

THEME 3: SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

3.1 RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS

Early mission stations: The Roman Catholic Bishop, Pompallier, arrived at Otago Heads on 17 November 1840 and began baptising Kai Tahu at Otakou and Moeraki. Pompallier's efforts to establish the Roman Catholic faith in the Dunedin area narrowly pre-date those of the Wesleyan missionary, James Watkin, but were not as influential in the long term.



Figure 25: Reverend J. Watkin's Mission Parsonage at Waikouaiti (Karitane).

Waikouaiti Mission Station: The first permanent mission station (Fig. 25) in the South was established at Waikouaiti in 1840 at the invitation of Johnny Jones and of the Kai Tahu chiefs Karetai and Taiaroa who were visiting Sydney in 1839. Watkin was selected for the post from Sydney and a mission house built on land gifted by Jones. According to T. A. Pybus, the parsonage was "a quaint little four-roomed cottage with an attic and had a commanding view from the high terrace where it was situated on the south side of the river as it takes its final bend to the sea." The chimney was the first constructed of bricks in the South Island and built with materials from Sydney. Jones later itemised his costs in establishing the Mission as "Passage from Sydney for

himself (Watkin), wife and six children, with luggage and three head of cattle–£100. Cost of erecting a house of six rooms with kitchen and also a schoolroom for the use of missionary–£250.” The house was situated at Hau-te-kapakapa. Again, according to Pybus, this was a site of significance to Kai Tahu and close to the kaika of Maraekura, Waipipikaika and Makuku. The Mission House was later transported to Seacliff and used as part of a bakery where it was later destroyed by fire.

Watkin preached in the open or buildings that were made available. A whare karakia was built and replaced by a permanent structure in 1843. It was Methodist Missionary Society policy not to acquire Maori land and the Waikouaiti Mission Station was later included in the Native Reserve. Watkin also used the store built by the Weller Brothers and run by Octavius Harwood at Omate on the harbour side of Otago Peninsula. Benches for the congregation were made by Garret Hopper Clearwater, an American born whaler, carpenter and shipbuilder from New Jersey. An example is held by the Otago Settlers Museum. The same site was used by the Catholic Bishop Pompallieron his visit to Otakou in 1840.

The Free Church of Scotland: Otago was established as a Free Church settlement and the character of the early settlement was uniquely shaped around the theology and social views of its adherents. The Free Church of Scotland was a breakaway from the Presbyterian Church which was formed in 1843. One third of the Church of Scotland’s congregations joined the new church with ministers losing much of their income as a result. The disagreement that resulted in this schism centred around the freedom of congregations to appoint ministers of their choice. It was perceived that the Church of Scotland was an ‘established’ church subject to political and legislative interference. Somewhat confusingly, other ‘Free Church’ Presbyterian denominations emerged with little connection to the first. These included the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland (1893) and the United Free Church of Scotland (1900). The Presbyterian Church of New Zealand was formed in 1901 following the amalgamation of the Synod of Otago and Southland with the northern Presbyterian Church denominations.

First Church: The first religious service for the new migrants was held in the survey office used by Kettle and Park. Later, Presbyterian services were held in the barracks erected for married couples, the largest building in Dunedin in 1848. This stood on the foreshore close to present day Lower High Street on the north side of the bay. A combined church, hall and school was completed in 1849 on a site in Lower High Street which now lies underneath the present day DCC car park. This was constructed from stone cut from the New Zealand Company quarry in Andersons Bay. Thomas Robertson [1798 - 1895] was a mason from Aberlady, Scotland who had arrived on the *Philip Laing*. He was a highly experienced builder and an important figure in the early settlement. His skills as a stonemason were in steady demand as the first generation of flimsy shelters gave way to more substantial buildings. Burns wrote of plans for the church being brought out from Scotland and its distinct gable form suggests that this is the case, although it is a type familiar to any Scots builder. This building was burnt out in 1865.

