

Creation stories and the Ārai-te-uru ancestral waka

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In 1859, 120 settlers arrived on the Strathallan Ship direct from the UK

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The CPlay playground upgrade is an opportunity to share the stories of the area.



**Caroline Bay 2022** - Photo South Canterbury Drone Photography

## People went to live in Timaru for lots of reasons;

- **The lava that once flowed here provided habitat for animals.**
- **The dust from glaciers created fertile land for plants.**
- **The habitat was rich in marine life for Māori to gather for food.**
- **When a loaf of bread in the UK could cost a family half of their weekly income, they left for New Zealand for a better life.**
- **Their hard work to break in farms, construct our infrastructure paved the way for us to 180 years later.**

## The stories of Timaru's past illustrates the diverse motivations and efforts that led people to move the area.

From Māori ancestors exploring the land to European settlers establishing sheep stations, the region's cultural and geological richness played a significant role in shaping its development.

Creating a town here was no easy task. The wide braided rivers made it really challenging to access the area by land. So the sea became Timaru's colonial highway.

But bringing a sailing ship into the bay could be very dangerous. The construction of things like the port and lighthouse were essential for the town's growth.

Learning about the past helps us better understand the present and make informed decisions for the future.

***The CPlay playground in Caroline Bay serves as a reminder of the town's history and aims to educate and inspire people while providing recreational opportunities.***

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**The new playground at Caroline Bay design has been inspired by our local stories. to help us learn about where we live and inspire imaginative play**

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**The Takiroa rock art site** is a reminder of the ancestors who have passed through here. It provided shelter, sustenance and guidance to them. The shelter is on a ara tawhito (ancient pathway) that follows the Waitaki River from the mountains to the sea. *Photo by Roselyn Fauth.*



**Section of Māori rock art was removed from Takiroa**, Waitaki Valley, in the takiwā of Te Rūnanga o Moeraki. Some say it tells the story of the The Ārai-te-uru waka (canoe of the gods) sailed past Timaru, down the coast and capsized at Matakaea (Shag Point) near Moeraki.

*Photo by Geoff Cloake, with the permission of Te Rūnanga o Moeraki*



**Aoraki (Mount Cook) is at the centre of the Ngāi Tahu creation traditions.** After Ārai-te-uru capsized, the passengers who explored the land, turned into stone, including Kirikirikatata who carried his grandson, Aoraki, on his shoulders.

*Photo by Geoff Cloake.*

## Creation stories and the Ārai-te-uru ancestral waka

**There are over 500 Māori rock art images nearby. The meaning and function have been lost over time, so we are left as viewers to interpret the art.**

**Some say this image could depict a creation story of an ancestral waka, the Ārai-te-uru which sailed past what is now known as Te Tihi-o-Maru (Timaru), down the coast and capsized near Matakaea (Shag Point).**

Many of the passengers went ashore to explore the land and did not make it back to the waka before daylight. Instead they turned into many of the landmarks of Te Waipounamu (South Island).

Aoraki (Mount Cook) is at the centre of the Ngāi Tahu creation traditions of Te Waipounamu. Aoraki (Cloud in the Sky) is on his grandfather Kirikirikatata shoulders. Pātītī (Patiti Point) and Tarahaoa and Hua-te-

kerekere (Big Mount Peel and Little Mount Peel) were also passengers. This is why Aotearoa (New Zealand) maunga (mountains) are sacred.

This piece of rock art was removed from Takiroa (Waitaki Valley). The rock art has been reproduced with the permission of Te Rūnanga o Moeraki, Arowhenua and Waihao.

Another creation story says Aoraki was an atua (demi-god) who arrived from the heavens with his three brothers. The return voyage went drastically wrong, and the waka crashed into Te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa (the Pacific Ocean), forming what would later be known as the South Island (its earliest name being "Te Waka-o-Aoraki").

