History Theses (updated May 2013)

These theses are held in the Department Library. MA and PhD theses are also held in the main University Library, and many are available in PDF format online from (http://otago.ourarchive.ac.nz/). Many BA(Hons) and PGDip disserations are also held in the Hocken Collections.

For more information, please contact history.arthistory@otago.ac.nz.


Aiken, Carina. "Gender & Local Politics." BA (Hons), 2005.


Andreassen, Pia. "Corps Connections: The Auckland Consular Corps as a Case Study on Foreign Representatives in New Zealand." BA (Hons), 2009.


Ash, Katie. "Whistle While you Work: A study of the health and conditions of women's employment in factories between 1920 and 1945, with particular focus on the biscuit and confectionary company of Cadbury, Fry Hudson Ltd." (BA (Hons), 2010.


Atkinson, A Y. "The Dunedin Theosophical Society 1892-1900. The History of theosophy in Dunedin - the intellectuals and philosophers who were drawn to it, and the ideological struggles they encountered." BA (Hons), 1978.


Bagge, Michael. "Valuable Ally or Invading Army? The ambivalence of Gorse in New Zealand 1835-1900." BA (Hons), 2000.


Baldwin, Howard T S. "Labour Groups and Railway Construction in Otago 1869-1873. Analysis of the "railway navvy" stereotype of British origin and its comparison with New Zealand realities." BA (Hons), 1975.


Baumberg, Christine. "Ripples from Europe: The Dunedin Jewish Community in the 1930s and 1940s." BA (Hons), 1998.


Bell, Mark S. "Salt-Water and Bush; the Struggle for Port Resolution, 1835-1868. Examination of the conflict between the Kwotexen and the Mwanahsepuri for domination of Port Resolution in the Southern New Hebrides." PGD, 1977.


Bell, Markus. "British Military Families in West Germany and the fall of the Berlin Wall." BA (Hons), 2004.


Boston, Peter J. "The Bacillus of Work': Masculinity and the Rehabilitation of Disabled Soldiers in Dunedin 1919 to 1939." BA (Hons), 1993.


Boyd, Christopher. "Strike at Blackball: including the formation of the New Zealand Federation of Miners. Analysis of the factors behind the growth of NZ Unionism." BA (Hons), 1975.


Braithwaite-Westoby, Manu. "Demons in St Thomas Aquinas's Summa Theologiae." BA (Hons), 2010.


Broadhurst, Michelle. "Dunedin Presbyterian Children's Homes, 1907 - 1939." BA (Hons), 2002.


Brownlie, Helen J. "'Without Work, Nothing'. A study of the changing attitudes towards the swagger in the 1890s." PGD, 1980.


Buist, Margaret H. "Reaction in New Zealand to the Boer War with particular reference to Canterbury and Marlborough." MA, 1970.


Cameron, Taylor. "Mirroring Each Other: The mutual improvement movement, Rutherford Waddell and the St. Andrew's Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association." BA (Hons), 2010.


Campbell, Marilyn J. "Runholding in Otago and Southland, 1848 to 1876." MA, 1982.


Cartwell, Karen. "The Dunedin Volunteer Fire Brigade 1862-1875. Study of public attitudes to the provision of services in the 1860s and 1870s with particular reference to fire fighting." BA (Hons), 1979.


Caughey, F M. "Opposition within New Zealand to Fijian Federation 1900-1902." BA (Hons), 1972.


Chapman, Helen. "De-railed? Were Dunedin's Trams Sacrificed to the idea of Modernity?." BA (Hons), 2006.


Clarke, Stephen. "The Voyage to Otago, 1870s." BA (Hons), 1990.


Cook, Morgan. "If I cannot get some more help, I cannot change it. Student Culture and change at University College, Dunedin 1969-2007." BA (Hons), 2010.


Cooper, Nick. "Blue and Gold or Black and White? An Historical Analysis of the 1981 Springbok Tour of New Zealand with Special Reference to Dunedin." BA (Hons), 2002.


