

Supporting Documents Books, Maps and Photos – Golden Hills Hut

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Bibliography

Published Books

- Barnett, Brown, Spearpoint, *Shelter from the Storm, The Story of NZ's Backcountry Huts*, Craig Potten Publishing, 2012
- Barnett, Brown, Spearpoint, *A Bunk for the Night, A Guide to NZ's Best Backcountry Huts*, Potton & Burton, 2016
- Crossley, Jeanette, *Matt's Last Muster – A Shepherd's Journey*, Palmerston North, Ekrub Publishing, 1992
- Holden, Philip, *Station Country: Back-country Life in New Zealand*, Auckland, Hodder & Stoughton, 1973
- Lethbridge, Christopher, *Sunrise on the Hills*, Auckland, Hodder & Stoughton, 1971
- Newton, Peter, *Big Country of the North Island*, Wellington, A.H. & A.W. Reed [1969], 1973
- Masters, Lester, *Back-country Tales*, Hart Printing House, 1960
- Riseborough, Hazel, *Ngamatea: the land and the people*, Auckland, Auckland University Press, 2006
- Wheeler, Colin, *Historic Sheep Stations of the North Island*, Wellington, A.H. & A.W. Reed, 1973
- Willem, Hans, *North Island Back Country Huts*, Auckland, Halcyon Press, 1998
- Barnett, Brown, Spearpoint, *Shelter from the Storm, The Story of NZ's Backcountry Huts*, Craig Potten Publishing, 2012
- Barnett, Brown, Spearpoint, *A Bunk for the Night, A Guide to NZ's Best Backcountry Huts*, Potton & Burton, 2016

Unpublished

Visitor's Book – Golden Hills Hut, Ngamatea, 1947-1975

Website

Westlawn Hut - PDF printed page from www.heritage.org.nz/the-list

Reference Notes

References to 'Golden Hills' in published writings can denote either

- a) the Golden Hills Hut itself
- b) the Golden Hills holding paddock area in general or
- c) both.

Writers recollecting the stories of the muster often refer to 'Golden Hills' but undoubtedly reference to wayfaring at the hut also.

The Hut in context

As Golden Hills Hut was integral to the history and development of the Ngamatea sheep station, and indeed neighbouring stations, the general history or description of Ngamatea sheep station or what was known as Owhaoko land, is also referenced in the Photocopied Content in order to give a greater context and understanding of its heritage.

Photocopied Content listed

Page numbers listed in bold (eg **p158**) in the following content list refer to either -

- a) when the name of the Hut itself is specifically mentioned or
- b) when the general term of Golden Hills has reasonable reference to the hut within context on the page.

All other page numbers refer to either Golden Hills in general or to the history and landownership of Ngamatea.

Photocopied content and page references to application questions

Notes: Page numbers refer to mention of Golden Hills
Bold page numbers refer directly to **Golden Hills Hut**

(Published works are ordered by greatest reference to Golden Hills Hut)



Ngamatea: the land and the people

Introduction

- Narrative about Ngamatea, Hazel Riseborough

Chapter 1 – Owhaoko

- Maori/Pakeha history of Owhaoko land, land ownership
- p8 The Golden Hills
- p15 Land block ownership of Owhaoko D
- p20-21 & 26 Use of Golden Hills land

Chapter 2&3 – Fernie Brothers – L&W Roberts

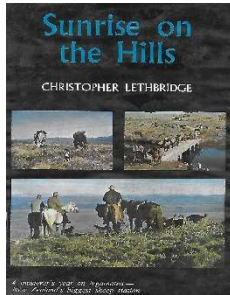
- **p42** Jerry Johnston rabbit hunter, 1930s Q14
- p52 Holding paddock for the muster Q9
- p54-55 Rabbit culling, 1937 Q14
- p55 Deer culling, 1938 Q14
- p56 Camp out for mustering team Q14
- p60 Rabbit culling, 1940s Q14