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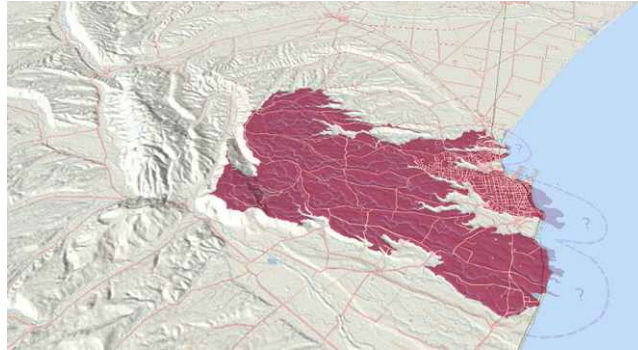
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**This diagram shows how lava once flowed** from somewhere west of Claremont (Wapouri / Mount Horrible) down a gentle sloping plain to what is now the sea, helping to form the current coastline.

*Diagram courtesy of Geoff Cloake.*



**Looking North over Timaru**, you can see the lava forms the first hill South of the Canterbury plains. And is why Timaru has hills and reefs. *Photo by Geoff Cloake*

## Ancient lava flowed here creating Timaru's hills and reefs.

**2.5 Million years ago, lava flowed like fingers from the Waipouri / MtHorrible area to what is now the coastline of Te-Tihi-Omarua Timaru.**

This is the most recent volcanic activity in the South Island and is believed to be dormant.

It was formed in a single event, which is an uncommon characteristic of volcanic systems.

Rather than a big cone shape volcano, Waipouri (Mt Horrible) was more like a line of fishers.

The lava flowed down a slope. The sea was probably nowhere near the erupting lava but has advanced occasionally, eroding the basalt and helping to form the current coastline.

Waipouri (Mt Horrible) to the sea and helped form the terrain, reefs and wetlands of Te Tihi o Maru's coastline.

Today you can see the lava as an "apron" at the foot of Dashing Rocks. The basalt below the Benvenue was quarried and placed there to mitigate erosion.

Basalt was used as a construction material and the "blue stone" blocks can be seen in many of Timaru's heritage buildings, homes, bridges. The rock was also quarried to help construct Timaru's artificial harbour.