Copland, Marilyn J. "Refrigeration: Its Impact upon New Zealand 1882-86. Study of the early years of the trade which revolutionised New Zealand export industry." BA (Hons), 1972.


Couling, D. F. "The Anti-Sweating Agitation in Dunedin, Christchurch and Auckland, 1888-1890. Study of the agitation against low wages and long hours in the wake of the 1880s depression." BA (Hons), 1973.


Culling, A. J. "The Russian War Scare of 1885: a turning point in New Zealand's attitude to the Empire. Study of the event which engendered renewed loyalty and responsibility towards the Empire on the part of New Zealand ." PGD, 1972.

Cumming, Belinda C. "Parents, Siblings and Pacifism: The Baxter Family and Others (World War One and World War Two)." BA (Hons), 2007.


Darling, Vicki. "Cakobau and the Fijian Cession Crisis, 1858-1862." BA (Hons), 1983.


Davis, George Frederick. "Anzac Day meaning and memories: New Zealand, Australian and Turkish perspectives on a day of commemoration in the twentieth century." PhD, 2008.


Deed, Stephen. "A Credit to the City". The Historical Significance of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Co. Building, Dunedin." BA (Hons), 2002.


Dobbie, Allison M. "Fijian Federation with New Zealand 1883-1885. The aggressive and grandiose foreign policy schemes of a young New Zealand, which are eventually quashed by the Imperial will of the "Mother Country"." BA (Hons), 1973.


Doig, Jack. "Nitobe Inazo Nationalists or Internationalists." BA (Hons), 2005.


Dooley, Sharon. "Ivory Tower Idyll: Students at the University of Otago in the Depression 1929-1936." BA (Hons), 1983.


Downes, Siobhan. "John Hersey's Hiroshima and the Attempt to Reclaim the Human Experience in History Writing." BA (Hons), 2012.


Early, Lisa. "'If We Win the Women': The Lives and Work of Female Methodist Missionaries in the Solomon Islands, 1902-1942." PhD, 1998.


Egerton, Rachael E. "Unconquerable Enemy or Bountiful Resource? A New Perspective on the Rabbit in Central Otago." BA (Hons), 1993.


Ellis, R H. "Sir George Grey's Petitions to the Colonial Office over the Abolition of the Provinces. An examination of the clash between Sir George Grey and the Governor, the Marquis of Normanby." MA, 1968.


Ellis, R H. "Sir George Grey's Petitions to the Colonial Office over the Abolition of the Provinces. An examination of the clash between Sir George Grey and the Governor, the Marquis of Normanby." MA, 1968.


Elworthy, Sam. "Social Change in the State: the emergence of a benefit for unmarried mothers in New Zealand." BA(Hons), 1988.


Enright, Paul T. "New Zealand's Involvement in the Partitioning of Palestine and the Creation of Israel." MA, 1982.


Farrell, Jill M. "Outreach to the Oppressed. The Beginnings of the Presbyterian Social Services Association in Dunedin, 1900-1915. A study of Presbyterian charity in Dunedin in the early twentieth century." BA(Hons), 1979.


Flaherty, Timothy. "For the Lesser Peoples: Woodrow Wilson, National Self-Determination and the Ottoman Empire." BA (Hons), 1997.


Foy, Helen M. "Methodism in Hawera 1874-1918. The History of a Church and a Community in a Pioneering Settlement." BA (Hons), 1980.


Fraser, E D. "Responsible Government and Responsibility for native policy in 1861." BA (Hons), 1958.


Fraser, Steven. "Religion as Ethnicity: Catholicism in New Zealand." BA (Hons), 1989.

Freeman, K E. "A Shelter against uncertain storms: Whitireia 1877. The fight of Wiremu Parata to regain control of the Whitireia block, which had been alienated from the Ngatiroa tribe as an educational reserve for the benefit of Māori children." PGD, 1974.


