reservation should be made of the Forests as is proposed by Sir W. Symonds as to reserve the Forests is to reserve the Land, and with what ever object it is made Crown Reserves of Land in a new Colony are in our opinion, impediments to the progress of settlement, and hurtful to the interests of the Settlers. The Custom of making them is in fact abolished in places where it has hitherto existed.

The utmost therefore, which we can suggest in accordance with those principles of Colonization which we can believe to be correct is that the Crown should have the right of cutting Wood in the Pine Forests of the Colony wherever the Land had not become private property of the Natives, or the Settlers, and that whenever it alienated the Land on which this particular description of Timber grew, that it should reserve to itself a right of preemption in the timber at a fixed price named by the surveyor of the Admiralty in the Colony. We observe that the Timber can be obtained on reasonable terms, and think it not improbable that if a continued supply could be secured upon the same terms that such an arrangement would be satisfactory to the Lords of the Admiralty. We then should think that Sir William Symonds' further suggestion should be acted upon, and that a proper person should be appointed to act on behalf of their Lordships in the Colony, and point out to the Governor those tracts of Land upon which the Timber required for the Use of the Navy grew, and that the Governor should be instructed to grant a license to cut the Timber so long as the land remained Waste, and to reserve to the Crown the right of preemption, as we have suggested, wherever it was required by purchase on the part of private Settlers.

"We observe that Sir William Symonds also states that he understands from several quarters 'that great waste and destruction is at present perpetuated in the Kaurie Forests of New Zealand, and that the finest trees are being sacrificed to minor and wasteful purposes, and that many are burned'."

We think that the attention of the Governor should be directed to this point, and that he should be instructed to use his best endeavours to stop the practice wherever he shall have the right an power to interfere.

We have signed/ Robt Torrens

Edward E. Villiers

G1/1 1841
No.8

Recd August 19/41

Read 23 August

WH

Read by Executive Council

19 Oct 1841

Downing Street
14 February 1841

Governor Hobson

Sir,

I transmit to you herewith copies of a correspondence which has passed between this Department and the Board of Admiralty in consequence of a representation made to that Board by the Surveyors of the navy of the great importance of the "Kauri" or Pine Forests of New Zealand for naval purposes, and of the expediency of reserving a portion of the timber for the use of Her Majesty's Navy.

I also transmit copy of a Report from the Colonial Land and Emigration, Commissioners to whom the subject was referred. I approve of the suggestion contained in that Report in which the Board of Admiralty concur. You will accordingly assent the right of the Crown to cut wood in the Pine Forests of the Colony wherever the Land has not become the private property of the Natives or the Settlers, and, wherever the Crown alienates the land on which this description of Timber grows, to reserve to itself a right of pre-emption in the Timber at a fixed price named by the Surveyor of the Admiralty in the Colony. I shall move the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to act on behalf of their Lordships and to point out those tracts of land upon which the Timber required for the use of the Navy grows. You will grant to the Officer a License to cut the Timber so long as the Land remains waste and you will reserve to the Crown the right of preemption whenever the Land is acquired by purchase on the part of private settlers.

You will use every means in your power to put a stop to the waste and destruction of the Timber pointed on land by letter of the Surveyor of the Navy.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient

J. Russell

Executive Council Minutes

Exc 1/1 Minutes 1841-1855

19 Oct 1841

Gov
Col Treasurer
Att Gen
Treasurer

"His excellency the Governor laid before the Council a Copy of a Despatch of date 14th February 1841 received from Lord John Russell relative to the destruction of Kowrie Forests in New Zealand and recommending that a Conservator of

Kowrie Forests should be appointed. His Excellency also laid before the Council a Despatch of 20 April 1841 appointing Captain William Cornwallis Symonds to be Conservator of Cowrie Forests which were severally read. It was then ordered that the further consideration of the subject be postponed".

W. Hobson

POSTSCRIPT

Sir William Symonds' attention to New Zealand was not entirely generated by his interest in securing forest reserves for the Royal Navy, as evidenced by involvement in a colonization venture; the New Zealand Convocation Association. Furthermore, the officer nominated as the first Conservator of Kauri Forests was Symonds' own son, Captain William Cornwallis Symonds. Then the Deputy Surveyor General and an appointee to the Legislative Council. In 1841, he had earlier been involved in a failing venture, the Waitemata and Manukau Land Company which established a town called Cornwallis on the Waitemata Harbour, east of Auckland, the Colonial capital at a site chosen by Governor Hobson.

In a further twist of fate, the Executive Council made no immediate decision on Symonds' appointment. There are no clues as to what prompted this delay, but shortly afterwards Symonds was drowned while attempting to deliver medical supplies across the Manukau harbour. Following Symonds' death, the whole matter lapsed, no appointment made and the matter was never raised again at the Executive Council. This 1840 initiative then was the first unsuccessful attempt to impose a system of Forest reserves in New Zealand, as in other British Colonies.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

EC1/1: Executive Council Minutes (National Archives, Wellington, N.Z.)

G1/1: Governor's Correspondence (National Archives, Wellington, N.Z.).

Roche, M.M. (1987): Forest Conservation for Royal Navy Timber Supplies in New Zealand 1840-1841. *Mariner's Mirror* 73(3): 261-264.