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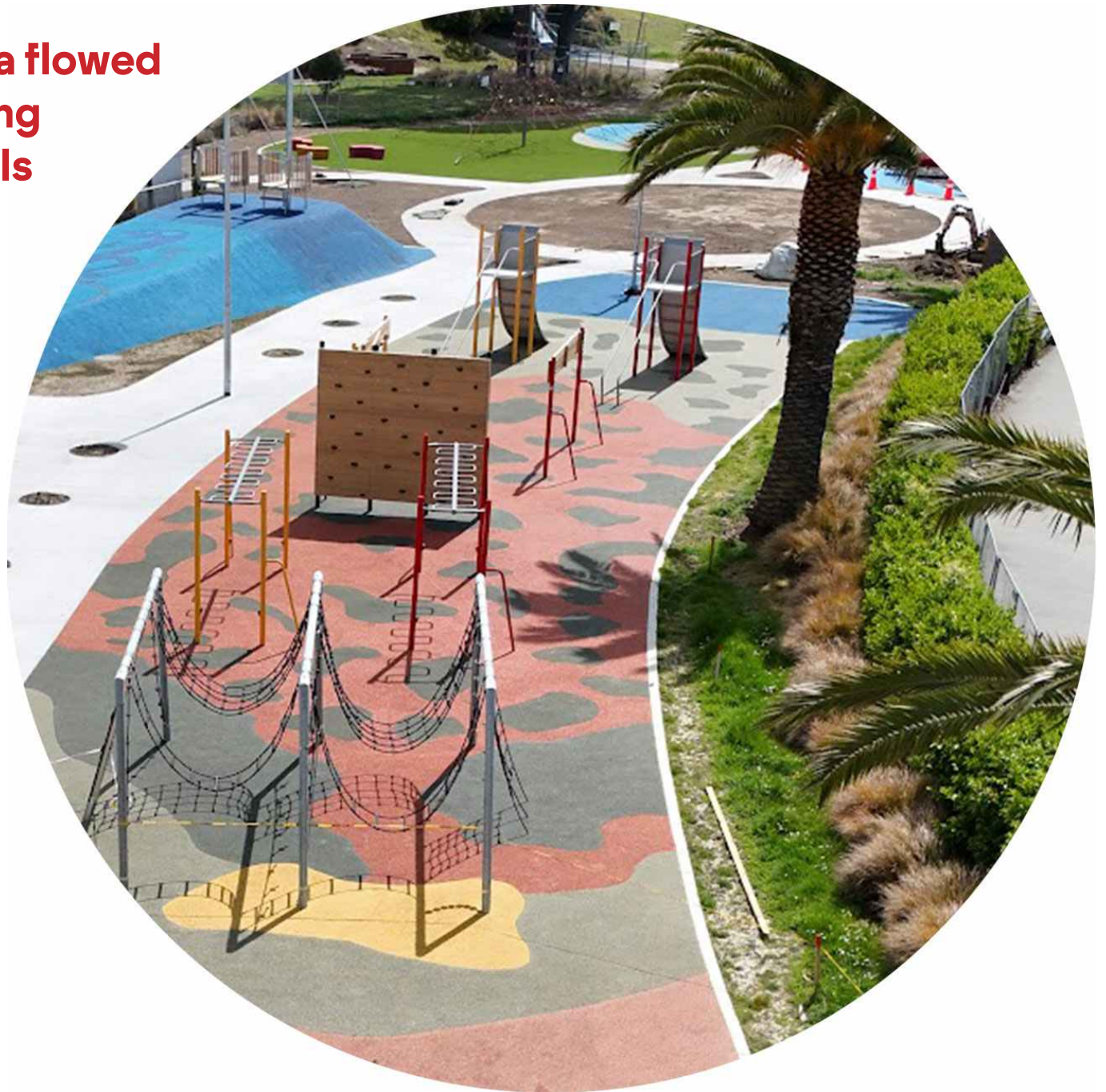
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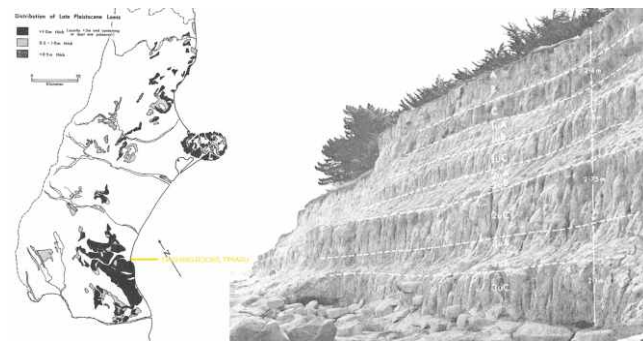
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**Layers of loess (looks like clay) in the Bemvenue cliffs at Caroline Bay.** You can see the different layers that have been deposited over 11,000 years. *Photo by South Canterbury Drone Photography*



**Layers of loess at Dashing Rocks.** You can see the different layers that have been deposited over 11,000 years. *Photo by South Canterbury Drone Photography*



### **Loess in the South Island and the cliff at Dashing Rocks**

This is sediment that has been blown here, is dust from glacial carving periods.

- David Ives (1973) *Nature and distribution of loess in Canterbury, New Zealand, New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics*, 16:3, 587-610, DOI: 10.1080/00288306.1973.10431382

# The glaciers ground rock and the dust blew in to form Timaru's loess cliffs

**Loess (wind-blown silt from the mountains) was deposited 9000-11,000 years ago. This was when the Canterbury Plains were covered in glaciers, and the last ice-age began disappearing.**

As the glaciers retreated, they left behind a layer of gravel and sand. Strong winds blowing across the plains, picked up the fine sediment and deposited it on the lee side of hills and mountains, forming the loess cliffs.

The amateur Timaru geographer John Hardcastle realised in the 1890s that the loess cliffs of Timaru were like a time-line of past climates. He wrote a scientific paper about it. This became an important document world wide and is still used, to better understand our changing climate. This information could also help develop models to predict future climate change.

The characteristics of the loess layers, such as thickness, grain size, and mineral content, can provide information about past wind and climate conditions.

The loess is over 20 meters thick in some places and is one of the thickest and most extensive deposits of its kind in the world.

The loess is found all over Timaru and was used for making bricks for Timaru's construction.