Gilmour, Christobel M. "Seddon and the 1902 Colonial Conference. Study of Seddon(s) role at this Conference with particular reference to his imperialistic designs." BA (Hons), 1970.


Goddard, Janet R. "The events and arguments surrounding the government of Native Affairs around the time of the setting up of responsible government in N.Z." MA, 1971.

Goodall, Arthur W. "William James Mudie Larnach 1883-1898." BA (Hons), 1981.


Grant, Dairne. "Beyond the Pale: Prostitution in New Zealand during World War I." BA (Hons), 1993.


Greenlees, Sarah. "The Representation of New Zealand History in Documentary Film." BA (Hons), 1997.


Greeves, Clinton. "'Hands off Beaumont'. The 'Tuapeka Dam' Controversy." BA (Hons), 2002.


Griffiths, Shelley R. "Compulsory Arbitration and the Unions, Dunedin 1895-1898. Study of the initial attitude of the Unions to the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1895." BA (Hons), 1975.


Grubb, Jared W. "British and French Administration of the New Hebrides, 1904-1910: Condominium or Pandemonium?." BA (Hons), 1999.


Hair, Allen. "Colonial Demand for and reaction to the grant of Colonial control of Native Policy in 1862." MA, 1957.


Harraway, Edward N. "A History of Flour Milling in Otago. The History of Wheat growing and Milling in Otago from the 1840s to the present day." MA, 1965.


Harwood, Michelle. "The Impact of Firearms on Polynesian Warfare." 


Healy, Wendy. "Revolution on Ra'iarea 1843-1887. Analysis of the part playing by the Ra'iareans in the crisis which eventuated the annulment of the treaty of 1847 and the consequent absorption of Ra'iare in to the French Pacific Empire." BA (Hons), 1977.


Henderson, Mark. "Eighty Years of Motorcycling in Dunedin." BA (Hons), 1981.


Herries, Catherine Yvonne. "The European Settlement of Napier." BA (Hons), 1982.


Hickey, Maureen. "Breach of Promise of Marriage: Study of engagements which did not reach their natural conclusion, those that broke down before the couple got to the altar." PGDA, 1992.


Hinton, Wendy J. "Pre-settlement Coastal Otago from Moeraki to Molyneux. The Whaling Stations, and the trading and agricultural communities which grew around them in the pre-settlement era in Otago." BA (Hons), 1976.


Homer, C J. "Newspaper Attitudes to Foreign Policy 1935-38." PGDA, 1976.


Inglis, Robyn M. "An Examination of the Correlation Between the 1890 Maritime Strike in the Evolution of the 1894 Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act in New Zealand." BA (Hons), 1974.

Innes, Robert S. "Railways and the reunion of Otago and Southland 1847-1870. Analysis of the factors which led to this reunion, only nine years after the original separation." PGD, 1976.

Isaac, Penelope. "Stir, Bustle and Whirl! A History of the New Zealand Clothing Factory 1873-1905 with particular reference to the labour process." BA (Hons), 1996.

Isaac, Penelope S. "'No Room for Luxuries': Aspects of life in a working-class New Zealand community in the 1930s." MA, 1999.


Kerr, Gavin J A. "Newspaper and Other Reports in Respect to the Divided Control of Native Policy 1860." MA, 1957.

Kerr, Adrian C. "Bowen's Relations with New Zealand and Britain over Imperial Troop Withdrawal 1868-1870." PGD, 1971.


King, Stuart. "New Zealand at the 1932 Imperial Economic Conference, Ottawa." BA (Hons), 2003.


Laracy, Diane J. "Tame Parata: South Island Spokesman." BA (Hons), 1980.


Lascelles, P G. "Provincialism versus Centralism in 1858 in New Zealand." BA (Hons), 1959.


Lawson, Nicholas D. "In the Shadow of a City. An Interpretative History of Brighton Focusing on the Period Between 1890-1940." BA (Hons), 1986.