Chapter 4 – The Muster

- **p 89 Map:** Indicating the hut
- p90-91 Central point of the main muster Q14
- **p93 Photo:** A load of chaff at Golden Hills Q14
- **p105** Description of Golden Hills Hut, 'largest most used hut' Q12
- **p106 Photo:** Golden Hills Hut Q12
- **p109** Building a toilet at the hut Q12
- **p110** Bathing necessities for musters Q12

Chapter 5,7&8 – Incidents – Development – Others

- p153 Fencing the Golden Hills land Q14
- p155 Army SAS training Q14
- p182 Last full muster, 1968 Q14
- **p183** Tractor and bulldozed track to the hut, 1971 Q14
- **p226** Lester Masters and Dr Bathgate using the hut Q14
- **p227** The Visitors Log book Q14
- p233 Deer hunters Q14



Sunrise on the Hills

A musterer's year on Ngamatea – New Zealand's biggest sheep station.
Tales in the life of a musterer for one season.

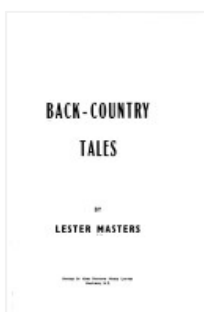
- **p8 Map** of Ngamatea station
- **p9** Size of Ngamatea
- **p42-43** Trekking to Golden Hills
- **p66** Holding paddock
- **p72** Riding to Golden Hills
- **p73** Description of the 'golden' land and visitor log book Q14
- **p154** Last leg of the straggle muster to Golden Hills
- **p159** Deer skins
- **p161** Resting at the hut
- **p164** Winter straggle
- **p165** Deer stalking
- **p176** Deer stalking



Visitors Book – Golden Hills Hut (1947-1972)

Introduction

- Narrative from the log book originator Lester Masters 1947 preceeding the visitor log entries
 - **Photo:** Golden Hills Hut 1947 Q14
- Sample log entries to 1960 (15 pages)



Back-country Tales

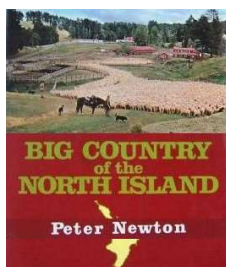
Tales from some of the users of Golden Hills Hut

Chapter - Kaimanawa Country

- **p13-14** History of Ngamatea
- **p17** Driving mobs of sheep

Chapter – Golden Hills and Beyond

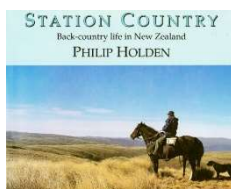
- **p21** Built 1925, first semi-permanent occupant of the hut Q14
- **p22** Army training in guerrilla warfare; gold prospectors Q14
- **p23** Man missing in the fog Q14
- **p28 Photo:** Golden Hills Hut with Dr Bathgate Q14



Big Country of the North Island

Chapter 27 – Ngamatea

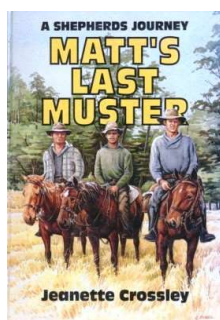
- p148 Ngamatea, “the North Island mecca of high country musterers” Q9
- p154 Muster cook ‘Jeff’ resident at the hut Q14
- p155 Lester Masters’ visitor log book Q14



Station Country: Back-country Life in New Zealand

Chapter 18 – Inland Patea Country

- p179 Ngamatea Station and history of the landownership
- p180 Golden Hills region Q14
- p182 Network of outlying mustering huts Q14
- **p185** 3 day ride from station to the hut, Jack Roberts

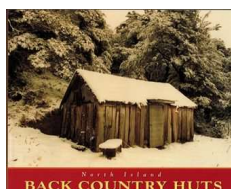


Matt's Last Muster - A Shepherd's Journey

In 1989, working as a musterer on Timahanga sheep station, Matt Burke and friends take the same journey of the full musters in the past.

