

## Bagnall Bros Factory Complex, Turua



**Location:** Bagnall Square and along Waihou St. to Awa St, Turua

### Heritage Status

**Historic Places Trust Registration Number:**

**Historic Places Trust Category:**

**HDC Heritage Category:** **C** – Heritage Item. Local or Neighbourhood Significance

**Physical Description:** Two concrete blocks by the river side of Waihou Street. near Awa Street. are all that remains of the original sawmill. A new jetty was constructed in the vicinity of the old wharf site in 2004. The area is marked by a collection of factory buildings, former store and wharf site along Bagnall Square, Turua. Includes Fred Brown and Sons Construction Company Building and Muddy River Café (HAU192).

**Other known names:** Bagnall Bros. Sawmill and Box Making Company

**Notable features:**

**Style:**

**Materials:** Corrugated iron and timber

**Date of Construction:** c.1896 (?) Possibly circa 1920's(?)

**History:** In 1865, the Hauraki Sawmill Company erected a saw mill at a point on the western bank of the Waihou River, about five miles from its mouth in order to

### District Plan Schedule

**Number:** **HAU191**

**Heritage Category:** C

#### Heritage Type:

- Wahi Tapu
- Cultural Landscape
- Building
- Group of Buildings
- Structure
- Monument
- Historic Place
- Archaeological Site
- Other

#### Date Period:

**1881-1910**

#### Significance:

- Archaeological
- Architectural
- Cultural
- Historic
- Scientific
- Technological

#### Thematic Context

- Maori
- Early Settlement
- Industry
- Extraction
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Transport
- Communication
- Commerce
- Residential
- Social/Cultural
- Civic
- Health
- Educational
- Church/yard
- Other

# Historic Heritage Inventory



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harvest one of the largest Kahikatea forests in the country. In 1877, the company leased its mill and bush to the Bagnall Bros and Company. Through stock purchases in the mill company the Bagnalls became the outright owners of the mill and box making factory by 1896.

The mill included large breaking down and circular saws, two gang frames, three planing machines, re-sawing machines, cut-off saws and a complete plant for making beehives, sections and boxes. A jetty allowing ships of 15 ft draft was located next to the mill; another deep water jetty was at the end of Bagnall Square. A second mill was also located at the end of Bagnall Square.

Most of the mill output was exported to Australia, where it was primarily used for making butter boxes, rabbit crates and packing cases. In 1896-7, the Bagnall Bros. established operations in Auckland following the purchase of the Union Company Mill in Mechanic Bay, and the J.A. Pond and Company Mill in Freeman's Bay. In 1897, they established another box making factory on Wellesley Street West, Auckland.

The 'Bagnall Brothers Factory Building' area is also the location of Turua Pa (T12/789) and the Thames Valley Co-Op Dairy Factory (Muddy River Café HAU192). The wooden section of the Dairy factory building is about 100 years old; the concrete block addition is more recent circa 1940-50.

**Architect:**  
**Designer:**  
**Builder:**  
**Engineer:**

**History of changes:**

**Condition:** Unknown

**Integrity:** Unknown

**Current Uses:** Various

**Former Uses:** Factory, General Store Post Office and Timber Mill

**Registered owner:** Various

**Legal Description:** Lots 204-212 DP 11535

**Reference Source:** Edlerton, G. (1966) "Turua: the saw mills" Ohinemuri Regional History Journal 3(2):6-8); Turua School and District, 1877-2002: celebrating 125 years (2002) Bagnall, Dorthy (1993) "The Bagnalls of Turua", Clover, Ken editor (2007) The Taming of the Hauraki Swamp"

# Historic Heritage Inventory

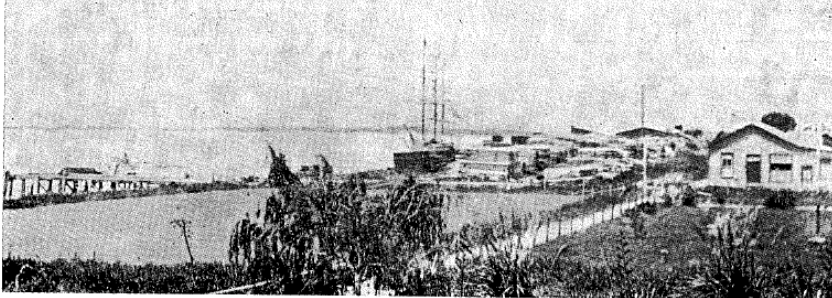
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### Associated Pictures:



Bagnall's Timber Mill at Turua. The Office, wharves and shipping prior to 1898.



"Store Corner" looking West from the town wharf.



Above: Wharf built 2000

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