Laytham, Jacqueline R. "Gallipoli: The New Zealand Experience. The experience of the New Zealand soldier at Gallipoli and the significance of the episode to New Zealand as a whole." BA (Hons), 1979.


Liddell, Emma. "Service to the Community: Ethel McMillan and Dorothy Fraser in Local Government in Dunedin." BA (Hons), 1999.


MacLachlan, Johan E. "The Reactions of the People of Otago and Southland to Federating with the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901. Investigations of the motivation behind the Royal Commission on Australian Federation and public reaction to it." BA (Hons), 1973.


Mairs, Neil J. "A Century of Land Tenure on the Benmore Sheep Station. Study of the pattern of land tenure on Benmore, one of the largest sheep stations in the Upper Waitaki area." BA (Hons), 1976.

Maloney, Anne. "A Land Fit for Heroes? The Otago experience of the National Soldier Settlement Scheme after World War One." BA (Hons), 1982.


Mann, Amber. "Loving Our National Parks to Death." BA (Hons), 2005.

Marks, R.. "The Lawrence Athenaeum and Miners' Institute. The shaping of an important community institution from the goldmining era to the present day." MA, 1973.


Marshall, J Denise. "Southland's Attitude to the Abolition of the Provinces 1874-1877. Case Study of one of the outlying district's attitude to abolition." BA (Hons), 1975.


Matheson, Peter C. "The Views of the New Zealand Clergy of 1860 on Race Relations." BA (Hons), 1959.


McCauley, Craig. "'As Easy as 1-2-3': The Introduction of TV3 to the New Zealand Television Industry." BA (Hons), 2000.


McDonald, Sheila Heath. "This Educational Monstrosity...': A Study of the Foundation and Early Development of the School of Home Science, University of Otago, Dunedin." BA (Hons), 1984.


McFarlane, David L. "Tourist Paradise - the Development of Tourism at the Head of Lake Wakatipu, 1860-1914." BA (Hons), 1983.

McIlwrick, Jotto. "Bishop Moran and the 1877 Education Act. Moran's reaction to the above Act, which according to the author personified the general Catholic Reaction." BA (Hons), 1974.


McKary, Willow R. "The Other Class of Women: Maternity services available for destitute women in Dunedin c. 1886 - 1897." BA (Hons), 2002.

McKay, Jolene. ""Going Private": A History of the Place of the Private Hospital in Dunedin." BA (Hons), 2004.


McKinney, Kate. ""Going Private": A History of the Place of the Private Hospital in Dunedin." BA (Hons), 1995.

McKnight, Jennifer M. "New Zealand at the 1887 Colonial Conference. Study of the important evolutionary step towards nationhood." PGD, 1973.

McLachlan, Dougal. "From "Bra Burners" to "Booze Hags"? Gender, Alcohol and Feminism in New Zealand." BA (Hons), 2006.


McLeod, Jan C. "Activities of New Zealand Women during World War One. A social, political and economic study." BA (Hons), 1978.


Meade, Christine J. "The Otago Labour Movement 1912-1913." BA (Hons), 1976.


Mee, Frances. "Regina v Barton and the Governor's Prerogative of Pardon. Study of the Case which eventually faced the Imperial Government to issue a statement clarifying the sphere of the Governor's power to pardon." BA (Hons), 1970.


Millar, Marris A. "The Beginnings of the Otago Central Railway 1870-1878." BA (Hons), 1976.


Moffat, I. "Let All Hands Wade In With Batons. A Study of the enrollment and composition of the special constables who volunteered in the South Island during the 1913 Waterfront Strike." BA (Hons), 1992.


Morrison, Hugh. "The Keeper of Paradise. Quarantine as a Measure of Communicable Disease Control in late Nineteenth Century New Zealand." BA (Hons), 1981.


Muirhead, Jennifer G. "Heathfield and Waipari: Improved-Farm Settlements 1893-1914. History of two farm settlements originally set up to put the urban landless and unemployed onto the land." BA (Hons), 1975.