Chapter 3 – Retracing the Old Mustering Trails

- **p93** DAY 1: to Golden Hills Hut
- **p99 Photo:** On the way to Golden Hills Q14
- **p104** Bulldozed track out to the hut Q12
- **p105** Arriving at the hut Q12
- **p108-109** Describing the hut; visitors log book Q12,14
- p110 Leaving Golden Hills

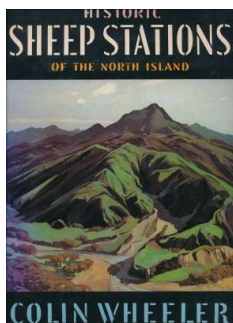


North Island Back Country Huts

- p107-108 – Ngamatea station

Private Huts

- **p135 Photo:** Golden Hills hut Q12
- **p136** Golden Hills Hut today Q12

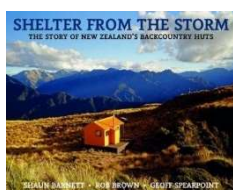


Historic Sheep Stations of the North Island

Artist Colin Wheeler visits Ngamatea in 1972

Chapter - Ngamatea

- p52-55 Ngamatea station and history of the landowners
- p55 Frost, rain and snow at Golden Hills



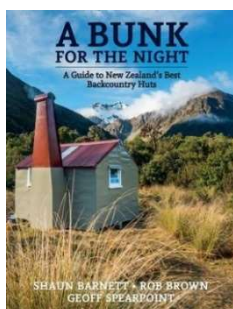
Shelter from the Storm - The Story of NZ's Backcountry Huts

- p29 Pastoral Huts (Ngamatea station)
- p37 The Mustering Huts
- p39 Photos of huts

Other huts -

Q8

- p44 Iron Whare
- p46,47 Old Manson Hut
- p48,49 Hideaway Biv
- p54 Riordans Hut
- p60 Crooked Spur Hut
- p62,63 Beech Hut



A Bunk for the Night – A guide to NZ's Best Backcountry Huts

Other huts -

Q8

- p50 Stan's Whare
- p58 Old Manson Hut, Iron Whare
- p167 Camp Stream
- p213 Beech Hut
- p214 Cowshed Hut

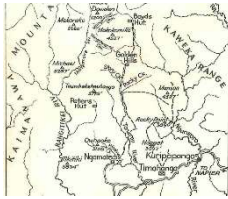


Westlawn Hut _ Heritage New Zealand.pdf

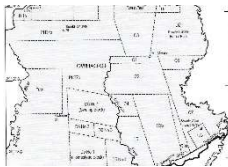
<http://www.heritage.org.nz/the-list/details/7610>

Q8

Maps



Map 1: Ngamatea Station in the heart of the North island, Golden Hills location



Map 2: Owhaoko Blocks today (A, B, C and D) Golden Hills situated on PtD1



Map 3: Ngamatea 1930s-1960s constructed map by author Hazel Riseborough



Google Maps – Golden Hills Hut regional location



Google Earth – Golden Hills Hut & photo



Maori Land Blocks – Owhaoko D1



NZ Topographical map

Photographs from publications

“Ngamatea: the land and its people”, Hazel Riseborough p106

(Photographer unknown)



Golden Hills hut.

“Ngamatea: the land and its people”, Hazel Riseborough p93

(Photographer unknown)



A load of chaff at Golden Hills.

"Golden Hills Hut Visitors Book", Lester Masters, introduction pages
(possible photographer Lester Masters)

