

## THE WALK

The walk is approximately 5-6 hours duration but do allow for extra time to stop and look at the site. The pathway passes through farmland and native bush.

Walk down the laneway to the river valley paddocks and follow the white arrows, continue through the paddocks and the track will go near the Mokau River. The last paddock as it nears the bush, has a slight incline and the gate into the bush track is up from the river halfway up the fenceline, see photo.



The track leads through the bush and you will see native birds, nikau palms, ferns, rata and rimu. This track will lead straight to the area of the Lime Works remains. Walk across the farm bridge and immediately on your left, the remains of the area used as a carriage track can be seen all the way down to the river.

Follow the track along the side of the hill this will take you to the bush before the Lime Kiln. I recommend to stay close to the river through the bush as to keep your bearings, there is 3 small streams to cross, each is

easier if you head inland a short distance, then return to the bush line next to the river. There is no formed track and there is supplejack to navigate and logs to walk over, however it is well worth the trip. It takes 30 minutes from the start of the scenic reserve to the track up to the Kiln.



## HISTORY

The quarry was worked from 1930-32. The boss was Sid Baker from Waitara, he worked the crusher while others blasted the lime boulders and brought the rocks to the crusher. The men lived in tents while working at the quarry.

The Lime Kiln was built in 1895 and run by Mr Edward Lloyd, the lime kiln turned out 10 tons of lime a day, meanwhile Nelson lime sold for 5 pounds per ton, which was too costly for farmers to use on their land, Mr Lloyd sold lime for 2 pounds a ton.

The lime was burnt at a high temperature for use as mortar when building with brick, also for use on the land, but it was tricky stuff and apt to cause a fire if it got wet when in the bags. In

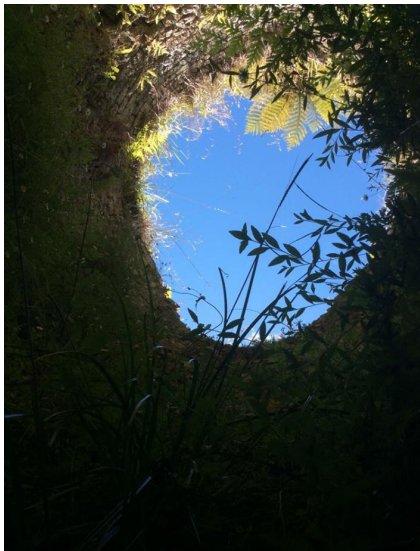




1900 an article in the Taranaki Herald made mention to the lime and was referred to it as being the best hydraulic lime and the land was to become one of the finest agricultural and pastoral districts in New Zealand. The steamer Manukau coming down the river carrying both lime and coal was the cause of an alarm when she berthed at Waitara on the 31st January 1897 after a particularly stormy passage. The cause of smouldering lime was thought to be started by a chemical reaction between the lime and coal.

After water was thrown on the cargo it was out within minutes.

When the Lime Kiln was shut down some of the bricks were reused for the bakehouse at the nearby Mangatoī Station.



## HOUSEKEEPING RULES

- Leave gates as you find them eg if they are closed then close the gate behind you
- Please DO NOT remove any items from the Kiln site
- The friendly animals may want to be nosey so a quick wave of your arms will make them move away.

## ENVIRONMENT

Inland was one of the largest privately-owned tracts of native forest left in the North Island, the 11,000ha was sold to DOC in 1994. It now forms part of almost a continuous native forest from the Whanganui River to the Mokau River, and it links 10 separate already protected areas.



### INTERESTING THINGS you may see or hear on your way ...

- Kahikatea Terrace forest
- Nikau Palms
- Ferns
- Rata trees
- Rimu trees
- Pure Hard Beech
- Kokako
- Blue duck
- Blue-gilled bully
- North Island fern birds
- Australian bittern
- NZ Falcons
- North Island Kaka
- Brown Kiwi
- Robins

PHONE MAXINE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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# Walking to Awakau Lime Quarry & Kiln

**Difficulty:** Moderate/Challenging

**Location:** 412 Awakau Road

**Length:** 5 hours

**Distance:** 11 km