Robertson's stone church was soon too small for the growing population and an interim building (Fig. 26) was constructed on Dowling Street. This was a timber framed building on a deep stone basement, portions of which were present on the site until recent years. It was used for many purposes after the construction of the present First Church, becoming a boot factory, skating rink and cinema.

A competition for the design of the principal Presbyterian church in Otago was announced in 1862. The commission was won by Robert Arthur Lawson, a Scottish architect working in Melbourne. Lawson moved to Dunedin to commence the project but construction was delayed and initial plans redrawn following the Otago Provincial Council's decision to lower Bell Hill by twelve metres in order to provide a level building platform and fill for harbour reclamation.

This process meant that construction did not begin until 1867 and the church [B412] was finally completed in 1873. Lawson's design was influenced by British 19th century reformist, Augustus Pugin, although the planning of First Church was adapted specifically for the congregational worship employed by the Otago Presbyterian denomination. The large chancel and transepts of Catholic and Anglican



Figure 26: The second First Church above the ruins of the old. circa 1865

churches were minimised and the interior functions as a large open auditorium. The third First Church in Dunedin was subject to criticism from conservative members of the congregation, who felt that the Gothic style was too extravagant and inappropriately 'English' for its symbolic purpose. Even so, Gothic was the prevailing style in mid-19th century Scotland also and opposition was muted after the church was completed and its full beauty revealed.

Knox Church: The expanding rural population saw the appointment of ministers in the Taieri and Clutha districts in 1854. A second congregation was added to Dunedin city with the appointment of Donald MacNaughton Stuart in 1860. The first Knox Church was located on Great King Street and opened in May 1860. It was a large timber building designed by William Langlands in a simplified neo-classical style. Edinburgh-born Langlands worked for the Provincial Government as a draughtsman and later became Provincial engineer and architect for Otago. Langlands also designed the 1862 manse for First Church which was removed shortly after its construction to enable the lowering of Bell Hill.

Lawson's replacement for Langland's wooden church was set on a more prominent site on George Street and followed a decision to build a church to hold 1000 worshippers. Once again the design was the result of a competition won by R. A. Lawson but his estimate of £5,000 exceeded the maximum limit and the commission was awarded to David Ross. Ross ran into difficulties with the Building Committee over his choice of supervisor and was replaced by Lawson in 1874. Knox Church [B161] was constructed using dark basalt stone from the Leith Valley quarry. Lawson's choice of simplified 13th century Gothic and the sombre dark exterior was resonant with the congregation and the interior of the church has been judged an improvement over First Church.

East Taieri: Lawson's exclusive hold on Presbyterian church architecture in Dunedin and the wider district was upheld with his winning entry for the 500 seat East Taieri Presbyterian Church [B634] in 1869. Built in brick, the church suffered structural defects for which Lawson was criticised. Nonetheless, the church was of great significance to the Taieri community through the work of its first minister, the Rev. William Will. Will was born in Perthshire and educated at the University of Edinburgh and the Free Church of Edinburgh. Will was minister to the Taieri congregation from 1853 until 1899.



Figure 27: St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Walker St, Dunedin

St Andrew's Church: The city church of St Andrew's in Walker Street (Fig. 27) was the centre of a major episode in New Zealand social reformism in the 1880s when its Irish minister, Rutherford Waddell, preached a 'sermon against cheapness', deploring the labour conditions facing Dunedin's working poor, particularly women in the clothing trade.



Figure 28: St Paul's Church, Dunedin. 1866

Church of England: The Anglican or Episcopalian Church was the second largest denomination in Dunedin but the Scots settlement founders often expressed the view that it had more influence in the running of affairs than it should. This friction extended to the Wellington-based Government's role in selecting officials and to education, as well to style of the worship.