Golden Hills Hut 1947

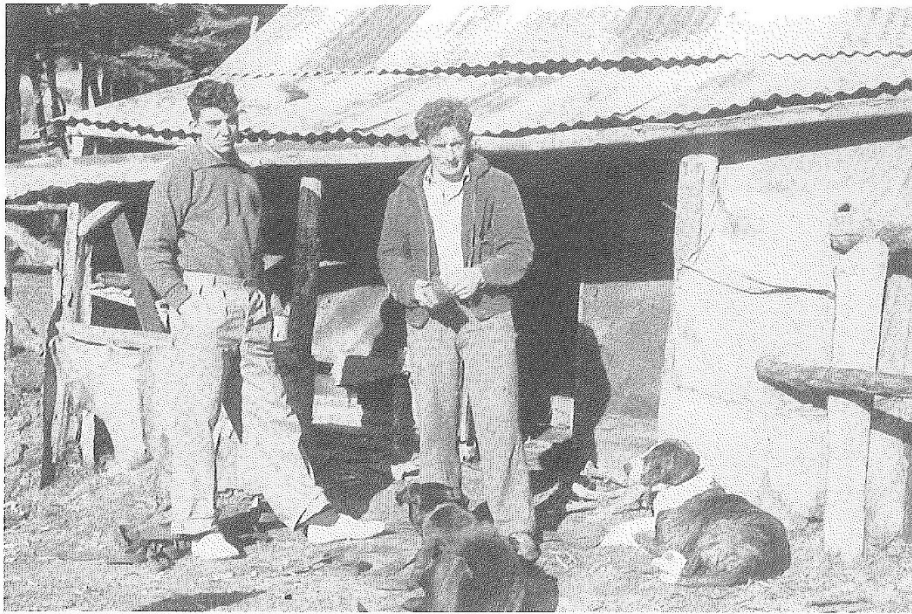


"Backcountry Tales", Lester Masters p28
(possible photographer Lester Masters companion to these men)



Golden Hills Hut. From left to right Tom Mitchell, David Bathgate and Rolf Keys

“The Deer Cullers”, Hans Willems p221



Con Malone (left) and Red Fairhall (right) at the Golden Hills Hut on Ngamatea Station, 1953. Photo: Con Malone Collection.

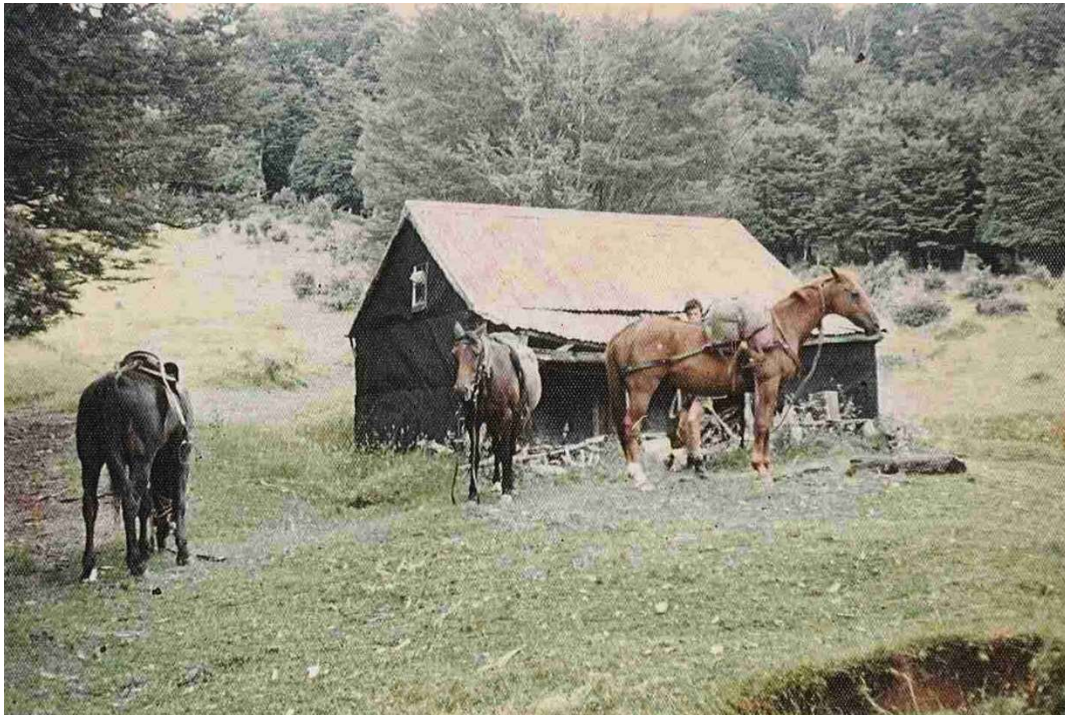
“The Deer Cullers”, Hans Willems p71



Norm Gilmore at the iconic Golden Hills Hut during the later days of culling in the North Island, 1974. Photo: Les Pracy Collection.

