

Matahanea Store.

In 1906, when the upper Waiioeka vlock was opened up and balloted for, there was a dray road only as far as Matahanea, then 17 miles from Opoiki, all stores and mail then going by packhorse to Oponae. Charles Pipe and a partner ^(can't remember name) were for some time the contractors, later contractors were Bill McLennan and about 1913 one of the Kellys, Jack, I think. About 1907 or 1908 Bill Dickie ~~/~~ started a store, and depot for mail and stores for the settlers, till the packhorse ^{team} could carry them on to Oponae. Beds were provided for weary travellers wishing for a break before tackling the long journey to Oponae on horseback, the only useful pace on the narrow fascined track being what became known as the "Waiioeka jog" 17 miles to Oponae.

About 1913 the storekeeper was Andy Coward