The first Anglican St Paul's church in Dunedin (Fig. 28) was built in the Octagon in 1863 and was designed by Charles Abbot, a surveyor/engineer employed by the Roads Department of the Otago Provincial Council. It was replaced by the current St Paul's Cathedral [B592] which was the work of English architect, Edmund Sedding. Other important places of worship for the Anglican church in Dunedin are the red brick All Saints Church (1865) in North Dunedin [B052] and H. F. Hardy's St Peter's Church, Caversham (1882).



Figure 29: St Dominic's Priory, Dunedin

Catholic Church: A small group of Catholics accompanied the major denominations to Dunedin in the 1840s. Catholic priests were occasionally dispatched to visit Otago and Southland but the first resident priest, Father Delphine Moreau, S.M., did not arrive in Dunedin until 1861. Father Moreau laid the foundation stone of St Joseph's Church in Rattray Street in 1862. This building later served as a school and was superseded by Francis William Petre's French Gothic St Joseph's Cathedral [B504], also in Rattray Street. Petre also designed the adjoining St Dominic's Priory [B586] (Fig. 29).

The Catholic Church grew to around 6,000 by the early 1870s and under the vigorous direction of Bishop Patrick Moran, built 25 churches, 17 schools, and convents to house various Catholic orders. Many of these were designed by F. W. Petre who was also connected to the Scots establishment through his marriage to William Cargill's granddaughter.

Wesleyan Church: 'Non-conformists' offered another form of religious observation and this organisation commissioned a stone church from R. A. Lawson in 1869. The Wesleyan church on Moray Place is one of Dunedin's earliest surviving churches in the inner city and was later converted into a live performance venue for the Fortune Theatre [B574].

3.2 THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTION



Figure 30: The Mechanics' Institution (middle left), 1861
Photographed shortly before its demolition.

Mechanics' Institutes were established throughout the colony as a means of delivering knowledge to workers. The aims of the Institute were "to provide for intellectual recreation and advancement in science, art and literature, by means of a library and reading room, a museum, public lectures &c." [THE MECHANICS INSTITUTION: *Otago Witness*, Issue 390, 21 May 1859, Page 5]. The Mechanics' Institution (Fig. 30) in Dunedin was opened in 1853 and was described as a 'Grecian-Doric' style building incorporating a public hall seating 80-100 people and two reading rooms with removable partitions enabling the combined space to be used for large public meetings.

The building was sited on the harbour edge of Princes Street close to the present day location of Cargill's Monument. It was the scene of many tumultuous gatherings and was the first meeting place for many Dunedin political and cultural institutions including the Otago Provincial Council, Dunedin Town Board and the Athenaeum Society. The Mechanics' Institution was demolished at the end of 1863, opening up a triangular space in the intersection of High, Rattray and Princes Streets in front of the newly completed Telegraph Office.

Dunedin Athenaeum: The Mechanics' Institute merged with the Dunedin Athenaeum in 1859, an organisation with a broadly similar role. It was clear that the 1853 building was inadequate for this expanded collection and membership and it was proposed to rebuild on a site in

Stafford Street acquired by the Athenaeum Society to plans supplied by William Langlands in 1860. Langlands was also the architect for the earlier building. This was to be a stone building with a 60 x 40 foot lecture hall. The cost of over £5,000 was a substantial obstacle and a far cheaper timber structure was proposed at a cost of £900 which was, in turn, viewed as inadequate for housing a collection of books worth £800. However, construction proceeded and the new Athenaeum opened in 1861. This building was soon replaced by the present Athenaeum building in the Octagon [B591] designed by David Ross with the Dunedin City Council taking over the older building in High Street. The Dunedin City Council recently purchased the Dunedin Athenaeum building, thus completing a long historical cycle.



Figure 31: The original 1877 wing of the Otago Museum designed by David Ross.

