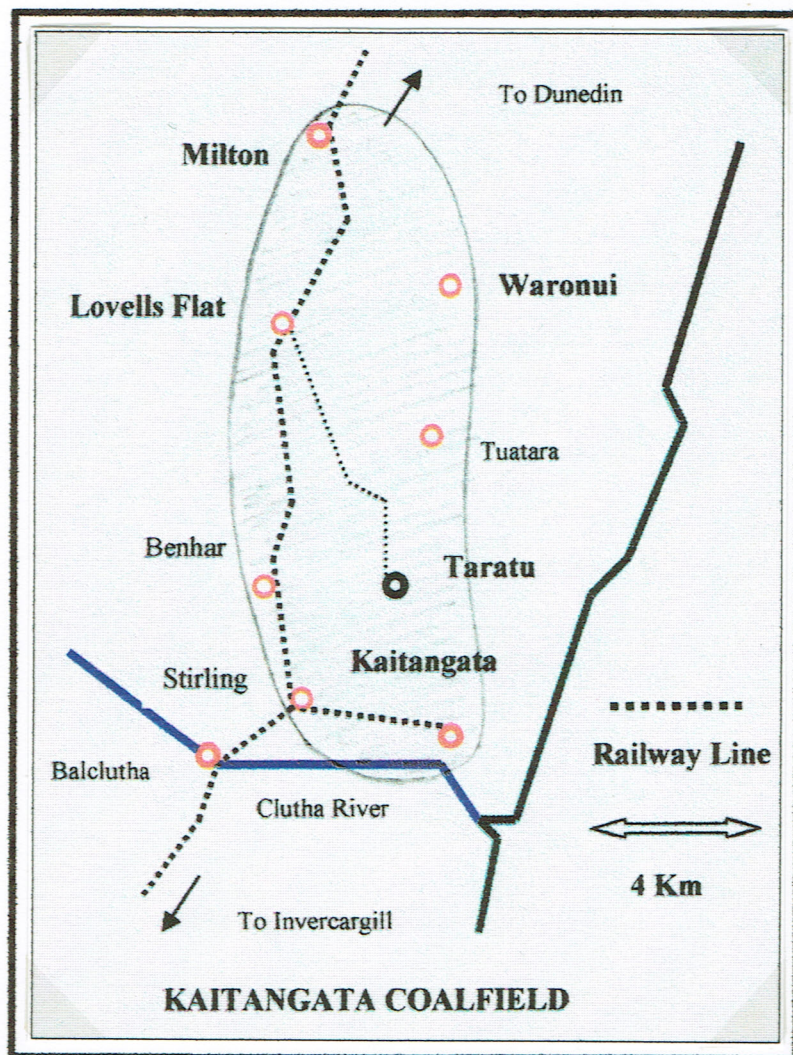


## KAITANGATA COALFIELD

The **Kaitangata Coalfield**, in coastal Otago, extends 18km north from the Clutha River and 14km inland. Coal was first discovered in 1843 with mining commencing in 1848. the first underground shaft mine opened in 1858.

The Coalfield contains three types of coal in a number of distinct seams:- **Brown lignite** [Benhar and Lovells Flat]; **Black Lignite** [Taratu and Wangaloa Opencast]; **Sub-Bituminous Coal** [Kaitangata and Castle Hill]. The total coal production of the field is over **9,000,000 tons**.



### Major Mines

Mine	Open	Total Production	Peak Year	Tonnage	Employment
<b>Kaitangata</b>	1872-1950	<b>7,400,000</b>	1904-5	120,000	<b>443</b>
Benhar	1876-1884	40,000	1883	6,000	11
Lovells Flat	1896-1904	110,000	1904	19,000	44
<b>Waronui</b>	1898-1928	<b>450,000</b>	1920	32,000	45
<b>Taratu</b>	1902-1930	<b>600,000</b>	1920	47,000	99
Wangaloa	1950-1970	600,000	1950	40,000	22

**Kaitangata Population:** 1891 - 1145; **1906 - 1682;** 1921 - 1725; 1951 - 1247.



## KAITANGATA

Kaitangata is 13 kilometres south-east of Balclutha, on the Matau branch of the Clutha River. In 1855 John Lovell became the area's first resident, and the first sale of town sections took place in 1862. Flax mills were established at Kaitangata and Wangaloa around 1868, and coal mining began soon afterwards. A branch railway line was constructed in 1876 to join the Government line at Stirling, 5km to the west.

Frederick Tuckett reported seeing coal in the district in 1843 and in 1858 coal from the first mine at Coal Point was carried to the Clutha River where it was loaded on the SS Tuapeka. Several coal mines were opened near the town during 1869 and 1870. The **Kaitangata Coal Company** began in 1872 and was re-formed as the **Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company** in 1875. An English syndicate took over the company in 1898 and worked the mine as the **New Zealand Railway and Oil Company**. Their other interest was Orepuki shale oil, and the failure of the latter resulted in the collapse of the company in 1926. A new **Kaitangata Coal Company** was formed by South Otago and Dunedin interests in 1927 and they moved their head office to Kaitangata until the mine was taken over by the **State Coal Mines** in 1959.

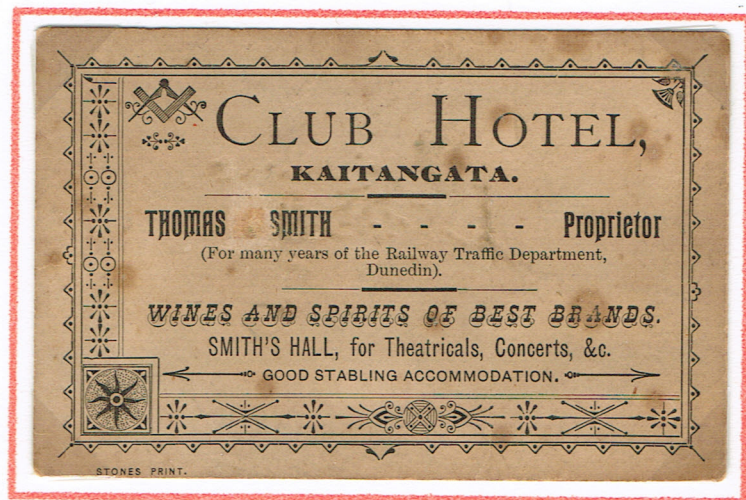
### Advertising Card

#### Club Hotel Kaitangata

Thomas Smith Proprietor.

Opened at the Jetty Hotel in 1875 becoming the Club Hotel about 1885 when Smith took over ownership.

[c 1888]



KAITANGATA.

*Espie, Photo., Kaitangata.*

KAITANGATA - *Espie Photo, Kaitangata.* Letterpress halftone on Thick card. Dunedin 20 JA 1910

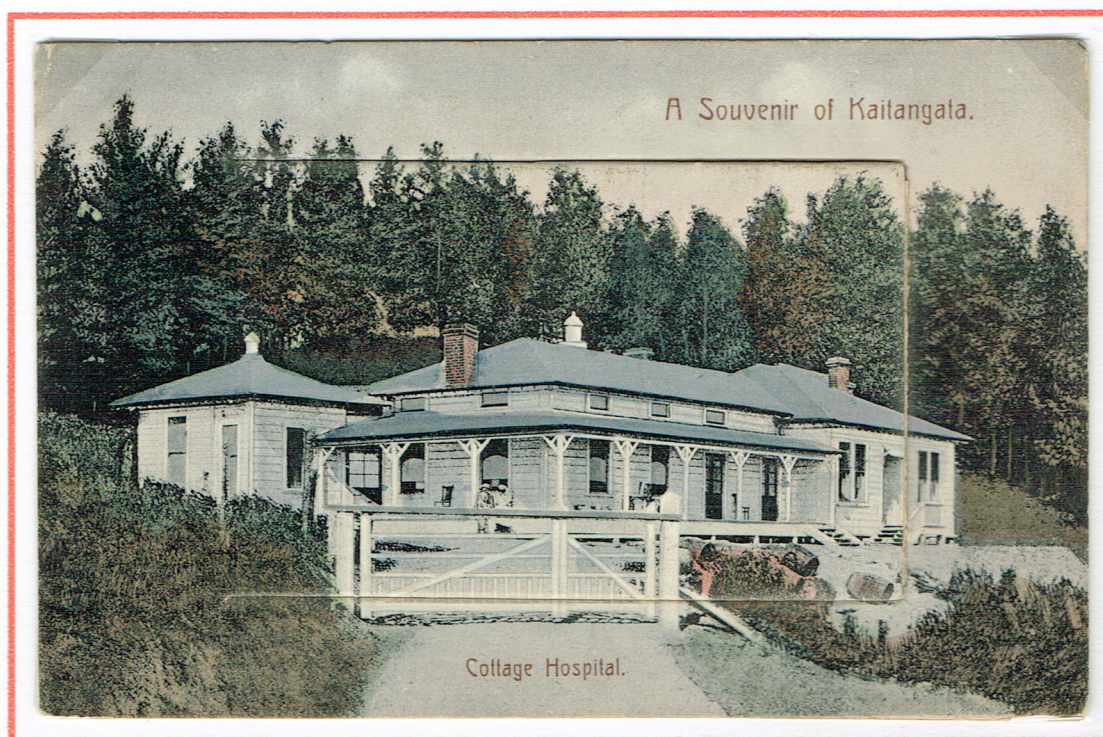


## A Souvenir of Kaitangata

Pull-out postcard issued by **McGruer & Taylor & Co.** Printed in Germany

The basic card was ordered and the local publisher added the **10 local scenes** [80mm x 53mm].

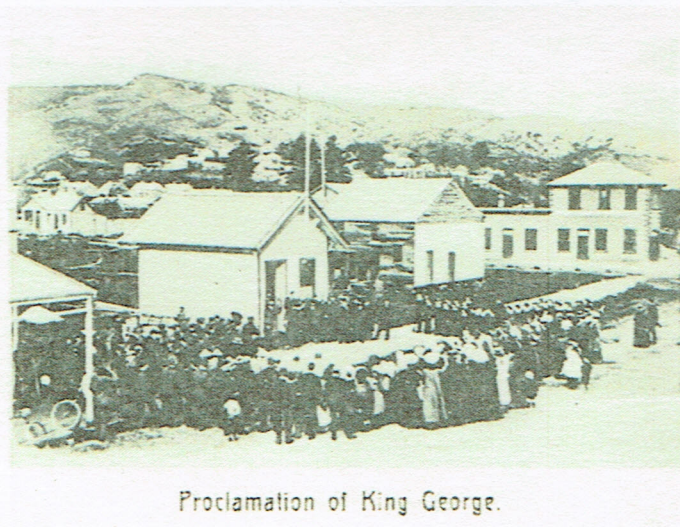
**McGreur & Taylor & Co** operated a large general store in Kaitangata - later burnt down and not replaced



**Cottage Hospital** [built 1908 - closed in 1953]



Kaitangata Mine.



Proclamation of King George.