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**The basalt at Dashing Rocks flowed here from Wapouri / Mount Horrible.** Photo by Roselyn Fauth



**Waitarakao (Washdyke Lagoon)** was a renowned kāinga mahinga kai (food-gathering area) for Māori. They gathered tuna (eels), inaka (whitebait), patete (fish), and kōareare (the edible rhizome of raupō). Photo by Roselyn Fauth



**These are some of the plants and animals in the Caroline Bay area that are Taonga (treasures)** because, they are central to the identity and well being of many Māori. They also have an important role in healthy eco-systems. Photo by Roselyn Fauth

## The reefs were abundant in marine life important food source for Māori

**Timaru's coastline was abundant in marine life and was an important source of kai moana for Māori.**

Kai such as tuna (eel) and inaka (whitebait) patete (fish), and kōareare (the edible rhizome of raupō) were abundant in the area.

Mahika kai (to work the food) relates to the traditional value of food resources and their ecosystems, as well as the practices involved in producing, procuring, and protecting these resources.

Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua is the principal Māori kainga in the Aoraki region from the Rakaia to the Waitaki and back to the main divide. They are one of the 18 Paptipu Rūnanga that are leaders amongst their southern communities and are based with the marae in South Canterbury.

They primarily claim descent from the hapu Kāti Huirapa and affiliate to the iwi Waitaha,

Rapuwai, Kāti Hawea, Kāti Mamoe and Ngāi Tahu.

The ancestors of the Arowhenua people were well established between the Rakaia river to the north, Waitaki to the south, and back to the central mountain ranges of Aoraki and his brothers (Southern Alps).

Prominent Huirapa ancestors, trading trails, settlements and events extend beyond these areas, but the local region is the most concentrated signs of activity and occupation of Rapuwai, Waitaha, Kāti Hawea, Kāti Mamoe, and Kāti Tahu.

The many lakes, rivers, and corridors of native bush provided rich hunting and gathering grounds, with a long established cycle of gathering, travelling and trading was prevalent into the late 1800's.

Some of the earliest signs of occupation in the region are the many rock art sites throughout South Canterbury.

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**O Wahi Moa, Valley of the Moa, Craigmore.** This area features rock that some say look like moa. Photo by Roselyn Fauth



**2.4 million year old Moa bones were found at Centennial Park in 1889 while quarrying the hardened lava, bluestone.** Photo by Roselyn Fauth



**These are casts from Moa footprints that were found at by the beach at Pareora, Timaru. They were cast and 3D scanned to preserve them.**

## South Canterbury was also the home to the giant extinct moa

**Moa were large, plant-eating birds that once roamed the entirety of Aotearoa New Zealand.**

over 500 rock art images in South Canterbury created by their ancestors. Some of these could depict waka and mokahi used to journey the sea and rivers.

Kai such as tuna (eel) and inaka (whitebait) patete (fish), and kōareare (the edible rhizome of raupō) were abundant in the area.

Mahika kai literally means 'to work the food' and relates to the traditional value of food resources and their ecosystems, as well as the practices involved in producing, procuring, and protecting these resources. LEFT Tuna (eel) on display at the South Canterbury Museum. RIGHT Mōkihi display at Te Ana Ngāi Tahu Māori Rock Art Centre.

Caroline Bay was part of the seasonal food gathering journey for local Māori, and there are

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**Section of the mural at Caroline Bay by J.L. Wilson 2002.** LEFT Kaiti, chief of Arowhenua kainga. RIGHT. Te Rehe.



**A try pot used at a Whaling Station here at Pohatu-koko (Whaler's Creek), Caroline Bay 1839-1840.** The whales blubber was boiled down in try pots to make oil. It is thought Caroline Bay got its name from the whaling ship Caroline, that brought supplies here. *Photo by Roselyn Fauth*



**Two sperm whales and a long boat.** Over 400 islands in the Pacific were "discovered" and named by American whalemens. - Edmonston & Douglas, 1878, antarctic-regions-sperm-whale-antarctic

## Sealers and whalers started to arrive early 1800s

**Some of the earliest Europeans to arrive in the area were sealers and whalers. It was a tough life and dangerous work.**

Abel Tasman, a Dutch explorer, is recognized as the first European to discover New Zealand in 1642.

Captain James Cook made three voyages to the South Pacific, including New Zealand, between 1769 and 1779. His voyage, on the HMS Endeavour, reached New Zealand in 1769. He made maps of the coastline, documented the flora and fauna, and interacted with the Māori. His voyages opened the door for subsequent European exploration and colonization.

