

I wonder, too, where in the 1902 photograph of Muriwai which illustrates Mrs Morris's paper, are the telegraph poles mentioned in the story. There is a post visible.

Mrs Morris attaches importance to the fact that The Glen is on a hill, but the only evidence that the 'story' house is on a hill consists of the references to Alice walking down the path on her way out, Stanley being half-way up the path on his way home and Stanley asking Beryl to 'cut down to the gate and stop the coach'. I think this is inconclusive. 'Down the path' means 'to the gate', 'up the path' means 'to the house' . . . or did when I was a child living on the flattest of plains.

According to the Beauchamp interview the store was on the opposite side of the road and about opposite the cottage. But the 'story' house was not opposite the store. It was some distance down the road. After the shepherd passed the shop he saw spots of light gleaming in the mist. He stopped whistling. He rubbed his nose and beard and looked at the sea. He took out his pipe, fumbled for his tobacco, cut some, filled the pipe, lit it, and later on he passed the Burnells' gatepost.

When Alice the maid left the house to visit Mrs Stubbs at the shop she certainly walked some distance. She 'did wish there'd been a bit of life on the road though. Made her feel so queer, having nobody behind her . . . She . . . said to the *distant* gum tree, "Shan't be long now".

' . . . out of Crescent Bay and toward Daylight Cove.' Mrs Morris's identification of Muriwai as Crescent Bay and Day's Bay as Daylight Cove is convincing and the shepherd's early start suggests that he was making north (toward Wellington). I agree that the Downes Point house is not the 'story' house. With Mrs Morris's exclusion of Day's Bay I also agree on the grounds of the absence of sandhills and the fact that the road skirts the beach. There is the further and perhaps decisive ground that Day's Bay was not subdivided until 1906, and until Day's Bay House was built about 1903 there was nowhere the Beauchamps could have stayed except perhaps in some building belonging to the Wellington Steam Ferry Company or in its caretaker's house. I agree that the furnished cottage mentioned by Beauchamp was almost certainly The Glen. But I cannot accept Mrs Morris's statement that 'with this cottage in Muriwai, all the details of *At the Bay* agree'. On the contrary I think that those details nearly all disagree and prove that The Glen is not the house at the bay.

If the 'story' house does have a prototype it has not yet been found. Perhaps it is an agglomerate after all, owing something to The Glen, something to Downes Point with its rocks like crouching shaggy beasts, something to an unknown cottage, something even to Chesney Wold.

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