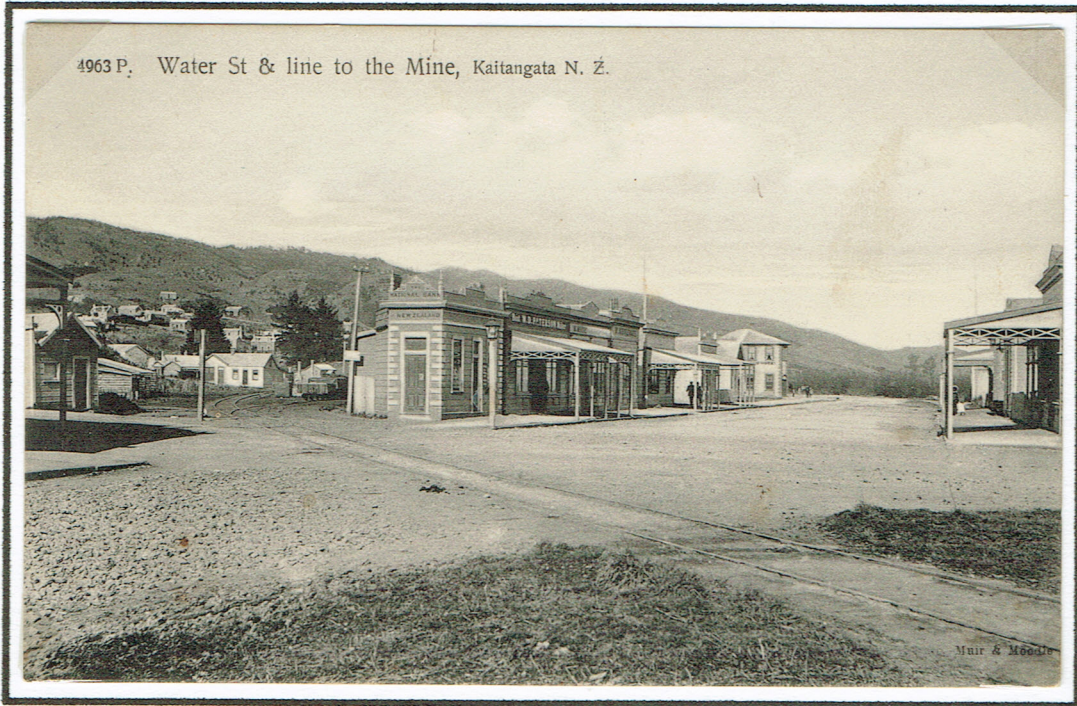
Exmouth Street, Kaitangata	Kaitangata Creek
Victoria Park, Kaitangata	Kaitangata from the South
Kaitangata Mine	Kaitangata from the North
Molyneux River, Kaitangata	Kaitangata from the East
Proclamation of King George	Kaitangata from the West

The card must be later than **May 11, 1910** as that was the **Proclamation** of the Death of King Edward VII and Accession on King George V



**Muir & Moodie**, the postcard publishers in Dunedin produced sharp and well executed and printed in good card in monochrome grey or sepia. They used the large photographic from Burton Bros for many postcards. From 1904 George Moodie set out to re-photograph much of New Zealand with a view of updating their catalogue suitable for the new postcard market. The cards were phototyped in Germany and ordered in lots of 500 cards.

Issued by *Muir & Moodie* Dunedin N. Z.  
from their Copyright Series of Views



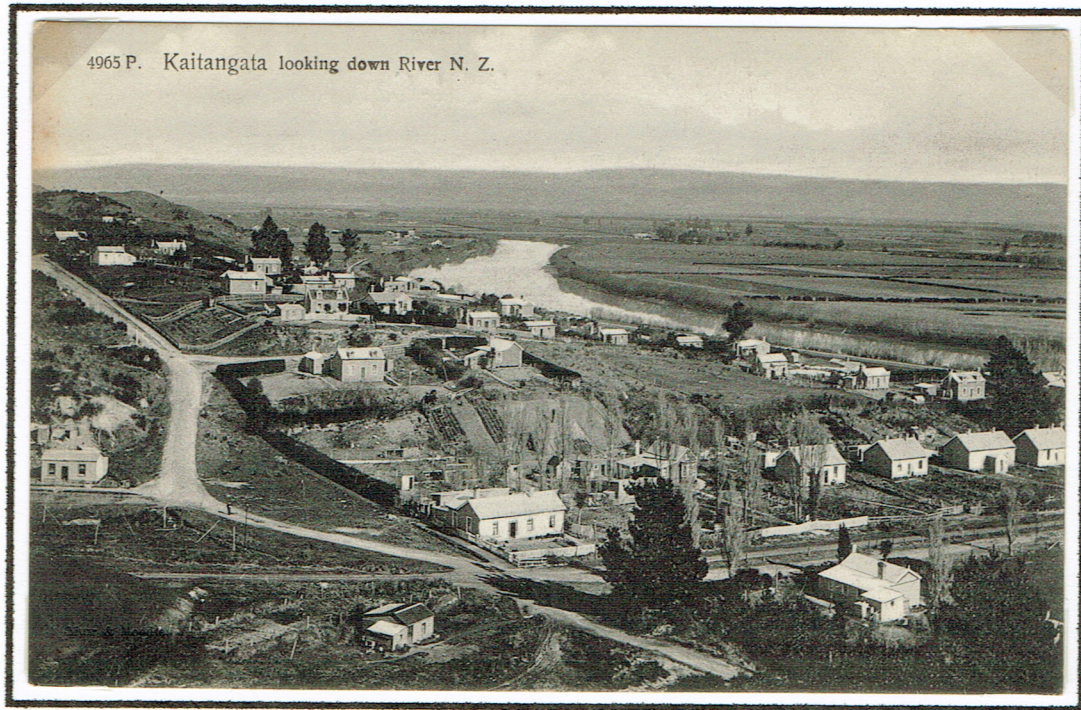
**4963 P. Water St & line to the Mine, Kaitangata N.Z.** Muir & Moodie in lower right corner

**4966 P. Exymouth St, from Hitchon & Souness Corner. Kaitangata N.Z.** Muir & Moodie in lower left corner





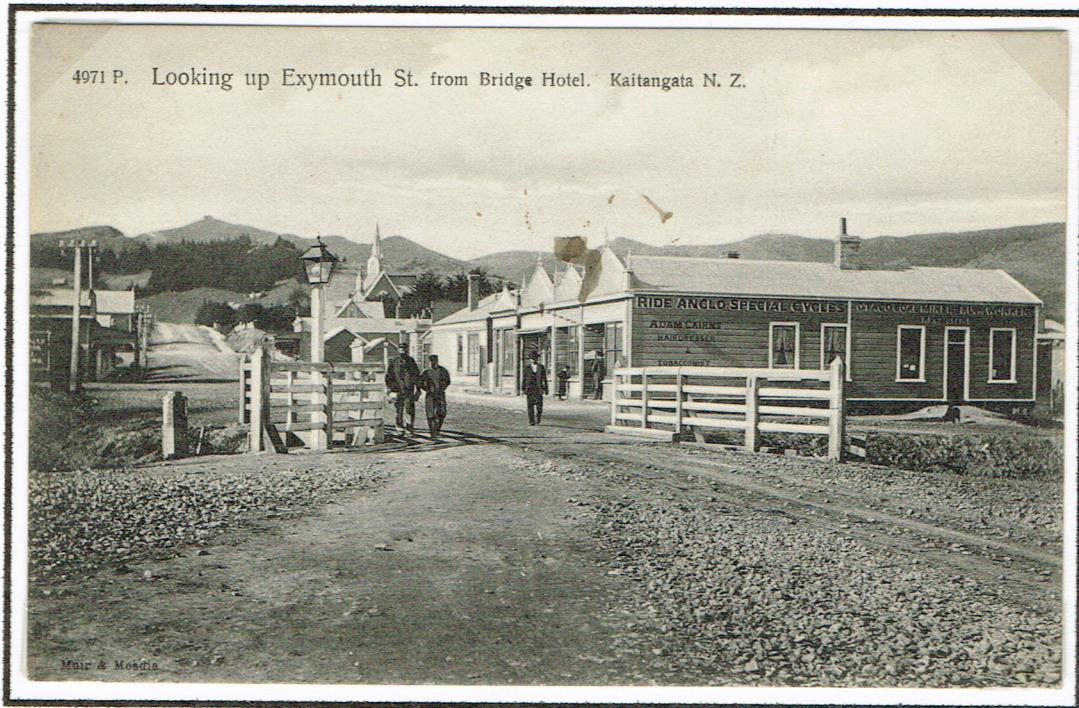
Issued by *Muir & Moodie* Dunedin N. Z.  
from their Copyright Series of Views



4965 P. Kaitangata looking down River N. Z.

4965 P. Kaitangata looking down river N.Z. Muir & Moodie in lower left corner

4971 P. Looking up Exymouth St from Bridge Hotel, Kaitangata N.Z. Muir & Moodie in lower left corner



4971 P. Looking up Exymouth St. from Bridge Hotel. Kaitangata N. Z.

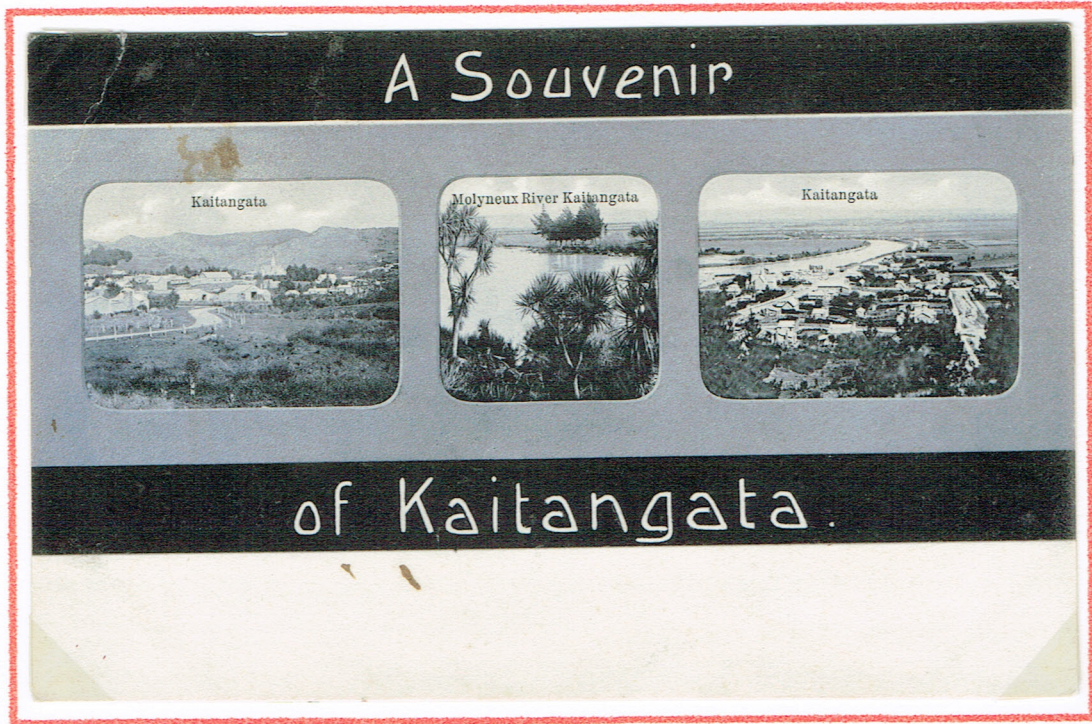
Muir & Moodie

**Note:** The correct name is **Exmouth Street** not **Exymouth Street**. The building on the right - Adam Cairns, hairdresser and **Otago Coalminers Industrial Union of Workers** - was burnt suspiciously in October 1908.



**A Souvenir of Kaitangata. Epsie Photo; Phototyped in Saxony on thick card**

Tom & Rebecca Epsie operated a Drapers store from 1899 on the east side of Eddystone Street between market and Wyre Streets. It is known that the shop had a photography room, **Tom Epsie was the photographer and publisher**



**Black Bess writes "9/1/1909" "Having a ripping time. Went down the mine last night. My other half got her dudds all wet, has been washing all morning."**



**Kaitangata Flood from Railway Station June 1917. Real Photo No. 47**  
Note coal wagons



**Greetings from Kaitangata**

B.B. London. Printed in Saxony Divide back Posted with 1/2d stamp Kaitangata "H" class 20 DE 09

Sent to Gore from Isla Souness - daughter of Peter Souness a chemist on SW corner of Wexmouth and Water Streets Kaitangata, from 1903-1953.



**Hearty Wishes from Kaitangata - Glitter Type** -no publishing details  
Send by **Maida Heard** - daughter of Bert Heard, miner



These "Glitter" Greetings type postcards were very popular and easily created





4970 P. Clyde Terrace & Molyneux River. Kaitangata N. Z.

Muir & Moodie

**Clyde Terrace & Molyneux River. Kaitangata NZ.** Muir & Moodie  
 “We are sending you the Kai PCs at last. They are very like the place.”