3.3 OTAGO MUSEUM

The Otago Museum [B246] (Fig. 31) was established in the aftermath of the Dunedin Exhibition held in 1865. A museum display was organised by James Hector in a gallery of the Exhibition building containing “Rocks, minerals, fossils, birds, woods, dried plants, plans, drawings, sections and other objects arranged, principally to illustrate the Geology and Natural History of Otago, in fifteen cases and a wall

shelf.” [No.111. **Otago Witness**, Issue 690, 18 February 1865, Page 1]. Hector (1834–1907) was a geologist, naturalist and surgeon who conducted a geological survey of Otago and went on to establish the Geological Survey of New Zealand. The focus of his operation was the Colonial Museum in Wellington and many of the exhibits in the Dunedin Exhibition were removed there following its closure.

The Otago Museum opened in August 1868 in temporary premises in the south gallery of Mason and Clayton’s Dunedin Post Office, later the Stock Exchange Building. The Museum’s first curator, Captain Hutton, took charge in 1873 and immediately foresaw the need for a permanent building. The construction of a museum building to plans by David Ross began on Great King Street in 1874 and it was opened to the public in 1877. The main gallery contained “a number of objects for teaching natural science, while an admirable library and convenient classrooms occupy another part of the building.” The building was constructed with four levels, storage and workrooms being contained in a basement. Management of the Museum was passed formally to the University through the *Otago Museum and Dunedin Athenaeum Act* (1877). This arrangement endured until the *Otago Museum Trust Board Act* (1955) enabled a new Trust Board to draw funds from Otago local authorities. Prior to this, the Museum had accommodated a number of University departments including Geology, Zoology, Botany and Anthropology. This teaching and research role was beneficial to both organisations.

Ross’ Museum building was extended to the north in 1910 to house the collection of Doctor Thomas Hocken and again to the south in 1929 for the Willi Fels Wing, designed by James Hodge Miller. Ethnographic, archaeological and classical collections were established and developed but the building remained without electricity until 1931. The Centennial Memorial Wing was opened in 1963 and recent redevelopments have included a science centre and tropical butterfly house. Extensive replanning of the Centennial Wing by McCoy and Wixon Architects in 2002 returned to the Museum’s public spaces the logic and flow which had been lost under earlier changes.

3.4 DUNEDIN PUBLIC ART GALLERY

The Dunedin Public Art Gallery was established in 1884 by William Matthew Hodgkins and was managed by the Otago Society of Arts. It exhibited in the Otago Museum and Municipal Chambers and then in a temporary annexe to the Museum on the site of the Fels Wing. A suitable site for a permanent gallery building was sought at a time when land in the central city was at a premium. The Society finally settled on a piece of land left over in Cumberland Street from an earlier cancelled project for a new Dunedin railway station. This became vacant when the present station was commissioned. The Otago Early Settlers Association was also seeking a building site and both organisations agreed to build separate exhibition and public halls behind a unified façade, the complex being designed by John Arthur Burnside. The Public Art Gallery (Fig. 32) opened in 1907, a year before the adjoining Otago Early Settlers Hall [B049]. It proved an awkward arrangement with the Gallery being unable to extend its building. The railway ran directly behind and the building was subject to vibration, noise and dust. When the Art Gallery was offered one of the 1925-6 New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition buildings at Logan Park in 1927 as well as a donation of £4,000 from Sir Percy and Lady Sargood, the Society moved its collections there and remained outside the city centre for a further seventy years.



Figure 32: The Dunedin Public Art Gallery in 1907 without the adjoining Otago Early Settlers Association Hall, which was completed the following year.

