

Forester of the Year Carving

The carving is the work of Lyonel Grant who describes the carving as follows:

"The principal elements portrayed in this carving are, Papa Tuanuku (The Earth Mother), the children of Tane Mahuta (the forests both native and exotic), as well as an effort to capture their respective uses, using traditional design techniques in a contemporary form.

"The large domineering form which occupies the lower area of the work, represents the unchanging land which although used differently through the passage of time, remains relatively unchanged. This form, as it stretches skyward, also provides a division between past and present eras.

"The mighty native forests of old appear to the left of this division, in stark contrast to the more uniform exotic forests which occupy the area to the right.

"Adorning the area behind the native forests appears a Kowhaiwhai pattern which depicts past times. Alternatively, among the exotic stands recreational pursuits coexist with livelihoods. A lazy path twisting through a clearing; stumps sawn, to the right, reminds of commercial needs served by the modern forests.

"This story etched in native wood has no end. Organisations such as NZIF hold the key to the future of our coexistence with our native and exotic forest 'Taonga'."