The **Kaitangata Post Office** opened September 15, 1863. It was supplied with an **O 141 barred obliterator**. It used “A” Class with ‘N-Z’ 1877-1893; “A” Class ‘N.Z’ 1894-1901; “H” Class 1901-1916; “J” Class 25mm 1916-1928; “J: Class 29mm 1928-1971; “J” Class 30mm 1971 until the office closed. A relief datestamp is known in 1953 during datestamp repair and one was used pending the new datestamp in 1971.





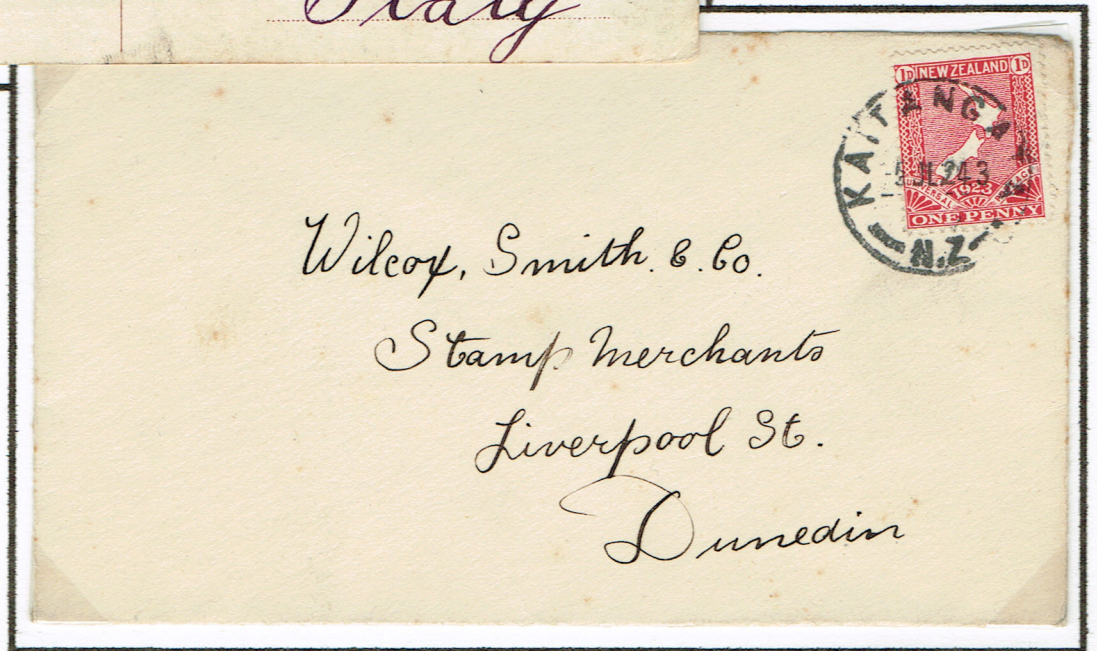


**Kaitangata**  
 "A" Class  
 25 AP 94



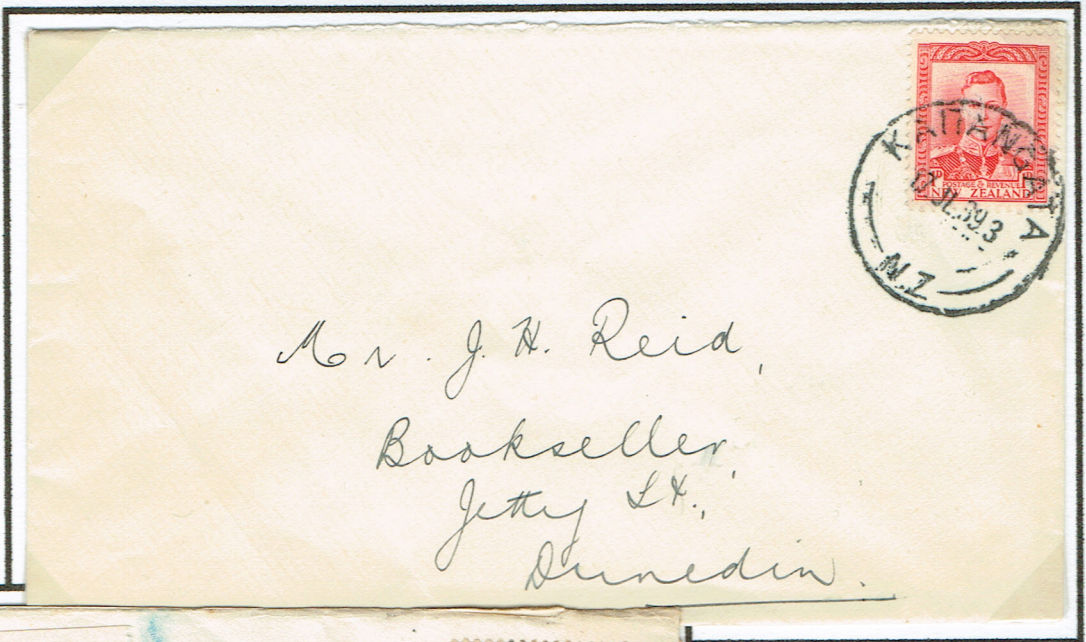
**Kaitangata**  
 "H" Class  
 25 MR 07  
 to Subiaco, Italy  
 Returned  
 Dead Letter  
 Office  
 31 OC 07

**Kaitangata**  
 "J" Class 25mm  
 5 JL 24  
 to Stamp  
 Merchant





Kaitangata  
"J" Class  
17 JL 39



Mr. J. H. Reid,  
Bookseller,  
Jetty St.,  
Dunedin.



R No. 197  
KAITANGATA



Sheriff  
99 George Street  
Dunedin

Kaitangata  
"J" Class  
24 JA 46

Registered 197

Kaitangata  
"J" Class 29mm  
16 AU 86



TV 3 Junn St On 60mp  
P.O. Box 90333



Auckland Mail Centre,  
Auckland.



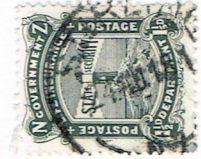




## STIRLING - KAITANGATA JUNCTION

Stirling, 4km west from Kaitangata is a railway township at the junction of the Government railway line and the Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company line, completed in 1876. Largely dependent on coal transport from Kaitangata mines. The alternative name is Kaitangata Junction.

The **Stirling Post Office** opened October 1, 1876 and is now closed. The office used **O 151** on bars oblierator; "A" Class datestamp 1882-1900; "H" Class datestamp 1900-1915; "J" Class 25mm datestamp 1915-closed.



1d Queen Victoria Postcard [1890] **Stirling** 25 JL 96 - Balclutha 25 JL 96

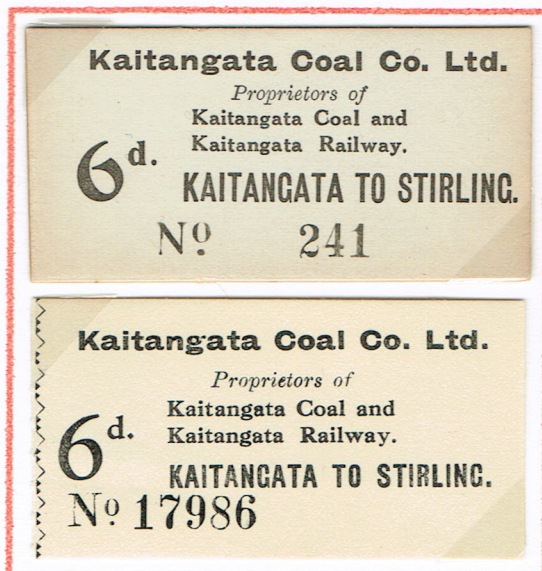


**Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd** advice card advising despatch of  
**3 trucks of 'peas'** [15 tons 16 cwt]  
 and  
**2 trucks of 'nuts'** [11 tons 3 cwt]

Consigned to **Balclutha station.**

'pea' coal is about 20mm x 15mm

'nut' coal is larger up to 70mm



**6d fare for passengers including miners  
 Kaitangata - Stirling**

**Kaitangata Coal Co. Ltd** was formed in  
**May 1927** following the collapse of the  
 Kaitangata railway Coal and Oil  
 Company in 1926



# TUATARA

Tuatara was a small settlement 5km northeast from Kaitangata with a number of small coal mines operating between 1917 and 1934. The **Tuatara Post Office** opened December 16, 1918 and closed October 30, 1937. "J" Class d/s.



# MILTON [Tokomairiro]

Milton is the largest township on the Kaitangata Coalfield being situated on the northern edge. Coal mining, mostly small operations, initially underground but from 1910 opencast, produced between 4,000 and 10,000 tons annually and provided significant employments from 1895 through to 1940.

The **Post Office** opened as Tokomairiro becoming Milton September 1, 1872. In the 'coal-mining' period the office used "A" class 1892-1906; "H" Class 1900-1908; "C" Class 26mm 1909-1929; "J" Class 25mm 1923-1935; "C" Class 29mm 1929-1939; "J" Class 25mm 1935-1972; "C" Class 35mm 1935-1945.







**Milton Registered 118; "J" Class [counter datestamp] 11 DE 31 to Stamp Dealer, Dunedin  
Correct postage 6d - 2d postage & 4d Registration.**

**Milton "C" Class 35mm 18 JL 36 to Post Office Benhar, received 20 JL 36**  
 This postcard [½ d Fantail issued 1935] is an order for **"Six Beehive Chimney Pots"** from McSkimmings & Son Ltd  
 - owner of brick and tile works fuelled by their own coal mine at Benhar

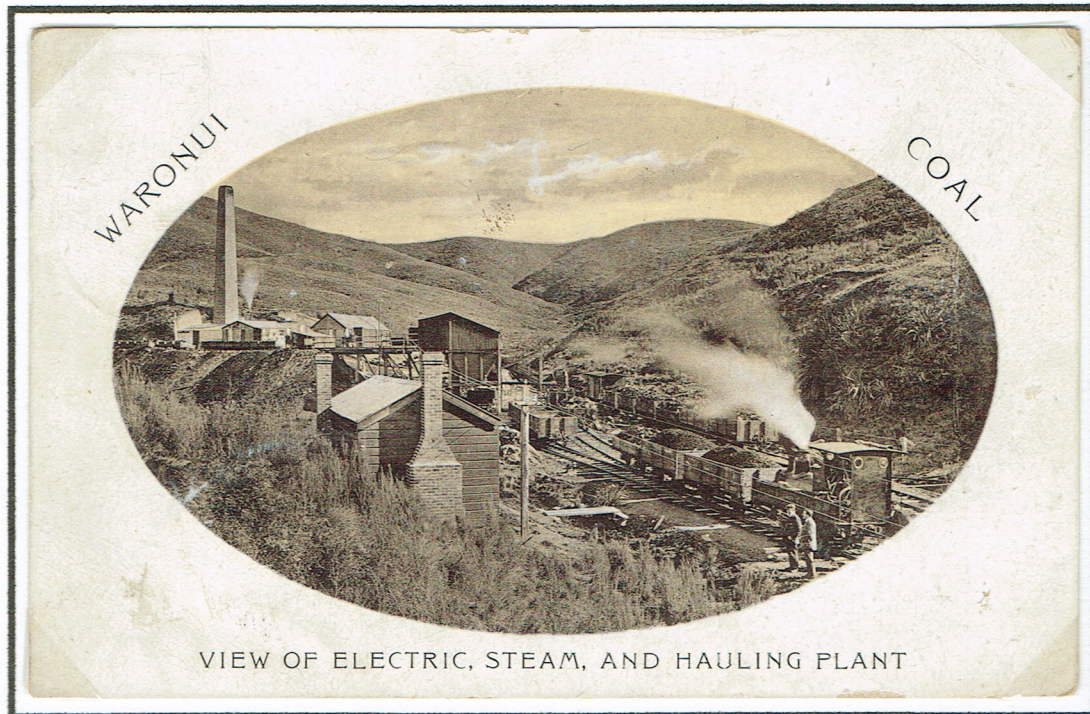




# WARONU

The **Waronui Coal Mine** was operational between 1898 and 1928. the peak production was in 1920 when 32,000 tons of brown lignite was produced with 45 men being employed. Total production was **450,000 tons**.