Munro, Ernest J. "Otago Interest and Intercourse with Fiji 1870-3 inclusive." MA, 1967.


O'Connell, Kieran. "'Be Strong and Show Thyself a Man' — Christian masculinities in southern Dunedin, 1885-1925." BA (Hons), 2001.

O'Connor, Paul W J. "Asian Immigration to New Zealand 1896 to 1899. Study arguing that racism reached a peak in the mid 1890s (fostered by both Seddon and Reeves) and that much racist legislation profferred by the NZ Parliament was thwarted by Imperial wishes." MA, 1972.


Page, Dorothy P. "A married woman, or a minor, lunatic or idiot. The Struggle of British Women Against Disability in Nationality, 1914-1933." PhD, 1984.


Patterson, Jane L. "Woman Suffrage in Dunedin 1890-1893." BA (Hons), 1974.

Patterson, Trevor M. "The Significance of the Māori Representation Act 1867. Analysis of the Act which gave Māoris manhood suffrage ahead of Europeans and which was passed during the ?." PGD, 1975.

Patterson, Lewis. "Take nothing but photos - leave nothing but footprints': Major issues affecting the Fiordland tramping industry since 1952, using the Routeburn, Hollyford and Milford tracks as case studies." BA (Hons), 1995.


Pearson, David G. "Johnsonville: Continuity and Change in a New Zealand Township." BA (Hons), 1975.


Persen, Erik. "The Beginnings of the 'War on Terrorism'." BA (Hons), 2002.


Phillipson, Grant Andrew. "'The Thirteenth Apostle': Bishop Selwyn and the Transplantation of Anglicanism to New Zealand, 18451-1868." PhD, 1992.


Poole, Michele M. "The Treatment of Enemy Aliens in New Zealand during the Second World War." BA (Hons), 1982.


Ramsay, Atholea Y. "The Importance of the Treaty of Waitangi in the period 1840-1853." BA (Hons), 1956.


Renfree, G. "Dunedin Reaction to the New Hebrides Crisis of 1886." BA (Hons), 1967.

Riddell, H A. "N.Z. Land and Trade Interests in Samoa 1870-1885. An examination of the evolution of these interests and how far N.Z. was justified in using them as a wedge for political interference in Samoa." MA, 1967.


Robertson, Robert T. "'Sweating' in Dunedin 1880-1890. Study of how the sweating scandal in Dunedin helped to foster a working class consciousness and established lasting links amongst various labour elements." PGD, 1974.

Robertson, Yvonne M. "A Victorian Lady in an Age of Change: The Life of Mary Downie Stewart 1876-1957." BA (Hons), 1990.


Robertson, Marie Ann. "They were never the same after the War: The mental health of returned World War One soldiers and the effect on family and community." BA (Hons), 2003.


Roche, Kathleen. "Stalin Since the Opening of the Former Soviet Archives." BA (Hons), 2008.


Rust, K N. "New Zealand Defence 1869-1872: Study New Zealand attitudes to defence in a period which constitutes a 'watershed' in the nation's history." PGD, 1975.


Ryland, Patricia A. "Sir Arthur Gordon and the Parihika Crises: The Wrong Man, the Wrong Place, the Wrong Time. Vindication of the tragic governorship of Sir Arthur Gordon." BA (Hons), 1972.


Sanders, Maria C. "The Lebanese Community in Dunedin before 1936." BA (Hons), 1980.


Satchell, Max. "Pulpit Politics - The Protestant Political Association in Dunedin from 1917 to 1922 ." BA (Hons), 1983.


Saunders, Amy. "Eureka The Development of Dunedin's Commercial and Industrial Sectors in the 1860s; as a Result of the Gold Rushes." BA (Hons), 1996.


Schrader, Reuben. "Fighting City Hall." BA (Hons), 2005.


Scott, Brian R. "Public Attitudes in Otago-Southland to the Boer War." MA, 1968.


Scott, Keith D. "The 1327 Oxfordshire Hay Subsidy Roll: A Study with Special Reference to Bampton Hundred." BA (Hons), 1979.