The French established a colony at Akaroa in the South Island in the 1830s.

Sealers were among the first Europeans to visit the Timaru coastal regions in the early 1800s.

New Zealand attracted Europeans from various countries, including Dutch, French, Russian, German, Spanish, Portuguese, British, and North Americans.

These early encounters with the Māori, people were often regional, with Europeans needing to establish mutually beneficial relationships with the Māori, who provided local knowledge, resources, and safety.

In 1839, whaling stations were established in Timaru. They described the area as undulating, tussock-covered downs with lagoons, clay cliffs, and reefs. They set up camp near Pohatu-koko and nicknamed the stream "Whaler's Creek."

The whalers may have given Caroline Bay its name, possibly after the ship "Caroline" that picked up whale oil in the region.

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**1851 George Rhodes used the headland to land stores and materials.** The remains of Rhodes cottage, the Timaru's first European house on George St, beside is the Timaru Landing Services Building and the iron used to brand Rhodes sheep and wool bales on display at the South Canterbury Museum.



**1857 Captain Henry Cain opened the first store (on behalf of HJ LeCren) and the first landing service at end of Strathallan St 1874, this was then sold and run by the government.**

*Sketch by Eliot, Whately - <http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-138582675>*

## First Europeans settled in Timaru to establish a huge sheep station

**Some of the earliest Europeans to arrive in the Timaru area were sealers and whalers. It was a tough life and dangerous work.**

Samuel Williams (Yankie Sam) and his friends, Long John Coffin and Billy the Bull were some of the whalers in Timaru. He went up to Akaroa to work on the Rhodes brothers farm and suggested to them that Timaru would make great sheep station country.

In 1851 the Rhodes brothers (George, William and Robert) established the Levels sheep run, becoming the area's first long-term European inhabitants. When George and his wife Elizabeth arrived, they lived in the first European cottage on the shore in Timaru. They then moved to the Levels, a successful sheep run and by 1854 they had 13,200 sheep on the three runs and 4,000 on a fourth, a 25,000 acre block at Otipua.

In 1855 James McKenzie was accused of stealing 1000 sheep from the Levels run. He escaped from jail twice before being eventually pardoned. The Mackenzie District was named after him.

Yankie Sam returned to Timaru in 1856 with his wife Ann and daughter Rebecca. They moved into the Rhodes cottage. Timaru's first European baby William Williams was born here, and his cradle was a gin case. The first the Timaru Herald was later printed in their kitchen.

Captain Henry Cain arrived in 1857, operating the first store (on behalf of HJ LeCren) and the first landing service. Cain was Mayor of Timaru from 1870-73.

Captain Belfield Woollcombe arrived in 1857 as the first magistrate. He lived by Waimātaitai Lagoon with his wife Frances, son and five daughters.

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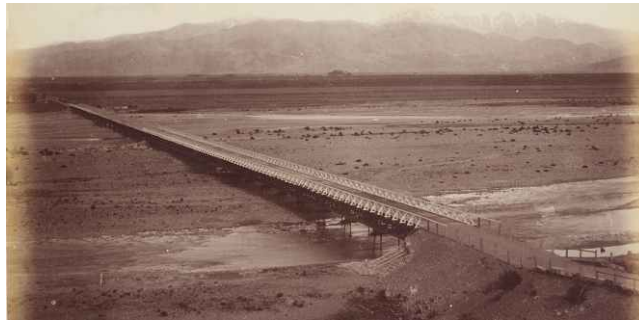
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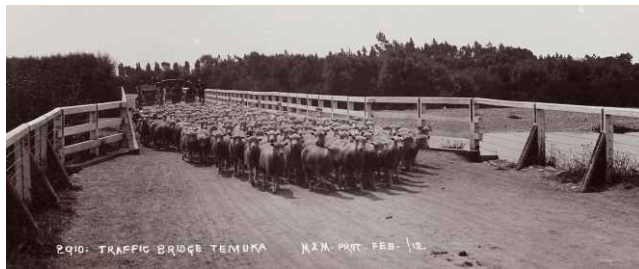
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**Mokihi at Te Ana Rock Art Centre** - Roselyn Fauth



**Rangatata Traffic Bridge** - F. Bradley & Co. Te Papa (O.042416)



**Temuka Bridge 1912** - Muir & Moodie. Te Papa (O.001799)



**Port of Timaru**

## It was difficult to reach South Canterbury due to the wide rivers

**South Canterbury's northern and southern boundaries were large, snow-fed rivers Waitaki and Rangitata.**

**Maori used Mokihi to cross rivers. They were difficult for early European travellers to cross. Travelling by sea was easier.**

Imagine how challenging it was to cross the rivers in South Canterbury before ferry's and bridges were constructed.