Situated 8km south from Milton, the **Waronui Post Office** was opened February 10, 1913 and closed September 30, 1919 with services changing to Rural Delivery Milton. "J" Class datestamp. Name means "**Much Coal**"



**Waronui Coal View of Electric, Steam and Haulage Plant.** No photographer or publisher  
Used Waimate 21/8/12 to Timaru



**Waronui**  
24 MR 14

Coal, Coke, Firewood, Stone, Gravel, Lime.  FURNITURE REMOVED.	Union Street Coal Yard.
	TELEPHONE, NO 38
	MILTON, <i>Nov</i> ..... 19 <i>19</i>
	<i>Mr J Littlejohn</i>
	In Account with <b>S. H. JONES,</b> COAL MERCHANT and GENERAL CARRIER. Agent for Kaitangata, Waronui. All other Coals supplied.

Union Street Coal Yard, Milton, Agent for Kaitangata, Waronui  
Invoice dated November 1919





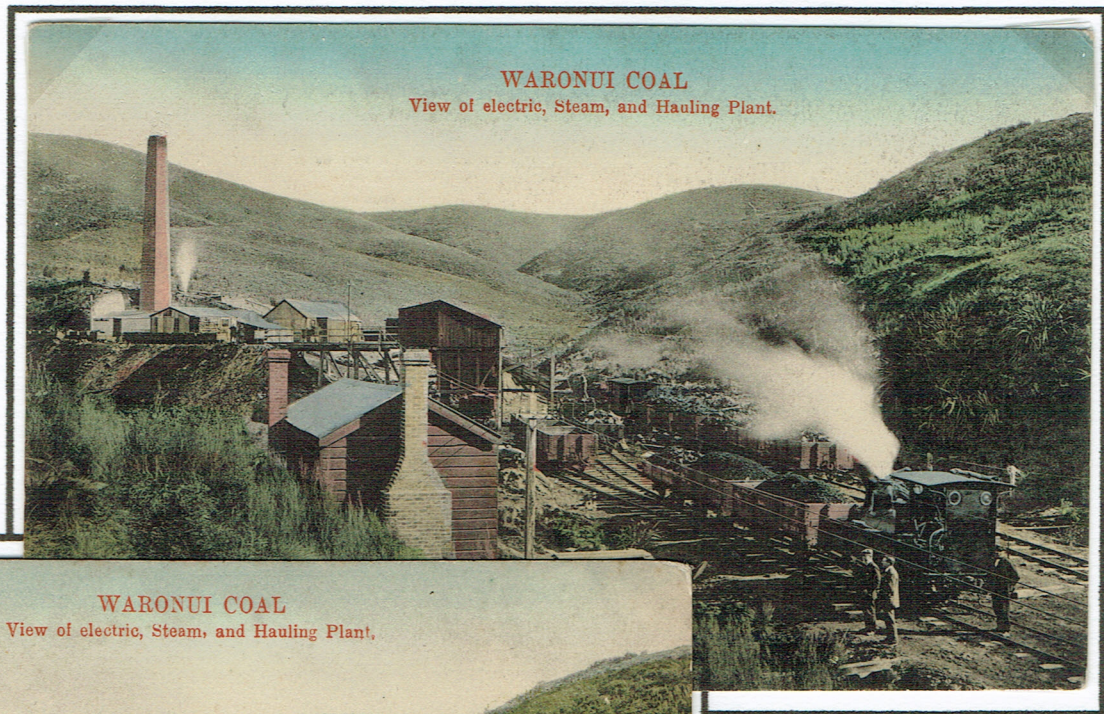
WARONUI 1911

Real Photograph

Written 23/12/11

**WARONUI COAL**  
View of electric,  
Steam and Hauling  
Plant

Divided back '174045'



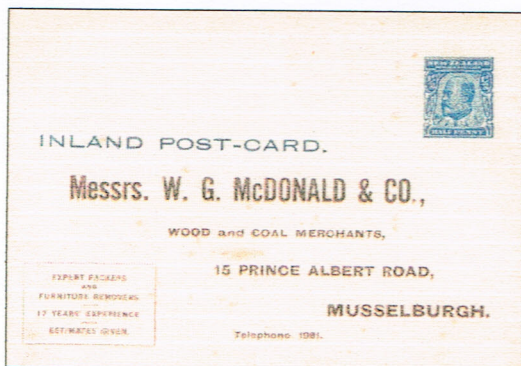
All the Waronui Coal  
postcards have the  
identical view and  
text.

The card at the top is  
probably the original  
on which the others  
are based





Oh This Waronui Coal is Lovely Milton 8 JE 17



TELEPHONE 1961.

GREEN ISLAND.....

TARATU.....

WARONUI COAL.....

    ,,    NUTS.....

NIGHTCAPS COAL.....

    ,,    NUTS.....

KAITANGATA COAL.....

    ,,    NUTS.....

PAPAROA.....

WESTPORT COAL.....

    ,,    DROSS.....

ABERMAIN.....

PELAWMAIN.....

ABERDARE.....

From.....

Address.....

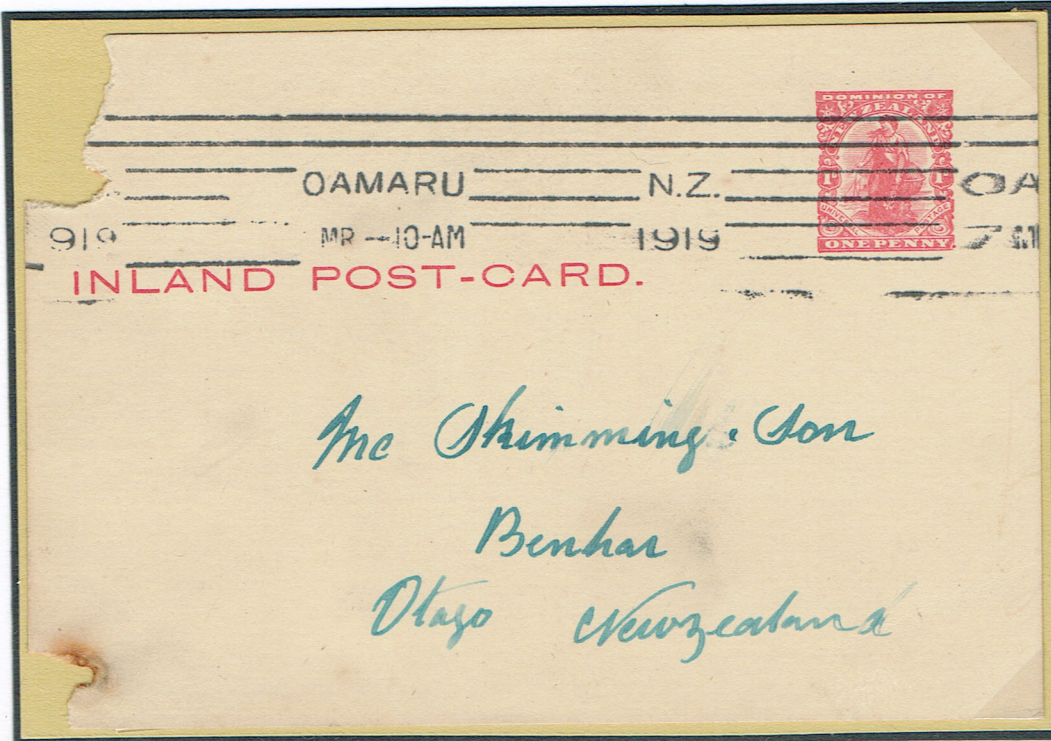
KEVII Postcard [issued December 1907]. Coal Merchant offering Waronui Coal Waronui Nuts



**BENHAR COAL MINE**

McSkimming & Son Company Limited operated a large brick and clay product manufacturing plant near the Benhar Railway Station. The also operated an open-cast coal mine - **Benhar Coal Mine** – producing black lignite coal, mainly for their own use. The mine operated 1914 and was closed by 1937. Average production was 6,000 tons. Main market was South Canterbury.

**Benhar** is situated 18km south from Milton on the Government railway line – the main employer was the brick works. Post Office opened June 6, 1913, now closed. “J” Class datestamp used.



*The Mc Skimming  
Dear Sir will you please  
Cancel my order for a Truck  
off Coal as I had to get  
else where and I am full up  
for the mean time I will  
send you word when I can  
some I remain yours faithfully  
W. P. Pugh  
Dunedin*

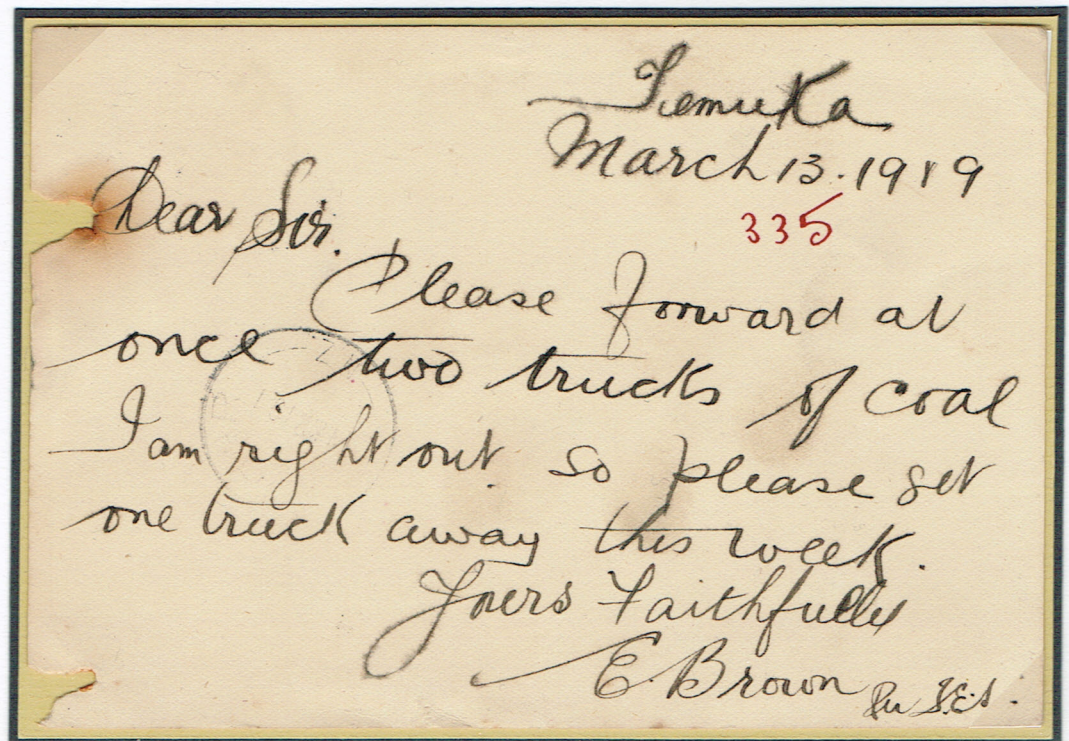
Oamaru March 10, 1919  
“Dear Sir will you please  
cancel my order for a truck of  
coal...”

1d Dominion Postcard [issued November 1915] to Benhar



1d Dominion Postcard  
Temuka 13 MR 19

“Temuka March 13, 1919  
Dear Sir,  
Please forward at once  
two trucks of coal. I am  
right out so please get one  
truck away this week.”