Scott, D. (1973): *The Fire and the Clay*. Southern Cross, Auckland.

FOREST HISTORY IN NEW ZEALAND 1990-91

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Roche, M.M. (1991):

Privatising the Exotic Forest Estate: The New Zealand Experience. Paper presented to the Symposium on the Forest History of the Pacific Region, Pacific Science Congress, Hawaii

- Jackson, K. (1991):
Forest Policy and Trade in the Colonial Era; The New Zealand Experience. Paper presented to the Symposium on the Forest History of the Pacific Region, Pacific Science Congress, Hawaii.

THESES COMPLETED

- Lomax, H. (1990):
Maori Use and Non-use of National Parks. MA (Geography) Canterbury.
- Scott, G.A.J. (1990):
Environmental Politics and Place: A Political Geography of the South Westland Native Forests Controversy. MA (Geography) Canterbury.
- Chrisp, M. (1990):
Coromandel Peninsula Watchdog and the Environmental Movement. MSocSci (Geography) Waikato.
- Jamieson, A.R. (1990):
Gradients in the Kawerau Scrubland, Waipoua Forest, Northland, New Zealand. MSci (Geography) Auckland.
- Bagnall, S. (1990):
The Perception, Awareness and Management of Bushfires: a Case Study of Eastern Bays, Wellington. BSci (Hons) Victoria.

THESES IN PREPARATION

- Byrne, J.
The Spread of Wild Ginger into Native Forest in the Waitakere Ranges (Geography, Masters, Auckland).
- Clayton, T.
Impacts of Walking Tracks in Tongariro National Park (Geography, Master, Auckland).
- Killerby, S.
Forestry and Scenic Beauty: a Survey of Public Opinion in New Zealand (Geography, Masters, Waikato).
- Peoples, S.
Farm Forestry in the Auckland Region. (Geography, Masters, Auckland).
- Taylor, C.
Regeneration potential of a Disturbed Native Forest. (Geography, Masters, Auckland).
- Mann, S.
Regeneration in a Recently Protected Remnant Forest. (BSciHons, Otago).

- Fox, A.
The Save Manapouri Campaign. (Masters, History, Otago)

- Star, P.J. T.H. Potts:
The Origins of Conservation in New Zealand. (Masters, History, Otago).

ARCHIVES

The Archives of Business and Labour at Australian National University has received further deposits from the Australian Timber Workers Union, NSW Branch. They include records of the Pit Prop Cutters Section 1937-85

NATIONAL MEETINGS

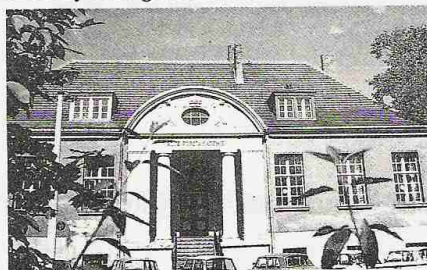
AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION HISTORY '92 CANBERRA 28 SEPT-2 OCT 1992

The sixth Biennial National Conference will be held at ANU. Deadline for offers of papers 1992. Contact: Dr Anthea Hyslop, Department of History, Faculty of Arts Australian National University, G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601. It will include a session on environmental history.

INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

IUFRO

On 17 August 1892, in Eberswalde, Germany "the Union of German Forest Experiment Stations (Baden, Bavaria, Brunswick, Alsace-Lorraine, Hesse, Prussia and Württemberg) as well as the Austrian and Swiss Experiment Stations formed the International Union of Forest Experiment Stations according to the statutes agreed upon on 18 September 1891 at Badenweiler and approved by their governments".



Old Forest Academy Eberswalde

The founding of the Union was initiated by a committee of researchers from the Experiment Stations of Nancy, Vienna-Mariabrunn, Zurich, Eberswalde and Schemnitz (near Zvolen, CSFR) who put forward a motion to that effect at the International Congress for Agriculture and Forestry in 1890 in Vienna, Austria.

Today that original organization, now known as IUFRO, numbers 15,000 scientists in 710 member organizations from 105 countries.

IUFRO will hold its Centennial Meeting at Eberswalde-Berlin on 31 August - 6 September 1992. Sessions on forest history will be held 2-3 September including one on tropical forest history being convened by John Dargavel. The overall theme is 'Sustained yield in its historical context'.

ENVIRONMENT AND HISTORY IN SOUTH AND SOUTH-EAST ASIA

New Delhi, 18-21 Feb 1992.

Several of the papers to be given at this international meeting refer to forests, Peter Boomgaard, Richard Grove, Ajay Rawat and Richard Tucker are among those giving papers.

Contributions are needed for Newsletter No 8. Please send news of publications, copies of books for review, articles on research projects, any other items of relevance to forest history. The Newsletter is produced on Microsoft Word 5. Contributions may be sent on 5 inch disks preferably using Microsoft Word software.

PRODUCTION: THANKS TO CATHY RANIERI



Cyda Robinson (1899-1960), saw doctor and mill foreman at Sinsville c 1936

Photo: Cydon Robinson

AUSTRALIAN FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME

(TITLE) (FIRST NAME) (SURNAME)

ORGANISATION (IF ANY)

ADDRESS

FIELD OF INTEREST IN FOREST HISTORY

POST TO:

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