The first bridge across the Rangitata, built in 1872 was 1,100 feet of wrought iron trusses resting on cast iron cylinders.





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1870 Sketch of Caroline Bay By E. Norman  
- South Canterbury Historical Museum, Timaru, 1870



**This seascape, with its crashing waves and stormy skies** shows the power of nature, and was a popular theme Ferrier returned to in both photography and painting. William Ferrier (1855-1922), Breakwater Timaru Running a Southerly Gale, 1888  
- Aigantighe Art Gallery Collection 2002.10

## In 1859, 120 settlers arrived on the Strathallan Ship direct from the UK

**England was a wealthy country, but wealth was unevenly distributed. Bread, potatoes and dried peas were the diet of the working class person. A loaf of bread cost half a worker's weekly wage. So in the hope of a better life, they sailed to the new colony. This was 18 years after signing of The Treaty of Waitangi in 1840.**

In 1858, the British government subsidized 50% of the fare for working-class immigrants traveling to New Zealand.

The Strathallan, carrying mostly English passengers with some from Scotland, Ireland, and Germany, left with 250 passengers, including 30 children under 10 years old.

Despite some hardships, like the loss of five children and two adults during the voyage, the Strathallan was considered fortunate compared to other immigrant ships.

On the way, a severe storm caused a broken top-sail, and passengers feared for their lives. There were no lifeboats.

After 90 days at sea, the Strathallan arrived in Timaru in 1859, but many passengers were disappointed by the barren, treeless coastal landscape. Some thought they would arrive at place the third of the size of London, but arrived to see only five houses in Timaru, including the Cains, Woollcombes and Williams and a small population of Maori. The settlers initially slept in Rhodes' woolshed until their houses were built.

A year later, 200 lived in Timaru raising their families and working as clergy, laborers, shepherds, and craftsmen.

By 1866 the population was around 1000.

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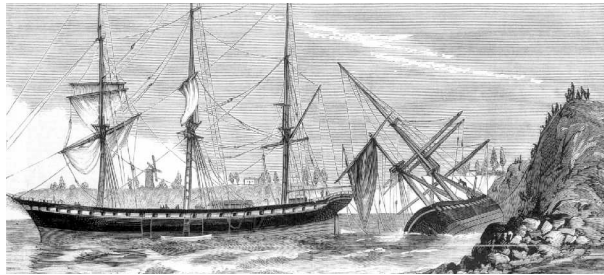
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**1882 The Benvenue wrecks at Caroline Bay. The City of Perth is refloated. 9 people died, 43 saved.**  
- David Syme and Co, 1882, Engraving Illustrated Australian



**1882 The Benvenue wreck lies at the foot of the cliffs named after it.** - Te Papa

**30** Ships were wrecked or stranded off Timaru coastline  
**1864 - 1892**

**22** Wrecked

**8** Refloated

**100** Lives were saved by Timaru Volunteer Rocket Brigade

**43** Lives saved by Alexandra Lifeboat Crews

**15** People died

## Timaru was gaining a reputation as a ships graveyard

**In the 1880s ships were powered by sail. If the sea was rough, but there was little wind, it was hard for ships to sail away from the coast to safety.**

**On top of this, Timaru had no harbour, and ships had to use row boats to move cargo and passengers.**

But, if the ships were anchored too far out to sea to it impacted the efficiency.

In the 1860s, Morris Corey and Robert Boubius (Boatmen from Deal) drowned while attempting a sea rescue.

In 1864, the Alexandra lifeboat arrived in Timaru to assist when heavy surf made it too dangerous for regular boats.