*Temuka  
March 13. 1919  
335  
Dear Sir,  
Please forward at  
once two trucks of coal  
I am right out so please get  
one truck away this week.  
Yours Faithfully  
E. Brown & Co.*

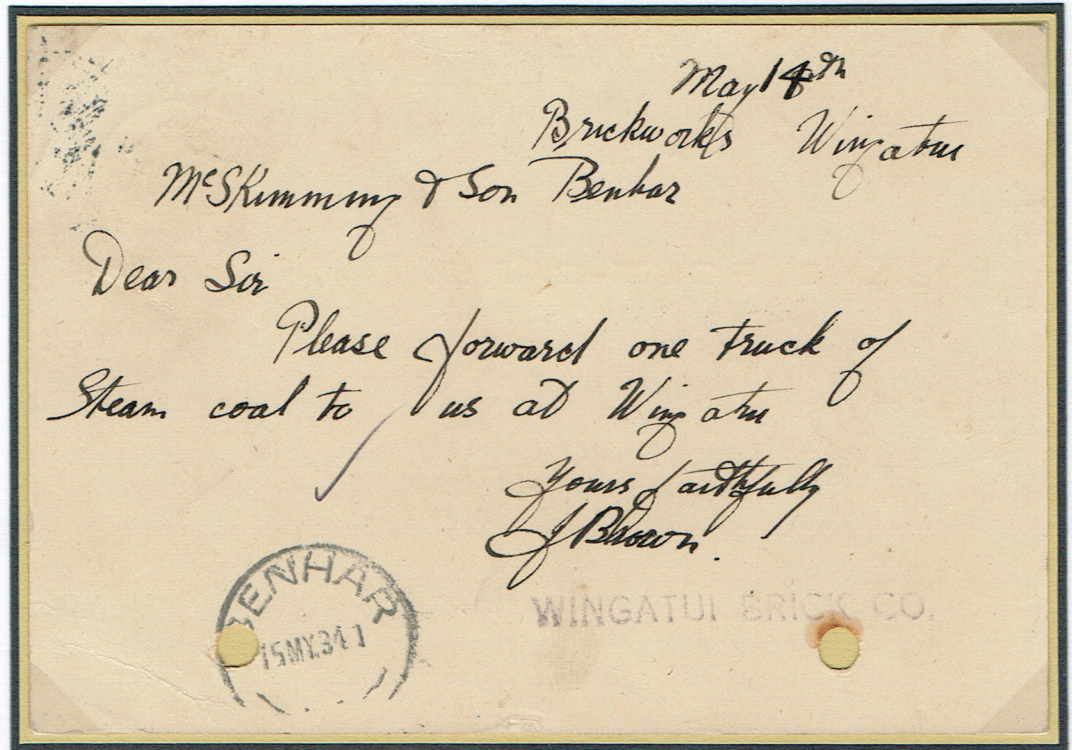




1/2 d KGV Postcard [1932]  
Wingatui 14 MY 34 to  
McSkimming & Son at  
Benhar - 15 MY 34

Wingatui Brick Works

"Dear Sir, *Please forward  
one truck of Steam coal to  
us at Wingatui.*"

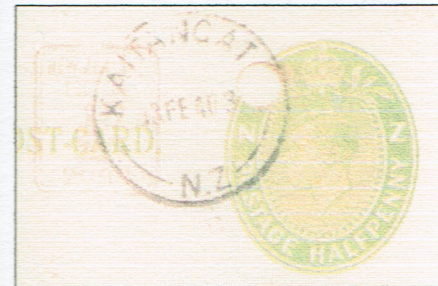


**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd.**  
 PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL  
 Kaitangata, ..... 19  
*We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order  
 we have this day forwarded the undermentioned.*  
 ..... Stationmaster.

TRUCK NO.	CONSIGNEE	STATION	CLASS	WEIGHT	
				TONS	CWT.
5104	McSkimming Son	Benhar	nutts	6	1
5290		Stirling	coal	7	8
2016	McSkimming & Son	Stirling	nutts	6	11

This Coal is sold on Truck at Stirling, and when railage to destination is prepaid, it is done for the convenience of the consignee.

1/2d KGV Postcard  
July 1935, uprated 1/2d  
With Meter 2093  
Kaitangata 13 FE 40



By 1940 the Benhar Coal Mine had closed and McSkimming & Son was buying coal from the Kaitangata Mine. Advice card Truck of Coal to McSkimming at Benhar and another to the McSkimming Siding. Benhar 15 FE 40





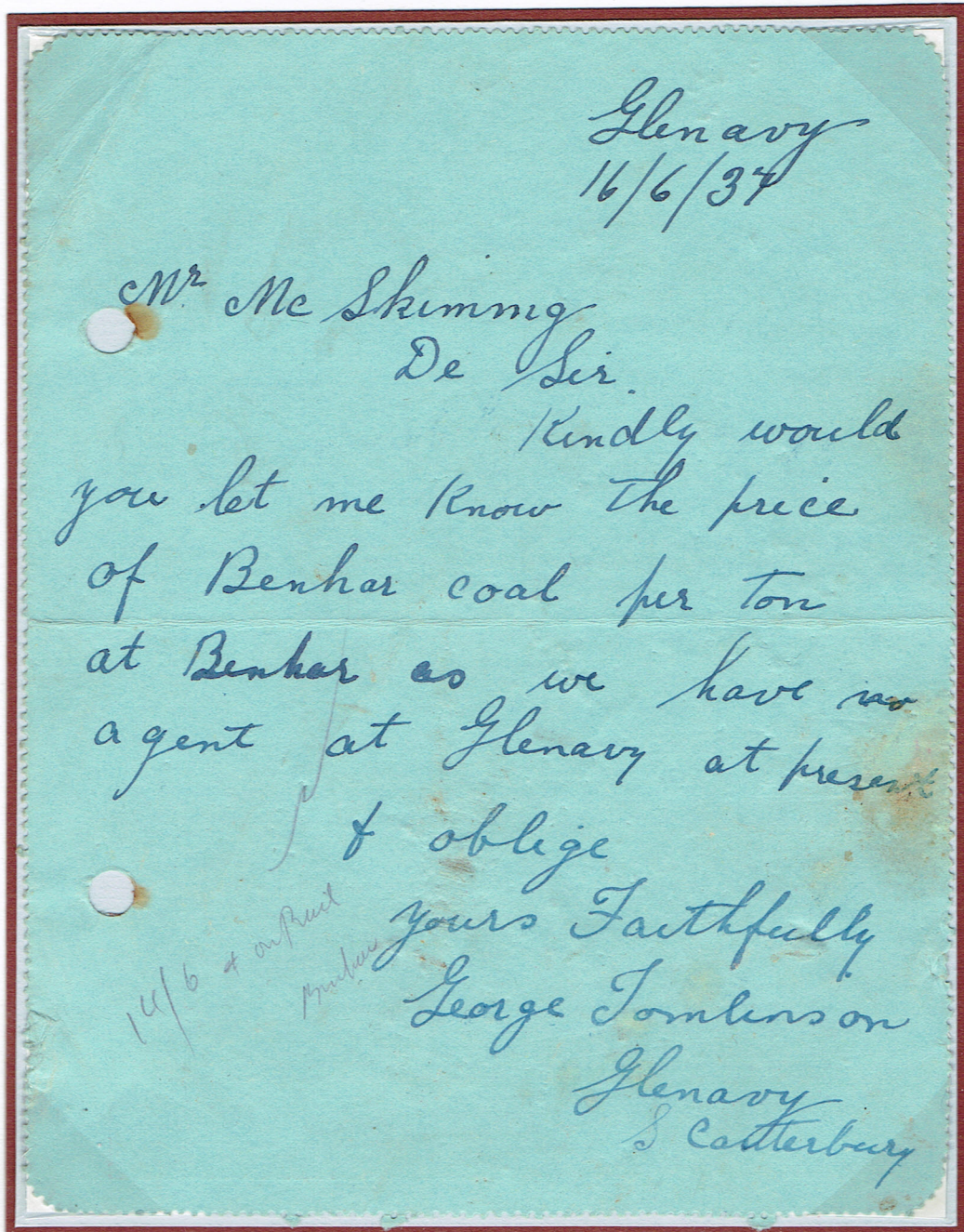
1d Kiwi Letter Card [issued 1 May 1935]

Advertising on reverse "Shopping is faster and easier when you have a Telephone."

Glenavy 17 JE 37. Received Benhar 19 JE 37

Addressed to Mr McSkimmings **Benhar Coal Mine**  
Benhar Otago.

Pencil notation reads "14/6d on rail Benhar"



Glenavy  
16/6/37

Mr Mc Skimming  
De Sir.

Kindly would  
you let me know the price  
of Benhar coal per ton  
at Benhar as we have no  
agent at Glenavy at present

& oblige

Yours Faithfully  
George Tomlinson  
Glenavy  
& Carterbury

14/6 + on rail  
Benhar



# KAITANGATA COAL STAMP ADVERTISEMENTS

## 1893 Queen Victoria Sideface Postage Stamps

During 1893, the Government entered into a contract with Messrs Miller, Truebridge and Reich, giving them the right to use the back of postage stamps for advertising purposes. All values from 1d to 1/- were used and a number of printing ink colours were used. There were three settings of the advertisements. The first differed from the second in the alignment while the third setting had a different advertiser included.

The **Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company Limited** bought 5% of the available advertising space and its advertisement appeared 3 times on each of the four panes of 60 stamps, which comprised a sheet.

**Positions:** Top Left Pane: R1/2; R2/5; R7/4. Top Right Pane R2/6; R6/4; R10/4. Lower Left Pane R1/2; R6/6; R9/3. Lower Right Pane R3/1; R3/6; R6/2. The stamps can be plated if in multiples by reference to adjacent ads.

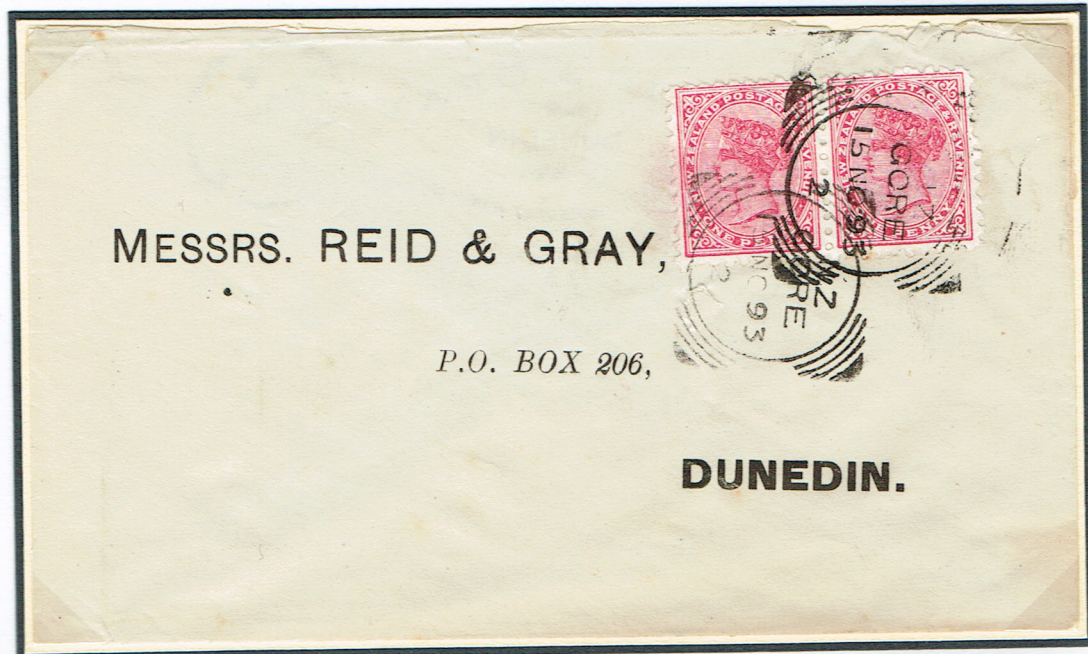
The printing reads: **"Use Kaitangata Coal. Cheapest & Cleanest"**