Smith, Joanne C. "The Obstetrical Society and the Effects on Maternal Care of?? the Changes in Medical Education in New Zealand 1920-1940." BA (Hons), 1985.


Somerville, Philip. "The Relinquishment of the Presbyterian Church Chairs at Otago University." BA (Hons), 1977.


Stewart, Mary J. "Notes from New Zealand: a window into a settler mind." MA, 2004.


Sullivan, Kim. "Will the real Muldoon please stand up?." BA (Hons), 2005.


Tierney, Katie. "'Eat for the Glory of God': The Dietary Reform Movement ca.1880s-1920s." BA (Hons), 2000.


Tuck, J M A. "The Devil's Half-Acre: 1900-1910 - The Work of the Dunedin City Council and St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in the slum area known as the Devil's Half-Acre." BA (Hons), 1983.


Turner, Kenneth W. "Henry Smith Fish and the Opposition to the Female Franchise in Dunedin, 1890-1893." BA (Hons), 1985.


Turner, Elen. "From the Shadow of Shadows: The Experiences of Women During the Partition of India and the Creation of Pakistan, 1947." BA (Hons), 2006.

Turton, Oliver C. "Maori and Capital Punishment in Nineteenth Century New Zealand." BA (Hons), 2006.


Verry, Angela M. "I'm Going to See New Zealand Too!: The New Zealand Railways Publicity Branch and Family Holidays during the Interwar Period." BA (Hons), 2004.

Verry, Emma. "The Exposure of Truth: The Use of Photography in Mental Health in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century." BA (Hons), 2009.

Verstappen, Peter T. "The Penny Section: A Study of the Provision of Public Transport in Dunedin, 1890-1915. The History of the tramcar in Dunedin - a vital social link in the days before the automobile." BA (Hons), 1979.


Waghorn, Peter James. "Does the New Zealand Flag Follow Trade?." BA (Hons), 1995.


Walker, N F M. "Britain and the Mäori Wars. The Reality of Imperial Military Involvement." BA (Hons), 1971.


Wallis, Margaret. "Wallis Family in New Zealand." BA (Hons), 1981.


Waters, Elizabeth. "Wiremu King's Veto. Analysis of events leading up to Governor Gore Brown's purchase of the Waitara lands and the subsequent war, with emphasis on the Mäori perspective." BA (Hons), 1971.


Webber, Angela. "An Easy Passage? The Evolution of an Anglican Female Priesthood in the Church of the Province of New Zealand." BA (Hons), 1994.


Wharton, Miriam L. "John Knox on the Monstrosity of Queenship." BA (Hons), 2006.

Whincop, Sally B. "The Evergreen Circle: The Country Women's Institute in Northern Hawkes Bay in the 1940s and 1950s." BA (Hons), 1993.


Wilson, David. "After the Somme: Comparisons of New Zealand, Australian and British soldiers' reactions to the Western Front in contrast to Gallipoli." BA (Hons), 1991.


Wilson, Catherine. "Tatawai, Kai Tahu and the Claim." BA (Hons), 2002.


Wilton, Hester G. "The South Island and the Taranaki War 1860-1861. Study of race relations in an area where the paucity of Māori numbers meant culture contact was necessarily limited." MA, 1973.


Wright, Harrison M. "Americans in the South Pacific." BA (Hons), 1953.


Wright, Natalie J. "Clutha At War! The Impact of the First World War on the district of Clutha." BA (Hons), 1993.


Wybrow, Vernon W. "Unmasking the Savage: Colonialism and the Portrayal of the Māori Within the European Non-Fiction Literature of the Late Nineteenth Century, 1840-1890." BA (Hons), 1993.


Young, Andrew H. "New Zealand Fears for Her Strategic Position in the Pacific 1885-1889." MA, 1964.

Young, Joe. "Aspects of the Thought of William Thomas Locke Travers." BA (Hons), 2002.