In 1867, the Volunteer Timaru Rocket Brigade was established with the arrival of rockets from England. In 1868, control of the

beach was passed to the Timaru Gladstone Board of Works to undertake harbor works. In 1869, Duncan Cameron, a member of the lifeboat crew, drowned when the boat capsized.

Captain Alexander Mills served as the harbor master, lighthouse keeper, and pilot in Timaru from 1866 to 1882. During his tenure, there were 28 shipwrecks, and he frequently clashed with the Harbour Board over mooring decisions.

The harbourmaster kept a lookout during storms. They could give ship crews instructions by hoisting flags, and fire a signal gun to call for crews to race to the rescue.

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**The wrecks at Timaru, New Zealand: Lifeboats rescuing sailors in heavy surf, one life boat named City of Perth**  
- Wood engraving by Ashton, Julian Rossi, 1851-1942.  
[slv.vic.gov.au/permalink/f/1c135st/SLV\\_ROSETTAIE670476](http://slv.vic.gov.au/permalink/f/1c135st/SLV_ROSETTAIE670476)



**Timaru Volunteer Rocket Brigade. - William Ferrier 1882.**  
- South Canterbury Museum 0844



**How the Illustrated London News saw rowing lifeboats in action.**  
- [heartheboatsing.com/for-those-in-peril-on-the-sea/](http://heartheboatsing.com/for-those-in-peril-on-the-sea/)

## Sea Rescue was critical to saving lives and ships

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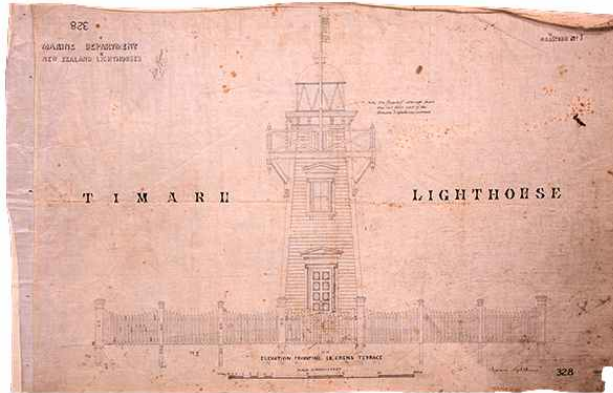
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**The original plans for construction of the Timaru lighthouse hand drawn by John Blackett circa 1877**  
- South Canterbury Museum 2004/070.37



**Art history sign features Blackett story by the lighthouse.**  
- Michael Armstrong, Aigantighe Art Gallery, 2019.24.1



**2022 Blackett Lighthouse Timaru at Benvenue Cliffs**  
- Roselyn Fauth

## A new lighthouse arrived to help people navigate our shore

**In 1878, Blacketts Lighthouse was constructed on Le Crens Terrace. It was supposed to be at Patiti Point, but because only a wooden lighthouse was on offer, it wasn't seen as a good idea to have it and its kerosine lantern next to the towns ammunition supply!**

John Blackett, a Government Marine Engineer, designed the Timaru lighthouse, which was 1 of 14 across the country.

The three-story, kauri timber lighthouse with a kerosene lamp was first lit in July 1878.

The the light was powered by gas in 1890, then electricity in 1920. It was decommissioned in 1970, the same year, that work began on the construction of the Southern breakwater.

It was initially situated on the Terrace, then moved to the corner of Te Weka Street and Benvenue Ave, and finally to the Benvenue Cliffs in 2010.

The lighthouse is a Category II Historic Place.

John Blackett, despite his involvement in lighthouse construction, was opposed to the development of the Timaru breakwater and criticized it as a "complete fiasco." He expressed concerns on shingle buildup and coastal erosion.

Some 1000 people protested against his remarks by parading an effigy of him down the main street to the breakwater and then blew it up!

145 years later we can use our own lens to reflect on decisions made in the past to see how they impacted Timaru today. While Blackett was right, and Timaru would see rapid changes to the coastline, it also needed a efficient and safety harbour for the area to prosper.

This lighthouse is a reminder of the role of shipping and coastal transport in Timaru's social and economic development.

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**1877 The Roadstead, Timaru, NZ.**  
- Engraving from the Illustrated Australian News.