**First Setting:** Bottom of advertisement on left of the stamp as viewed from the back.

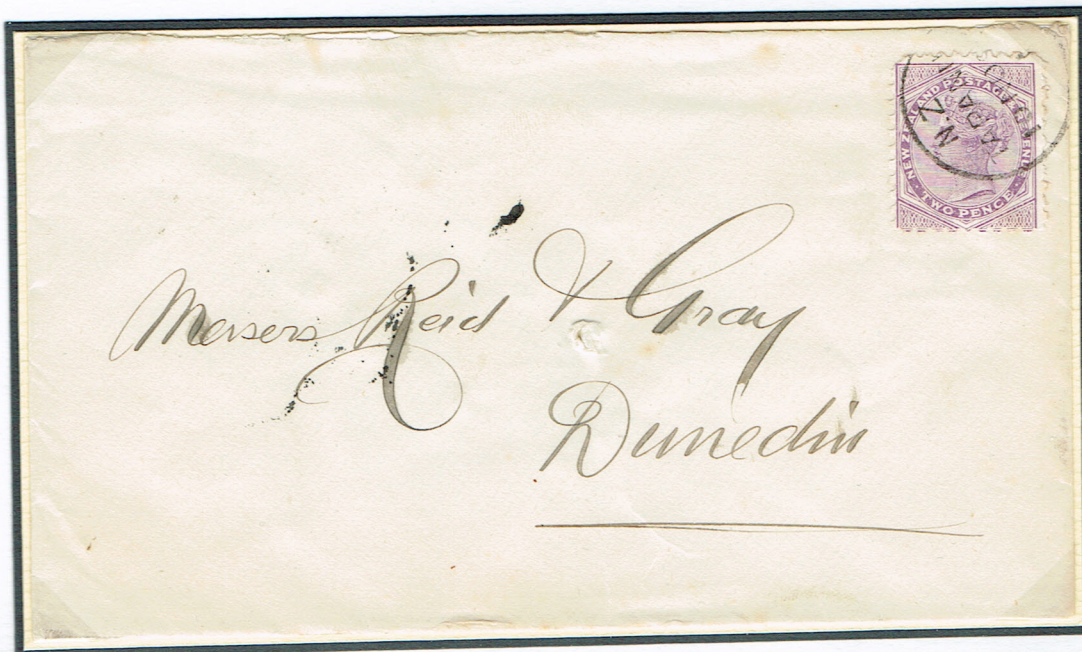
1d



Top left R2/5



Top Right Pane R10/4



2d





1893 Queen Victoria Sideface Postage Stamps

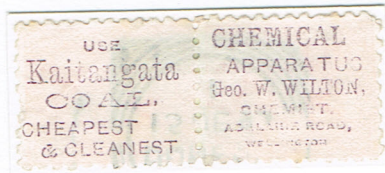
Second Setting: Bottom of advertisement on right of the stamp as viewed from the back.

1d

left stamp



Top Right R10/3



2 1/2d



Lower Left R9/3

2d

Lower Right R6/2



Third Setting:

Poneke Meat Ads

Lower Left R9/3

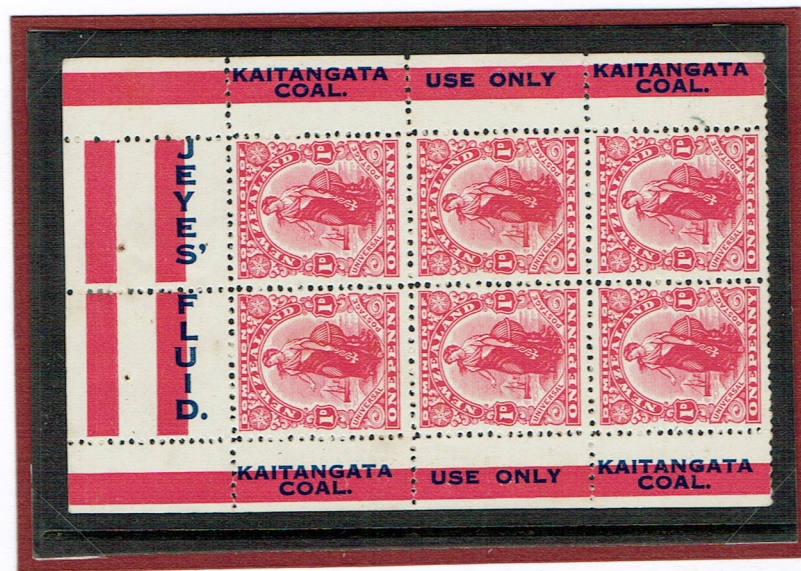




## 1925 BOOKLET ISSUE

1925 2/- **Booklet** issue with 1d Dominion and ½d King George V stamps on Cowan chalky surfaced paper perforated 14 x 15. This was the first practice of New Zealand Post Office having advertisements printed, in blue, on the side selvages of the panes. The binding selvedge also bore “Jeyes Fluid” advertising. These booklets were issued with three different formats: with “Abdulla” adverts on the side selvages; with “Dainties” adverts on the side selvages; **Composite booklet** with “Big Tree” adverts on one pane. “**Kaitangata Coal**” on two 1d panes and “Cameron Bros” on two different ½d panes.

The Composite Booklet [“Big Tree-Kaitangata Coal-Cameron”] booklets were restricted to a Dunedin area distribution. Shown here is a mint pane and a block cancelled “DN” – packet obliterator of Dunedin.





The Composite Booklet containing Kaitangata Coal selvedge advertisements were distributed only in the Dunedin area



Kurow [67 km NW Oamaru]



Clinton 7 SP 26 [34 km SW Balclutha]



Balclutha 3 SP 26  
[66 km SW Dunedin]



1925 BOOKLET ISSUE

Use Only Kaitangata Coal



Milton 8 NO 26  
[Kaitangata Coalfield]



Kaitangata 6 MR 27  
[Kaitangata Coalfield]



Umutoi 6 JE 27  
Palmerston North District



Kaitangata Coal - Moray Place Dunedin 17 DE 28

Kaitangata Coal Advertisement  
As interleaving in 1926 Stamp  
Booklet [photocopy]

“Kaitangata Coal is a Luxury  
As Well as a Necessity”

11

<b>Kaitangata Coal</b> — IS A LUXURY — AS WELL AS A NECESSITY.
Retailed by all Coal Merchants. Orders from Farmers for Truck Loads Supplied Promptly.
<b>P.O. Box 363 - Dunedin.</b>



**KAITANGATA**  
Railway & Coal Company,  
LIMITED.

**KAITANGATA COAL.**

The Special Qualities of the Kaitangata Coal are its

**General Cleanliness**

—AND—

**ENTIRE ABSENCE OF DIRTY SMOKE,**

Requiring no attention whatever once the fire is made, and householders who use it exclusively will no doubt recognise the

**GREAT SAVING OF CONSTANT CLEANING & SWEEPING.**

To mix it with other Coal scarcely gives it justice, and the Company recommend consumers to

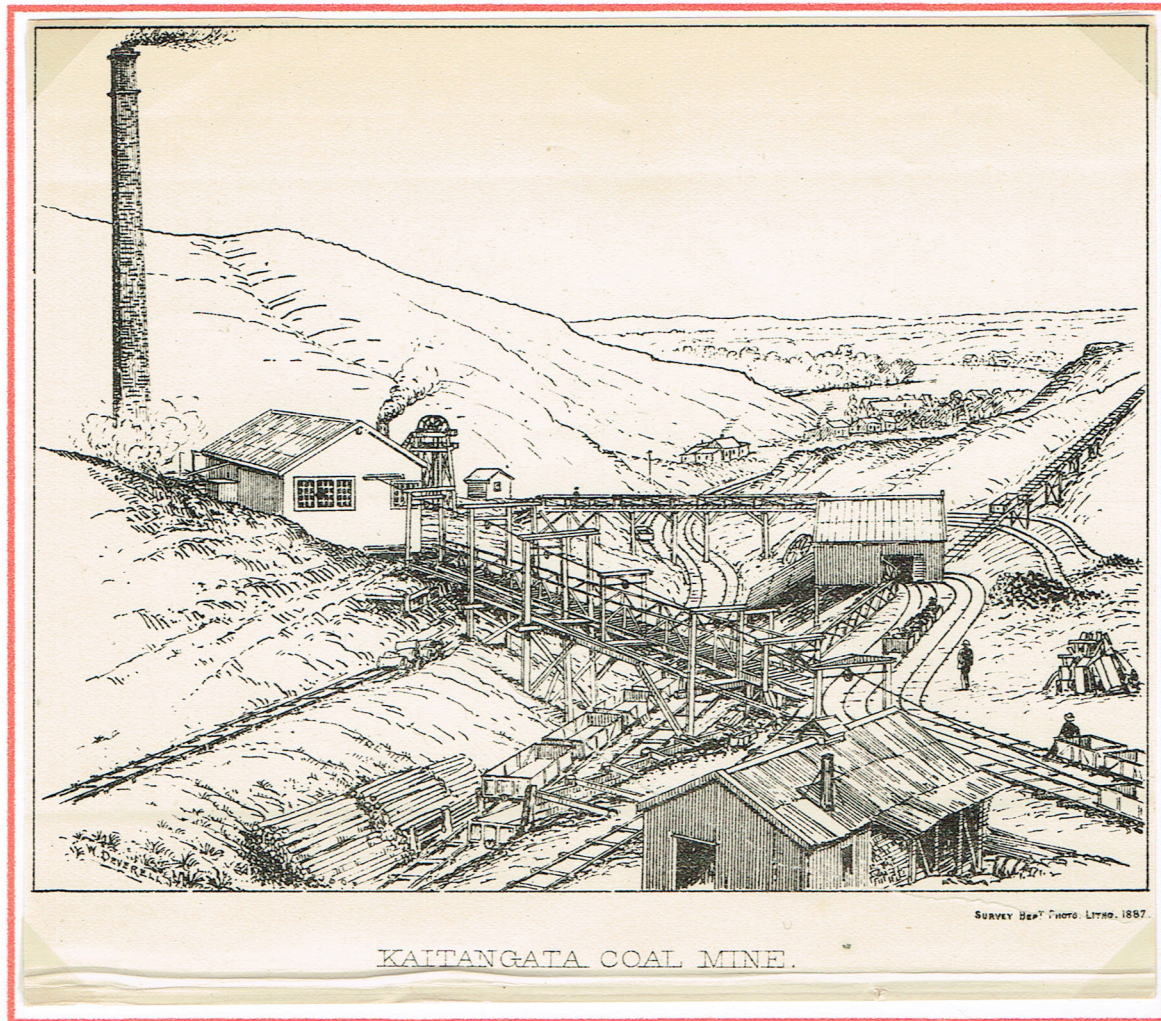
**USE IT ALONE,**

when its full advantages can be realized.

Sold everywhere by all Coal Merchants  
in Dunedin and Suburbs.



**KAITANGATA COAL MINE** [from frontispiece Mines Report of 1888] Survey Dept Photo Litho 1887



**Kaitangata Mine Companies of the mine called the "Big No. 1 Mine"**

1870 John Thompson took up a lease and established a Company to work the Coal - nominal capital of £3000 - 500 shares at £6 each.

1872 Viability proven, Company reconstructed as **Kaitangata Coal Company** with a capital of £10,000 - 1000 shares at £10 each in December 1872

1875 Expansion needed capital - reconstructed as **Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd** with capital of £25,000 - shares at £10 each.

1890 Second share issue at £1 each - could be paid in two instalments

1898 **New Zealand Coal and Oil Company Ltd** formed by the amalgamation of Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd with Castle Hill Coal Company Ltd. Capital of £180,000 at £1 with £70,000 as debenture capital.

1900 Capital increased to £210,000 - 180,000 ordinary shares and 30,000 preference shares - each at £1

1902 Second Debenture issue of £50,000 at £1 per share

1927 **Kaitangata Coal Company** instituted after the New Zealand Coal and Oil Company failed. £65,000 in shares

1936 Company wound up when mine closed



Report of the Directors

OF THE

Haitangata Railway and Coal Company, Limited.

Presented to the Shareholders at the Tenth Annual General Meeting of the Company, held on Saturday, 26th Sept., 1885.



THE Directors have now the pleasure to submit to the Shareholders their report for the year ending 31st August, 1885, with Balance Sheet to that date, shewing a balance to the credit of Profit and Loss of £4,463 3s. 3d.

The Directors recommend that a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum for the six months ending 31st August be declared, absorbing £1,250; that £1,000 be written off Mining works; £1,000 off Railway works, as depreciation, and the balance of £1,213 3s. 3d. carried forward.

The dividend, if approved, will be payable at the Company's office on and after Thursday, the 1st day of October next.