3.5 OTAGO EARLY SETTLERS ASSOCIATION



Figure 33: J. A. Burnside's proposal for a hall on Moray Place, circa 1903

The Otago Early Settlers Association was formed in 1898 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Otago settlement. It set about collecting artefacts and compiling records from individuals and families who were part of the Scots migration. Despite this restricted focus, the Otago Settlers Association went on to build a major New Zealand social history collection. It exhibited at the Municipal Chambers prior to purchasing a site on Moray Place and commissioning plans from John Burnside. His unique vision of a 'primitive hut' decorated with plaster ponga logs was transferred to the entrance of the Settlers Hall as eventually built alongside the Public Art Gallery (Fig. 33). The Settlers Association moved into the vacant section of the building when the Art Gallery relocated but underfunding limited its operations. By the time the building and collections were passed over to City Council management in 1992, much work was needed to stabilise the buildings. At this time, the Otago Early Settlers Association also purchased the adjoining 1939 New Zealand Railways Road Services Building [B047], a noted Art Deco structure by Miller and White. The two buildings were linked by a new public concourse in the old access way between them. The influential role of the Otago Early Settlers Association in the forming of other similar institutions in New Zealand has been noted in Sean Brosnahan's history of the organisation, *To Fame Undying: The Otago Settlers Association and its Museum, 1898-1998*.

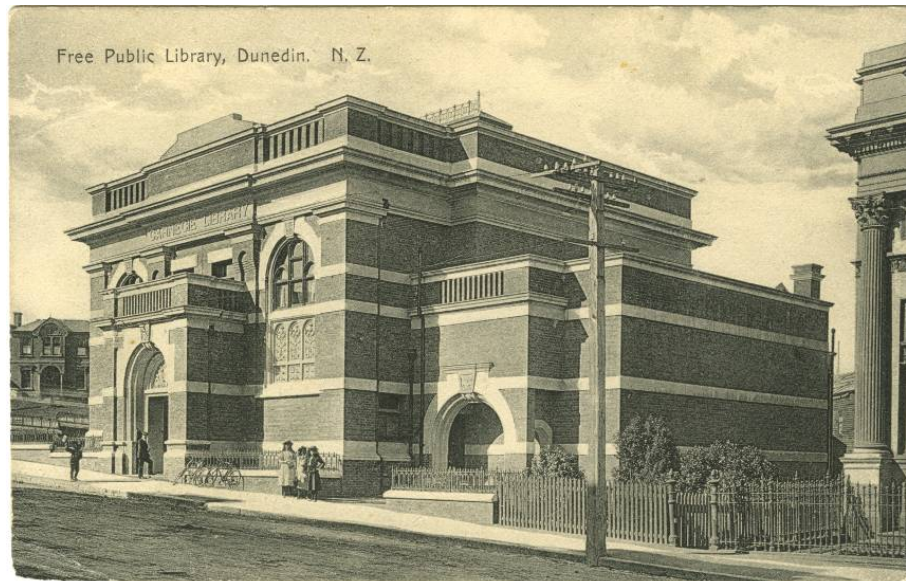


Figure 34: Dunedin Free Public Library, Moray Place. 1908

3.6 DUNEDIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Around the same time as the previous two institutions, Dunedin's Free Public Library (Fig. 34) opened in 1908, funded by a £10,000 grant from American philanthropist, Andrew Carnegie, and promoted by Mark Cohen, later editor of the *Star* newspaper. Designed by Wellington architects, Crichton and Mackay, the library [B406] was situated at 110 Moray Place. The library was opened in stages and expanded in 1913 with the Coronation wing designed by the Dunedin City Council engineers' department. The confined site presented the library with problems as the collections expanded. The electric lift promised in the original plans did not eventuate until the 1960s, leaving librarians to carry books upstairs from the basement storerooms. A stack was added to the rear of the building by Miller, White and Dunn, who also prepared plans for the extension of the library into Stuart Street via the demolition of a row of terrace houses. These plans were not followed and instead the library was reaccommodated in a new purpose designed building adjacent to the Dunedin Civic Centre in 1981.