Photo from Paddy Clark – private Deer culler

Photo: Paddy Clark, Taupo, 1970



Golden Hills Hut with pack horses for deer culling

Photo from Panoramio web site - www.panoramio.com

Photo: Wero Karena / Uploaded by Monty Shipman, Australia



Golden Hills Hut

Tamear 10 years old at Golden Hills Hut in the Kaimanawa Range
Photo Wero Karena

(photo circa 2000) possibly of a horse trek

Photos of David Bedford, possum hunter



Golden Hills Hut



Harsh conditions of hunting possums in the winter snow



Golden Hills Hut in the beech clearing



Basic bunks

Photos from Fish n Hunt web site - www.fishnhunt.co.nz

Member: Known as **Gav**

Re: **Back Country Huts**, June 24, 2006



Front view of Golden Hills Hut showing veranda and hitching post for horses

Member (Male, Paterangi): Known as **DAD**

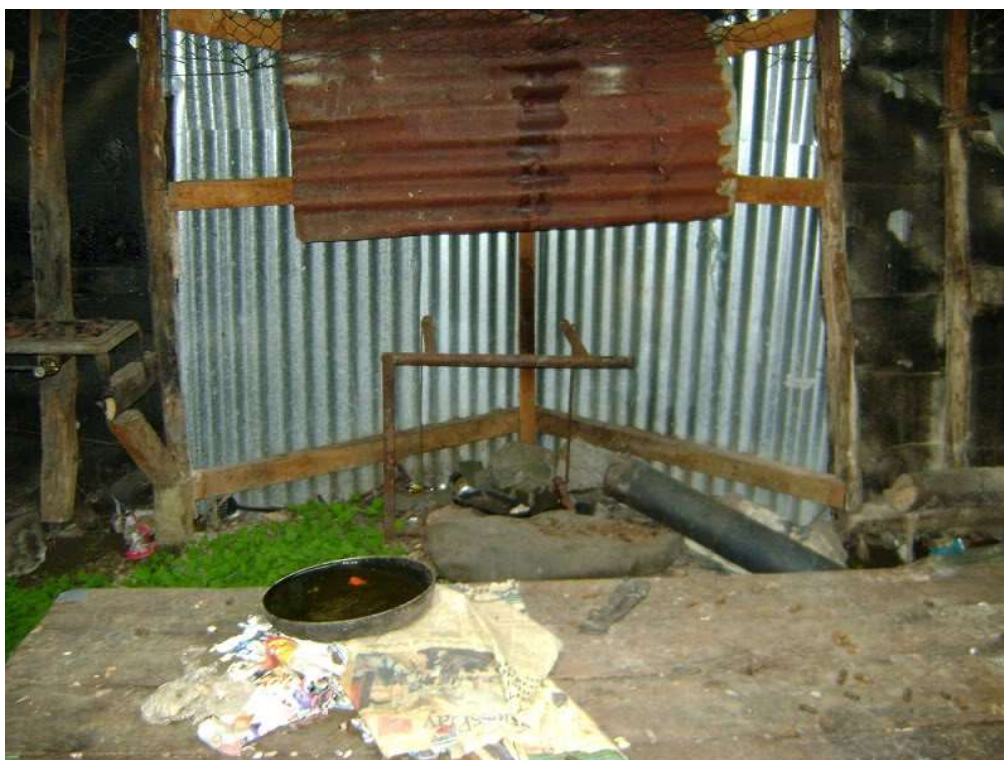
Re: **Golden Hills April 2007**, Sept 3rd, 2007



Front view of the Golden Hills Hut – verandah slightly intact



Golden Hills Hut set in a cleared glade of beech trees



New fire and chimney installed by hunters

Member (Male, Auckland): Known as **Sako75**
Re: **Golden Hills Report** Nov 11th, 2014



Original fence line of the Golden Hills holding yards



Looking over the Golden Hills valley – Beech clearing of Golden Hills Hut to the right



Deterioration of two sides to the hut

This area is still a popular area for hunting, however hunters now stay at a modern hut built on the Golden Hills plains.