The works throughout are now in excellent order. A field of coal has been proved in the newly opened block equal to many years supply without further expense, and the mine is now capable of throwing out double its present output, and this, combined with the general depression in trade, and the strong competition from foreign coal, which prevents the Company from increasing its business, influenced the Directors to delay opening the Elliot Vale field in the meantime.

Shareholders are no doubt aware of the sudden and serious flooding of the new works in February and March last, which resulted in considerable expense, but it was an occurrence that is not likely to be repeated, as there is every evidence of the water having exhausted itself completely.

Two Directors, Messrs. Robert Wilson and the Hon. W. J. M. Larnach, and the Auditors, Messrs. Thomas Callendar and Alex. Bartleman, retire on this occasion, but are eligible and offer themselves for re-election.

By order of the Board,

THOMAS BRYDONE, *Chairman.*



Dunedin 20<sup>th</sup> March 1890

£133. 0. 0.

Received from J. F. Francklin  
Esq through his attorney Basil Dierwright  
Esq the sum of one hundred and  
thirty three pounds 5s being 20 per  
share on one hundred & thirty three  
shares applied for in the second issue  
of shares in the Kaitangata Railway  
Co. Ltd.

KAITANGATA RAILWAY  
AND COAL COMPANY, LIMITED



W. H. Watson  
General Manager

Dunedin, 25<sup>th</sup> April 1890.

£12. 10. 0

Received from Max Meinshansen Esq.  
the Sum of Twelve pounds ten shillings 5s  
being Ten Shillings per Share paid on allotment on  
25 Shares of the Second Issue in THE KAITANGATA

RAILWAY & COAL COMPANY, LIMITED.

For THE KAITANGATA RAILWAY & COAL COMPANY, LIMITED,



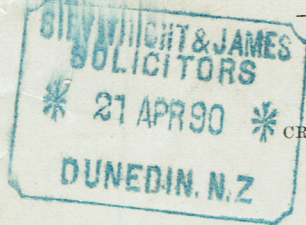
W. H. Watson  
General Manager



Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company, Limited.

Letter of Allotment for 133 Shares in the Second Issue dated 19<sup>th</sup> April 1890

Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company, Limited.



CRAWFORD STREET,

DUNEDIN, 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 1890.

LETTER OF ALLOTMENT.

SIR,

I am instructed to inform you that the Directors, in terms of your application, have allotted you 133 Shares in the second issue in the Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company, Limited, and have entered your name in the Register of its Members in respect of such Shares.

You are requested to pay the amount due on allotment, as mentioned at foot, to me here immediately.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. P. WATSON,

General Manager.

Amount due on allotment on 133 Shares  
at 10/- per Share £ 66-10-0

*J. J. Frankness Esq*  
*G. B. Sawright Esq*

*Paid*  
*27/4/90*



Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd.

Broker advice on sale of shares dated 27<sup>th</sup> April 1891.

GEO. S. BRODRICK,  
SHAREBROKER,  
LAND, ESTATE, FINANCIAL,  
AND GENERAL AGENT.  
AGENT FOR  
LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE  
INSURANCE CO.  
REUTER'S TELEGRAM COMPANY.

SIEVWRIGHT & JAMES  
SOLICITORS  
\* 27 APR 91 \*  
DUNEDIN, N.Z.  
5, HIGH STREET,

Dunedin, 27<sup>th</sup> April 1891.

P. Sievwright Esq-

I have Sold by your  
instructions 100 & 30 new  
Issue Kaitangata Coal  
Company @ 28/- per Share  
20/- paid

£ 182. 0. 0

Comm'n.

1. 12. 6

£ 180. 7. 6

$1\frac{1}{4}\% = 2:5:6$

G. S. Brodrick

I hope to report the sale of the  
balance 19 Shares in the morning

"I have Sold by your instructions 100 & 30 New Issue Kaitangata Coal Company @ 28/- per Share 20/- paid.  
I hope to report the sale of the balance 19 Shares in the morning."

[Commission was  $1\frac{1}{4}\% = £2/5/6$ ]



GEO. S. BRODRICK,  
 SHAREBROKER,  
 LAND, ESTATE, FINANCIAL,  
 AND GENERAL AGENT.  
 AGENT FOR  
 LIVERPOOL & LONDON & GLOBE  
 INSURANCE CO.  
 REUTER'S TELEGRAM COMPANY.

5, HIGH STREET,

Dunedin, 1<sup>st</sup> May 1891.

Bellevue & Co.

I have sold by your  
 instructions (19) Nineteen  
 Shares (New Issue) in the  
 Kaitangata Railway & Coal Co  
 20/- paid at 28/-

£	26	12	0
Comm <sup>n</sup>		6	6
£	26	5	6

*Geo. S. Brodrick*  
 & Broker

"I have Sold by your instructions (19) Nineteen Shares (New Issue) Kaitangata Railway & Coal Co  
 @ 20/- paid at 28/-" [Commission 6/6d]



The Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company, Limited.  
 Statement of Dividend for Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1893

The Kaitangata Railway and Coal Company, Limited.

STATEMENT OF DIVIDEND FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST, 1893.

Payable at the Company's Office, Crawford Street, Dunedin, on and after 2nd October, 1893.

On	30	Shares of £10 each, at 10 % per annum	=	=	£	15	:	0	:	0	
On	-	Shares, £1 paid up, " "	=	=	£		:	0	:	0	
Bonus of	15s.	per Share on Shares fully paid up	=	=	£	22	:	10	:	0	
"	1/6	" " £1 paid up	=	=	£		:	0	:	0	
						£	37	:	10	:	0

M<sup>rs</sup> Max Mendershausen

6/10 B. Sierrwright Esq  
 Dunedin

30 Shares at £10 = £300 investment  
 Annual Dividend was 10% = £30 [in two installments]  
 Bonus on fully paid shares of 15/- per share = 7 ½ %  
**Total return on investment = 17 ½ %**







## KAITANGATA COAL MINE DISTASTER 1879

On **February 21, 1879** at about 9am, an explosion in the Kaitangata railway & Coal Company **Kaitangata Mine** caused the deaths of 34 men and boys. 30 were buried side by side in the Kaitangata cemetery. It was the worst mining disaster at that time and the third worst in New Zealand history after Brunner in 1896 [65 deaths] and Huntly in 1914 [43 deaths].

An Coroner's Inquest found "That Archibald Hodge, through entering the old workings without ordinary precaution and with a naked light, caused an explosion of fire-damp whereby 34 men and boys lost their lives." And "That William Hodge has not used the necessary precautions to prevent an explosion of fire-damp in the mine over which he had the management." And "That seeing that there is no law for inspection and supervision in the conduct of mining, we express the necessity of measures being adopted whereby many accidents may in future be averted."

The Government responded quickly. Within a week amendments to the Regulation of Mines Act of 1874 were made with Inspection of Mines placed under the control of the Mines Department.



### Memorial card for Caleb Beardsmore

[One of 5 Beardsmore men killed, he left his wife, Mary and three young children]



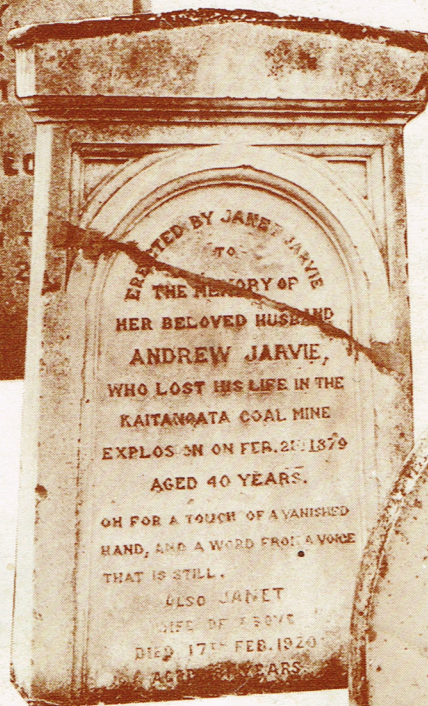
**Kaitangata Obliterator O41** on 2d First Queen Victoria Sideface stamp first issued 1878 and this obliterator would have been used on stamps on envelopes sent containing memorial cards from the Kaitangata Mining Disaster of 1879.

A relief fund of £15,804 was established, from donations for the 24 widows and 88 dependent children. The balance of £4,000 was transferred to the Public Trustee in 1892 and finally closed in 1936.



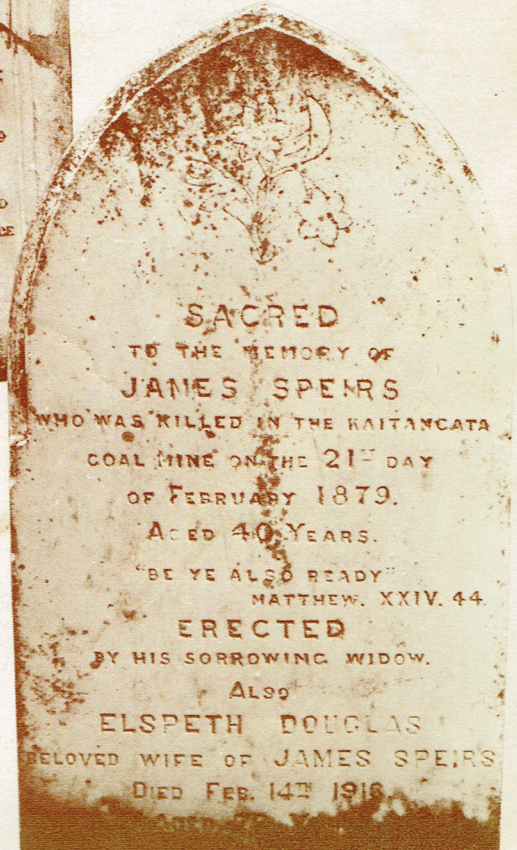
"The Kaitangata Mine Disaster of 1879" by Alma Rutherford, published 1979.

# The Kaitangata Mine Disaster of 1879



by Alma  
Rutherford

One naked flame  
and 34 men  
and boys perished



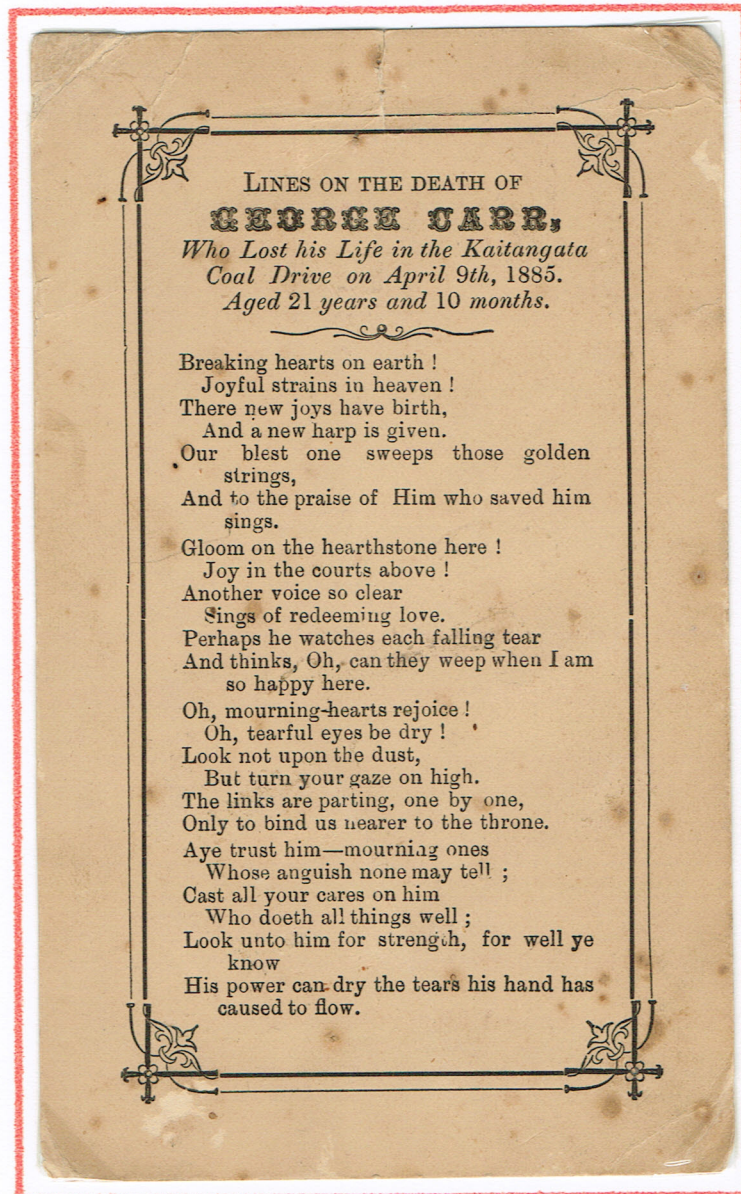


## Fatal Mine Accidents Kaitangata Mine

Apart from 34 miners killed in the Kaitangata Mine Disaster of 1879, there are 20 miners buried at the Kaitangata Cemeteries who have been killed in the Kaitangata Mine between 1885 and 1940. This information, contained in the History of Kaitangata, has been derived from existing headstones and cemetery records. Three are buried in the Southern Cemetery and the remainder interred at the Northern Cemetery.