**Timaru Breakwater. From the album: Scenes of New Zealand, circa 1880, Timaru, by Messrs F. Bradley & Co.**  
- Te Papa (O.042435)



**View of Timaru Harbour 1877. View looking north along the waterfront, with sailing ships, men beaching a boat, and a large building, probably Belford Steam Flour Mill near the waterfront, alongside other wharf or factory buildings.**  
- Sketch books - Hocken Library. By Fanny Wright Brunton - 59362



**View of the Port from the sky in 2014.**  
- Photo by Geoff Cloake.

## New breakwater at the harbour to improve safety and efficiency

**Since the 1840s Timaru became a hub for coastal trade and the landing service enabled the town started to grow. However 28 shipwrecks in 16 years was a major problem. The safety and efficiency of handling cargo and passengers had to be improved.**

In the 1860s J.M. Goodall, engineer, for the Harbour Board worked on plans for the Harbour. 1878 Work Began to Construct Southern breakwater near the foot of Strathallan Street was talked about as the boldest work that has been undertaken in New Zealand at that time.

The locals funded their own harbour. It was only one of two independently owned ports in the country.

1881 The construction of the railway cause shingle to accumulate in front of the Landing services, and they closed down.

1883 Timaru had one wharf 880 feet long and was a success.

1900 Grain merchant and miller, William Evans persuaded the rate payers to loan £100,000 to what is now known as the Eastern extension. This was to combat the shingle that was filling the shipping channel. It was completed in 1915 with 432,207 tons of blue stone that was quarried from Centennial Park.

The moody wharf was built in 1908, and a wharf for fishermen was built 1911.

The Port provided huge opportunity to Timaru and South Canterbury. It also impacted the way sediment moved up the coast. From 1880s sand built out from these Caroline Bay cliffs and created a new sandy Caroline Bay.



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**Caroline Bay 2022**

- Photo South Canterbury Drone Photography



CAROLINE BAY, TIMARU—ONE OF THE FINEST AND MOST POPULAR WATERING PLACES IN THE SOUTH ISLAND.

**1912-01-03 - Caroline Bay Timaru "One of the finest and most popular watering places in the South Island."**

- Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections NZG-19120103-0032-02.



**1911-10-11 - Photo of children playing on the beach and swimming at Timaru.**

- Auckland Libraries Heritage Collections NZG-19111011-0030-02.

## The new Caroline Bay has been considered the jewel in Timaru's crown since the early 1900s.

**1902 Bay first formed after creation of port breakwaters. The motion of the waves turned the shingle to sand. The area was decided to be created into a "European style beach resort" from 1902.**

This is the only sandy beach between Oamaru and Banks Peninsula.

The borough council leased the new foreshore from the harbour board in 1902 and created a European-style beach resort.

Many hours of voluntary labour went into creating a promenade and pleasing recreational facilities.

Tea rooms, a hot-water swimming pool and a band rotunda were built.

A 'sound shell' for concerts replaced the rotunda in 1937.

Later, a piazza was built to improve access to the bay from the top of Bay Hill.

Christmas carnivals have been held at Caroline Bay since 1911, attracting thousands.

In 2020, the area the beach had extended by 34 hectares.

There has been a continual progression of beautification and development on the Bay over the decades, particularly as the beach has continued to extend seaward providing greater areas for lawn and facilities.



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**Children's playground swings on Caroline Bay in Timaru, c1970.**  
- L W McGrath, South Canterbury Museum 2014/008.055



**A slide at the children's playground on Caroline Bay c 1980.**  
- W McGrath, South Canterbury Museum 2014/008.033



**Bill Steans, Timaru District Director of Parks and Recreation, sitting on play equipment at Timaru's Caroline Bay, 1995.**  
- Timaru Herald, South Canterbury Museum 2012/186.9372

## The CPlay playground upgrade was an opportunity to inspire the design by local stories.

By sharing stories about the Caroline Bay and wider area we can

- Inspire imaginative play.
- Help people learn about where they are from, to better know themselves.
- To reflect on the past with today's lens to make better choices for the future.

Caroline Bay is the only sandy beach between Oamaru and Christchurch, and so as well as playing in nature, we offer an amazing new playground to offer fun for a range of ages, stages, sizes, abilities and interests.

We hope you love the new playground too.

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