Photos taken by Owhaoko B&D Trust 2016/17

Taken during an inspection trip September 2016 and February 2017



Situated in the beech tree clearing

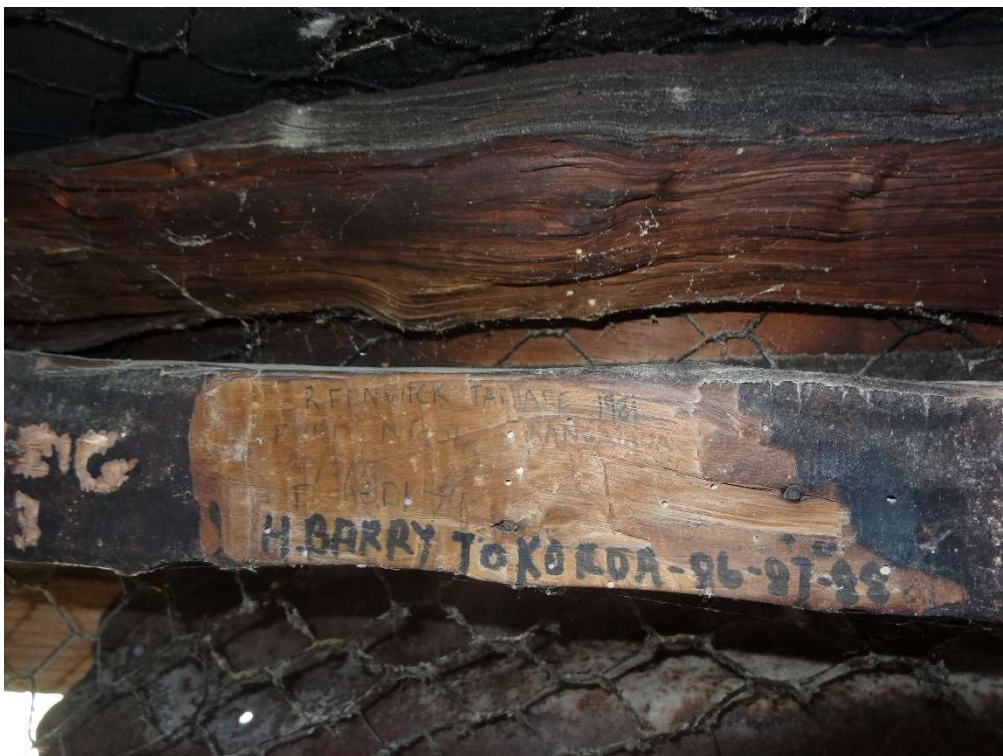




The two sides of the hut still in good condition



Split beech framework and malthoid walls



Carved initials on beams

Hunters blogs - Fish n Hunt

Viking
 Forum Font
 ★★★★★
☐ Offline
 Life is for living--not for worrying
 Posts: 1289
 Location: Waikato
 Joined: Apr 2nd, 2008
 Gender:

Re: Golden Hills hut Kawekas
Reply #4 - Sep 22nd, 2010 at 12:35am
 Walker wrote on Sep 21st, 2010 at 11:08pm:
 Further up the valley by the saddle, Most of the gullys have small patches of scrub and the deer seem to move from one patch to another nightly. First thing to do is spread out and find where they are hold up then plan your attack. Wind has a big bearing on it as well up there as it will carry your scent for miles. Otherwise good luck. Oh the old hut is 4poles and a roof wrapped in paper and plastic, cold as a witches tit.
 The old Golden Hills hut is a relic of the Ngamatea mustering days when Ngamatea ran sheep all throught that area and right over to the Rangatikei/Ngararoro Valleys. Obviously it would seem that it hasn't been maintained by the sounds of it, coz it used to be quite cosy place, Chaff sack bunks on beech pole frame, and big fireplace, great place on a snowy night. Got photo's somewhere of it in the 60's, about the time Ngamatea were getting their sheep out of the back country, and didn't take up the lease after that. 😞 I actually heard years ago it was under the protection of the historic places people but that can't have been the case.