3.7 DUNEDIN MUSIC

An orchestra was formed under conductor' Raphael Squarise' for the New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition, held in Dunedin from November 1889 to April 1890. The Otago Conservatorio of Music performed its first concert in the Choral Hall on 26 June, 1890, but the Conservatorio closed soon afterwards. Squarise then conducted the Dunedin Garrison Band, leading them to success in competitions. Squarise also conducted the Dunedin Liedertafel (later the Royal Dunedin Male Choir) and other choirs. These successful enterprises led Squarise to form a string orchestra in 1904, to which were added wind and brass players from the Dunedin Citizens' Band to make a full symphony orchestra. Squarise's Philharmonia also shared members with the Dunedin Orchestral Society, which first performed in 1888, and from 1904 until 1933 Dunedin supported two full orchestras. Audiences of up to 1,000 were common.

The 4YA Studio Orchestra played live broadcasts for half an hour each week during the 1930s from the studio in the Chief Post Office [B482] and from Dunedin Town Hall [B410]. The Concert Orchestra was formed in 1958 to accompany the Dunedin Opera Company and Choral Society. It also presented independent concerts. The Dunedin Civic Orchestra Incorporated was formally established in 1965 and was funded by grants from the Dunedin City Council, University, Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council of New Zealand, and the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation. Its first concert was held in the Dunedin Town Hall on 19 February, 1966 with the Governor-General in attendance. The Southern Sinfonia was formed out of this organisation in 2000.

God Defend New Zealand: Thomas Bracken's *God Defend New Zealand* was first performed in public on Christmas Day 1876 by the Royal Artillery Band at Dunedin's *Queen's Theatre*. It was sung by the Lydia Howard Burlesque and Opera Troupe and was a great popular success. The music to which Bracken's patriotic words were set was the outcome of a competition run by the Dunedin newspaper, *Saturday Advertiser*, edited by Bracken, and New Zealand Literary Miscellany,

with a prize to the composer. The winning score was written by a young Lawrence school teacher, J. J. Woods. Liberal and independently-minded, Bracken was an associate of John Bathgate and enjoyed success as a politician, journalist, poet and writer.

Dunedin popular music: The Dunedin Town Hall [B410] was the venue for a highly popular Saturday night public dance from 1930 onwards. Originally run by Henry Gore, the dance was later managed by Joe Brown, a Naseby fruit seller and mechanic turned promoter who also handled the 'Search for the Stars' talent quest, and 'Miss New Zealand' events, amongst other ventures. The dances ran until 1968, when liberalised liquor regulations allowed for other forms of entertainment where alcohol was available. Band leaders at the Town Hall included Dick Colvin and later Harry Strang, whose popular St Kilda Dance competed with Brown's.

Dunedin bands in the 1960s were limited in their choice of venues. Nightclubs run by Eddie Chin, including the *Tae Pei Cabaret* and *Sunset Strip* in Rattray Street, booked bands and large dances were also held at the Agricultural Hall in Crawford Street. The 'Ag Hall' dances were often overcrowded and were regularly closed when audiences of over 1,000 filled the space. New licensing laws opened up hotels to bands in the late 1960s and suburban venues such as the *Fairfield Tavern* became popular venues. University bands played at 'courtyard parties' behind the inner city flats being taken up by students.

The punk movement of the late 1970s was limited to whoever would take the risk of booking them into venues and therefore played in rented halls, notably Coronation Hall in Maori Hill and the Beneficiaries Hall in St Andrew Street. As the Dunedin music scene of the 1980s gained pace, promoters were happier to open their venues. These included the *Empire Hotel* [B491] on Princes Street and the *Captain Cook Hotel*, which became the most popular student haunt. More alternative performers could be seen at the *Crown Hotel* [B509] in Rattray Street. The old *His Majesty's Theatre*, once a grand movie palace, was converted to a nightclub by the Chin family and provided a much-needed mid-size venue. The building opened in 1896 as part of the

Agricultural Hall. It was noted in New Zealand Cyclopaedia of 1905 as having “perfect acoustic properties... one of the finest theatres in Australasia.” It hosted operas, ballets and dramatic performances from major international stars, a profile that extended into the venue’s later life when used by Billy Bragg, The Pogues and many Dunedin bands including The Clean, The Verlaines and The Chills.

