

to supply piles for the construction of the Brighton ~~max~~ pier and sleepers for Mallee railways then being laid. For some years C. T. Alexander employed 20 men splitting posts, sawing piles and cutting firewood ~~in the district~~ and piece work rates averaged from 15/- to 20/- a hundred for posts, 3/6d. a cord for firewood, and 3d. each for scaffold piles. The timber era in this district was at its peak between 1910 and 1916 but mills operated by H. McLaren and Murray Brothers remained operative in Belgrave for a further period. J. E. Anderson established a mill in Monbulk in 1923 and his sons are today the main suppliers of timber in the hills.

The following summary shows the gradual reduction of the forest between the years 1867, when the area reserved was ^{approximately} 26,500 acres, and the present day, when the forest is ^{approximately} 4,098 ~~5,376~~ acres in extent.

Year.	^{Approximate} Area Reserved. ^{of Forest.}	Date ^{of} Proclamation.
1867	26,500 aces.	1st April 1867.
1872	26,500 aces.	11th March 1872.
1877.	26,500 aces.	16th July 1877.
1878.	16,500 aces.	11th February 1878.
1893.	6,500 aces.	23rd May 1893.
1894	5,376 aces.	23rd April 1894.

Delete the whole of this then there will be no confusion as to whether the proclaimed area has been taken out or not & it will be uniform with the later tables. I will try & work the dates into Land Settlement. Further the areas in the proclamation will not agree with my figures.

Parish of Monbulk & National Park

MT Dandenong Area.

~~1927~~ ~~5,376~~ ~~acres~~

The latter area of 5,376/ was taken over by the Forests Commission of Victoria under the Forests Commission Act ^{of} 1907 and ~~this~~ comprised:

Olinda Forest. ~~xxxxx~~ 5,326 acres.

Monbulk (including Sherbrooke) Forest. 2,050 aces.

Was this
Monbulk?
yes.