

EXOTIC TREE: 61
SPECIES: *Ficus macrophylla*.
COMMON NAME(S): Moreton Bay Fig.
B.B CATEGORY: Exotic Notable Tree - Local Interest.

ORIGINAL READINGS

LOCATION: Near the waterfall, Pukekura Park.
DATE MEASURED: 1973
HEIGHT: 90 ft (27.5 m)
CANOPY SPREAD: 84 ft (25.6 m)
DBH: 84 in (2.134 m)
BURSTALL'S NOTES: A large tree and one of the tallest recorded.
Another good tree, 76 in x 70 ft x 80 ft (1.93 m x 21.4 m x 24.4 m) in 1973, is at G.T. Armstrong's, 9e Paynters Avenue.

CURRENT READINGS

UPDATED LOCATION: Pukekura Park, Hughes Walk, in close proximity to the waterfall and the southwestern corner of the Hatchery Lawn.
DATE MEASURED: 1st February 2002
HEIGHT: 33.6 m
CANOPY SPREAD: 37 m
DBH: 3.118 m
REMARKS: A massive tree (**Fig. 122**) that is healthy and towers above the far end of the Hatchery lawn with great eminence, the main characteristic being the aerial roots displayed in the lower canopy and on the trunk. Of special interest is the fascinating appearance of the exposed roots on the path-side heading down to the Hatchery Lawn (**Fig. 123**). Bearing a multitude of limbs arising from just above 2 m of which many have grafted in the upper canopy. Every year in the summer lighting festival this tree is most deservedly made a main feature, as it is the recipient of several lights in the lower canopy.

(*Medbury, 1984: Ht = 28 m approx; spread = 30 m).



Fig. 122



Fig. 123

&The specimen located at what is now Ian Price's property, 9 e Paynters Av can be found at the end of the driveway on the easterly boundary (**Fig. 124**). It is a very healthy tree with a large fluting trunk, making it rather difficult to obtain accurate measurements. Larger lower limbs have been removed and from many of these areas adventitious shoots (forming on meristematic callus wood) have emerged. A multitude of leaders from above 1.5 m. An interesting point here is the absence of aerial roots, unlike the tree at Pukekura Park.
2.2.02: Height = 25.5 m; spread = 27.8 m; dbh = 2.962 m.



Fig. 124

EXOTIC TREE: 62
 SPECIES: *Fraxinus excelsior*.
 COMMON NAME(S): Common Ash, European Ash.
 B.B CATEGORY: Exotic Notable Tree - Local Interest.

ORIGINAL READINGS

LOCATION: Rear of Kiosk, Pukekura Park.
 DATE MEASURED: 1973
 HEIGHT: 62 ft (18.9 m). With a good trunk to 16 ft (4.9 m.)
 CANOPY SPREAD: 35 ft (10.7 m)
 DBH: 25 in (63.5 cm)
 BURSTALL'S NOTES: -

CURRENT READINGS

UPDATED LOCATION: Same as above.
 DATE MEASURED: 4th February 2002
 HEIGHT: 15.7 m
 CANOPY SPREAD: 8.8 m
 DBH: 72.3 cm
 REMARKS: Branches at about 6.5 m into 3 main limbs all of which have been severely reduced to approximately 1.5 to 2 m. This has encouraged a mass of new growth (shoots) from dominant buds. This method of tree care is similar to pollarding (predominantly a British pruning culture) and certainly gives the tree an interesting appearance (Fig. 125).
 This species does not thrive in the coastal environment and is somewhat of a rarity in New Plymouth.

(*Medbury, 1986: Ht = 16.5 m; dbh = 66.9 cm).



Fig. 125