3.8 CINEMAS AND THEATRES

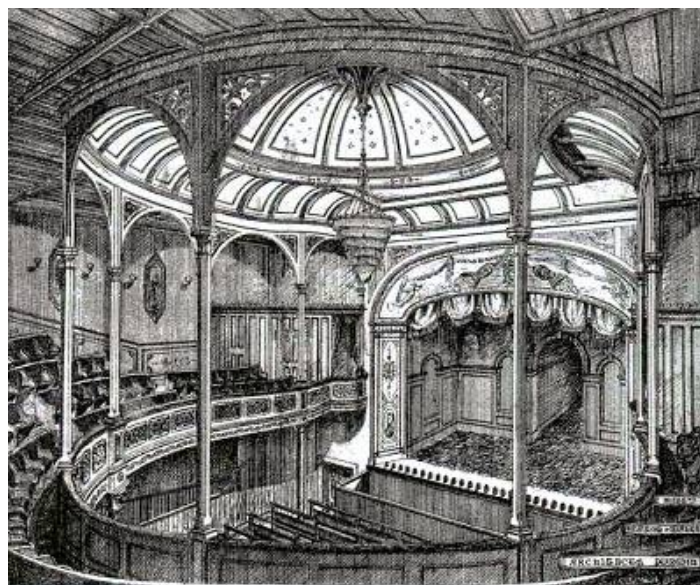


Figure 35: The Princess Theatre, Dunedin as rebuilt in 1876

Theatres: Dunedin’s first theatres accompanied the gold rush of the 1860s which brought to the city performers such as Charles Thatcher, who played at the concert room of the *Commercial Hotel*. The “Inimitable” Thatcher performed satirical songs to verses written on the spot and he toured New Zealand until 1867. 1862 also saw the first two theatres built in Dunedin, the *Princess Theatre* (Fig. 35) managed by the Fawcett brothers, and the *Theatre Royal* (also known as the *Queen’s Theatre*) under Clarence Holt and James Leroy. The *Princess Theatre* was destroyed by fire but rebuilt in impressive new form in 1876. Dunedin’s Fuller family began a long-standing business in the 1890s by forming John Fuller and Sons and eventually making ‘Fullers entertainments’ a household name. They promoted vaudeville and

variety shows with noted overseas artists who performed revues, musicals, melodramas and opera. Other Dunedin theatres included the *Lyceum* in Dowling Street, which opened in 1893 and operated until the 1920s.

Cinemas: The first motion pictures in New Zealand were shown at the Forrester's Hall and Port Chalmers Town Hall [B663] in 1896. Dunedin had its first showing in the following year at the *Princess Theatre*. Films were shown in halls and performance theatres with the first purpose built picture theatre being opened in March 1910. Dunedin filmmaker Henry Hayward (1865-1945) played a major early role in the New Zealand film industry by identifying and promoting films as the "poor man's theatre"; an "antidote to cruel economic and social injustices [bringing] happiness, contentment and forgetfulness." The *King Edward Picture Theatre* [B348], opened in 1914 in South Dunedin, and survives as the oldest purpose built picture theatre in Dunedin, perhaps the third oldest surviving in New Zealand.

The *Empire Cinema* in Moray Place opened in 1916 and was extensively remodelled in 1928 with a Moorish theme and murals painted by John Brock. It was converted to a multiplex in 2000. The *Queens* in Princes Street opened in 1912 but earned an unsavoury reputation as a 'bug-house' until being relaunched as the *Embassy* in 1949. It was demolished in 2001.

