

After 'Pop' Peter Jorgensen immigrated to New Zealand he was employed as caretaker for a pine plantation at Snake Point in the Queen Charlotte Sound, I believe he built a small yacht at Snake Point using frames he had built in Denmark, this could have been Saga but you will have to check on that.

Snake Point is about a two hour launch trip from Picton and living there with his wife and three children was a bit isolated, so the family moved up to Picton where Pop worked for Roger Carey and it was there that Finn was apprenticed to Pop. A site with a large shed then became available in Picton and Pop started his own boatbuilding business and it was here he built 'Takohe'

He also built a few other vessels here including the Danish design fishing vessel Twilight for Ken Macarthur. Snow owned and operated an aerial top dressing company and of course this business depended on good weather for flying conditions, and during times of high wind a number of pilots were pressed into sanding and painting duties on 'Takohe' during her construction.

The launching was on the Picton foreshore and Snow's mother broke the bottle and named her Takohe. The figure in the cockpit as she was brought alongside the wharf was Pop Jorgensen's father, he was on a visit from Denmark, I think his trade may have been as a blacksmith. Takohe was then to cruise to the Pacific islands including Tahiti. Snow was one of the early offshore sailors from Picton when a sextant and charts were used for navigation, before it became fashionable with the advent of GPS.

It was after the building of Takohe that Pop Jorgensen purchased the waterside property at Waikawa and a slipway, winch, boat cradles, and boatbuilding shed was built, this was built by Pop, Finn and Harry, this was quite an undertaking, it was a big shed and there were some sizeable timbers in its construction.

John Gander, Northland July 2021