Mark & Quote Quote Report Post Print Post

BIG RED
 Forum Senior
 ★★★★★
☐ Offline

 Posts: 869
 Location: Te Avramutu
 Joined: Dec 18th, 2006
 Gender:

Re: Golden hills report
Reply #33 - Dec 21st, 2016 at 6:22pm
 Owhaoko wrote on Dec 8th, 2016 at 9:04am:
 You'll be pleased to know that Owhaoko B&D Trust are looking to restore the old Golden Hills Hut. We are also looking at listing it as a Heritage site due to its significance in the back country muster of Ngamatea. Would love to see photos of interior/exterior pre-fire.
 Good on you mate and also to the Owhaoko trust for hopefully restoring this iconic back country hut to a better state.
 I was speaking to one of the trustees at Helisika last week and he was a top bloke.
 Unfortunately when I stayed there it was before I had a digital camera so my photos are old school prints.
 As I don't have a scanner I am unable to put them up.
 Hopefully someone else sees your post and can help out.
 She is a beauty hut in a special place.

Mark & Quote Quote Report Post Print Post

sikaslayer1
 Forum Senior
 ★★★★★
☐ Offline
 I Love The FishNhunt Forum
 Posts: 988
 Joined: Jul 16th, 2009
 Gender:

Re: Golden hills report
Reply #30 - Dec 4th, 2016 at 10:33am
 Cool area, Golden Hills. I haven't been there for years but brings back memories. Odd that you lost that deer once it went down. Might want to try an 80g projectile for the 243..... They don't usually get up from those!Thanks for a great report.

Mark & Quote Quote Report Post Print Post

7.62
Donor Member
★★★★★
Offline

Posts: 821
Location: Waikato
Joined: Apr 19th, 2012
Gender:

Re: Golden hills report
Reply #28 - Dec 1st, 2016 at 8:20pm

Mark & Quote
Quote
Report Post
Print Post

Owhaoko wrote on Nov 29th, 2016 at 1:33pm:

I have just finished reading 'Ngamatea - the land and the people' written by Hazel Riseborough. The old Golden Hills hut features many times in her narrative especially in the Muster chapter. I hope to visit with her soon and hopefully glean a bit more info as to what it was like back in the day. Fortunately she now lives here in Taupo.

Great read - has become 'rare' status from what I can see, available through our local libraries.

Yeah a good book that one. I would also recommend reading "Sunrise On The Hills" by Christopher Lethbridge, another interesting read about Ngamatea and the challenges involved with mustering half of the Kaimanawas and Kawekas. It was a hell of an era!

Also really pleased to hear that the owners are restoring Golden Hills, great effort 😊

green hill
Forum Font
★★★★★
Offline

Re: Golden hills report
Reply #24 - Nov 25th, 2016 at 9:45pm

Mark & Quote
Quote
Report Post
Print Post

The fire place we put in looks to be about the only thing holding up ! . I have been told from the maori trust that there are plans to restore it as a historical hut .

PA 18
Active Member
★★★
Offline

I Love The FishNhunt Forum

Posts: 97
Location: whitianga
Joined: Jun 17th, 2011
Gender:

Re: Golden hills report
Reply #18 - Dec 10th, 2014 at 9:16am

Mark & Quote
Quote
Report Post
Print Post

Its a pity . The hut should be preserved as an historic building. The one down at the tin kettle was the same .(Te Apunga) it had dates of 1930 carved on the door ..Used it as a bivvy before any shelter was built down there .. Walls had collapsed and roof structure was on the ground ..
They also had one at the Boyd on the flat across the creek from the present hut .. and one at Mingamini on the little flat above where the creek forks and the track up though the bush starts that goes to the saddle and down the ridge to the mangamarie ..