The *Regent Theatre* [B590] in the Octagon opened as a cinema in 1928 with a Baroque style auditorium designed by Dunedin architects, Miller and White. The new building was constructed behind the facade of an 1876 building by David Ross. The cinema was purchased by the Otago Theatre Trust in 1973 and redeveloped as a multipurpose venue for live performance and film. Dunedin, like many cities, began losing cinemas in the 1960s under competition with television and changing technical requirements. A new cinema in Green Island was opened as part of the Green Island Civic complex designed by John Allingham.

The *Civic De Luxe* was officially opened by the Mayor of Green Island, Mr J. Boomer, on 25 June, 1960. The 505-seat auditorium was constructed with a terraced floor. The *Civic De Luxe* held the first

Sunday screenings in Dunedin but finally closed in 1989 and the theatre was converted to a television studio. Other Dunedin cinemas include the *Allied Theatre*, Port Chalmers (1919-1930), and the *Grand Picture Palace* in Princes Street, Dunedin. This was converted to a stage theatre, renamed the *Century*, and then reopened as a cinema after a fire in 1948. This important building with its fine Art Deco auditorium was lost after an attempt to convert it to commercial retail left it dangerously unstable in the 1990s. Many redundant cinema buildings have been lost in the intervening years although *Everybody's Cinema* which was opened in 1915 in Princes Street survives more or less complete, although closed since 1931.

3.9 SPORT AND RECREATION

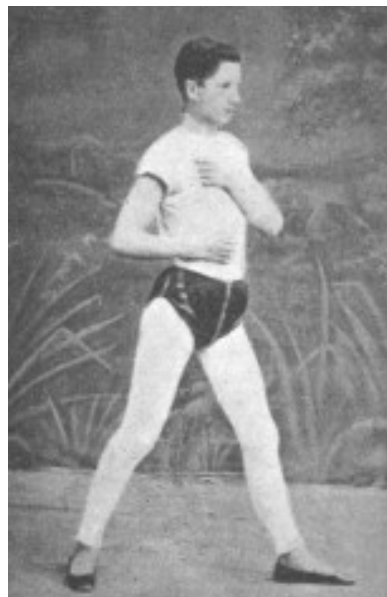


Figure 36: Joe Scott, Zealand's first world champion athlete and world record-holder, claimed victory at Dunedin's 1875 Caledonian sports meeting when aged just 10.

Caledonian Society: (Caledonia is Latin for North Britain.) The first Caledonian Society in New Zealand was established on August 12, 1862, when it was agreed to form the Otago Caledonian Society. Its aims were to promote athletic sports as well as "benevolence, national literature and customs and accomplishments and celebrated aspects of Scottish identity in Otago." The Caledonian Society conducted night

classes in Dunedin which led to the establishment of King Edward Technical College.

The Caledonian Society was incorporated under the act of the Provincial Council of Otago in 1874. Highland Games were conducted annually on New Year's Day with the first gathering held on January 1-3, 1863.



Figure 37: Yvette Williams long jumping at Carisbrook Park, 26 Jan 1954

Carisbrook was developed as a sports ground from an area of swampy land at the foot of the Glen. It took its name from *Carisbrook*, the home of Provincial Superintendent, James Macandrew, which stood higher up the valley. Macandrew was imprisoned at *Carisbrook* after facing court charges over his personal finances. The grounds were registered on April 22, 1881, when the Carisbrook Ground Company took a lease over the land. The company's offices were in Jacobs' Building on the corner of High and Princes Streets, a site known as Jacobs' Corner.

The swampy land required draining and contained large amounts of fossilised timber which had to be removed. Ancient logs continued to

float to the surface and were removed as they appeared. Moa bones were also discovered on the site.

The Otago Rugby Football Union was also formed in 1881. It first played at the Otago Agricultural Caledonian Society and Pastoral Society's ground at Tahuna Park – the first test venue in Dunedin, but it sought grounds of its own that it could develop in association with the Otago Cricket Association. A deal was struck with the Dunedin Amateur Ground Company in 1907 and it was agreed that the company be voluntarily wound up and its interests and assets be transferred to the Otago Rugby Union.