George Carr is buried in the Southern Cemetery and is the oldest grave apart from those from the 1879 Disaster. His Grave stone reads "*George Carr, aged 22, killed coalmine 9 April 1885.*"

## Memorial Postcard

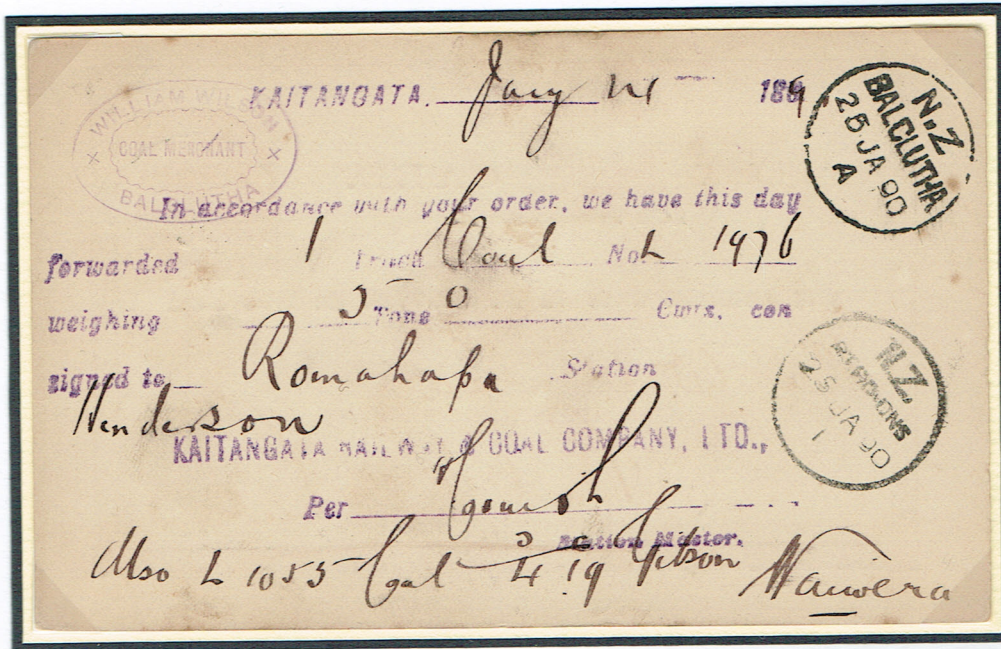


**Lines on the Death of  
GEORGE CARR**  
**Who Lost his Life in the Kaitangata  
Coal Drive on April 9th, 1885.  
Aged 21 years and 10 months.**



**DELIVERY ADVICE POSTAL STATIONERY**

1d Brown Queen Victoria [July 1886]



Kaitangata 24 JA 90; Balclutha 25 JA 90; RTPO-DNS 25 JA 90.

Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd. July 24 1890 forwarded 1 truck of coal No. 1976 weighing 5 tons; consigned to Romahapa Station also L 1055 4 tons 19 cwt. to Waiwera



Kaitangata 7 FE 90; Balclutha 7 FE 90

Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd. Feb 6, 1890 forwarded 1 truck of coal No. 613 weighing 4 tons 7 cwt. consigned to Balclutha Station

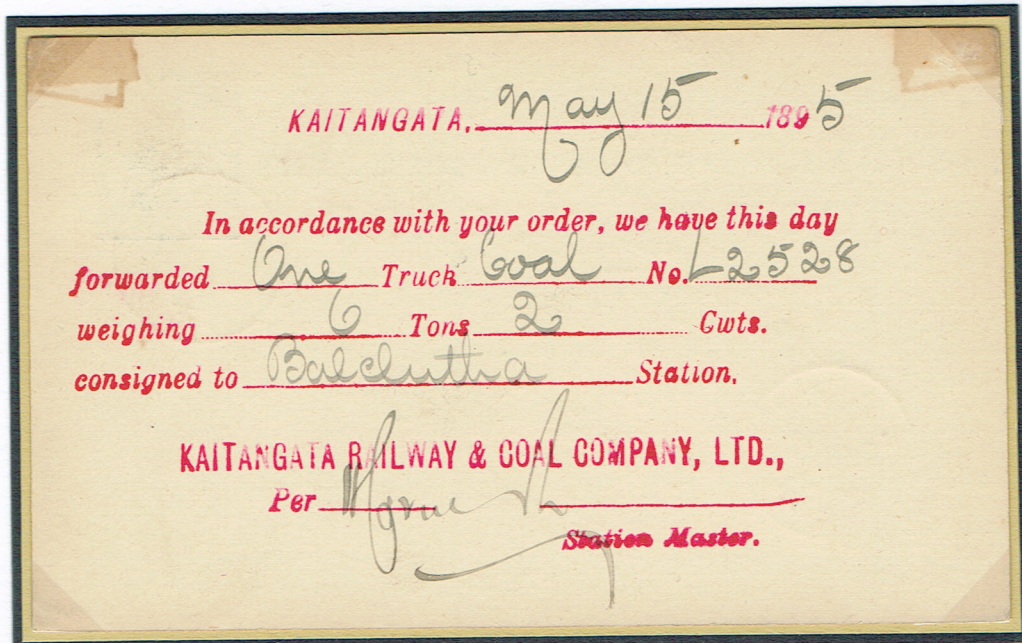


1d Blue Queen Victoria [30 May 1890]



Kaitangata 30 MY 90; Balclutha 30 MY 90 Earliest Recorded example

Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd., May 29 1890 [purple ink]forwarded 1 truck coal No. M181 weighing 4 tons 7 cwt. consigned to Balclutha Station.  
Also M 944 Coal 4t 8cwt to Romahapa and M 335 4t 5cwt to Kaihiku.



Kaitangata 15 MY 95; Balclutha 16 MY 95  
Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company Ltd., May 15, 1895  
forwarded one truck Coal No. L2528 weighing 6 tons 2 cwt. consigned to Balclutha Station.

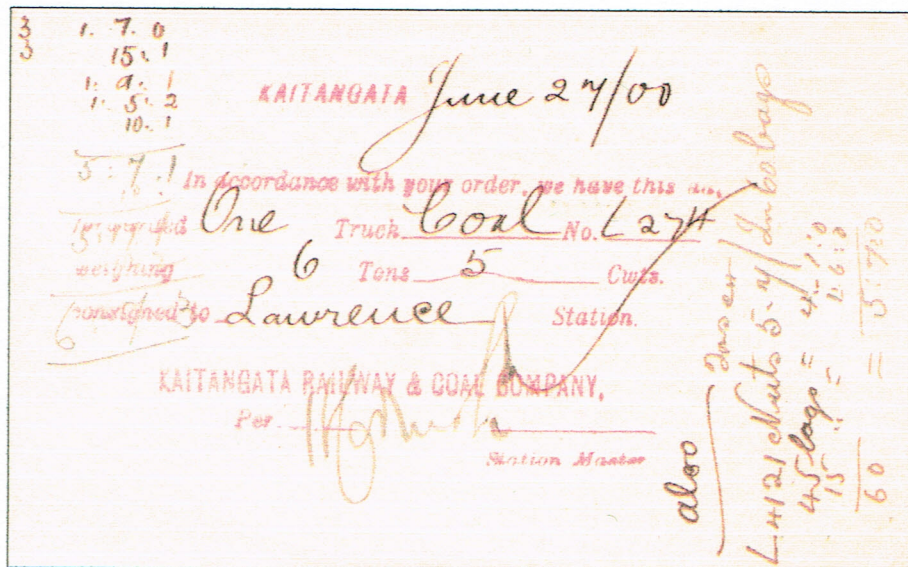


1d Green Queen Victoria [24 November 1899] – view at lower left



Kaitangata 27 JE 00; Milton 27 JE 00; Lawrence 27 JE 00

Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company June 27/00, forwarded one truck coal No. L274 weighing 6 tons 5 cwt. Consigned to Lawrence Station. Also L4121 Nuts 5 tons 7 cwt in 60 bags at £5/7/0d  
Scan copy below



[reduced scan]

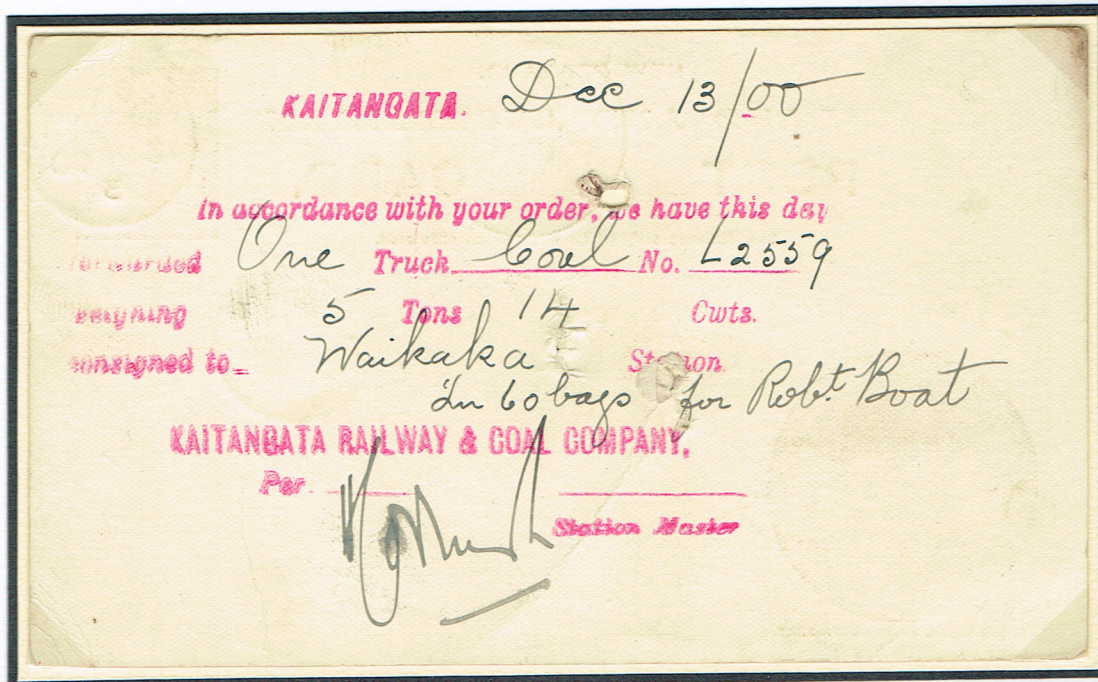


1d Brown Queen Victoria [January 1900] – Boer War scene at lower left



Kaitangata 11 DE 00; Clinton 11 DE 00; Gore [reverse] 12 DE 00.

Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company, Dec 11/00 forwarded one truck Nuts No. L2678 weighing 5 tons 6 cwts. Consigned to Gore Station. Also L891 Coal 6 tons 10 cwts.



Kaitangata 13 DE 00; Clinton 14 DE 00; Gore 14 DE 00.

Kaitangata Railway & Coal Company, Dec 13/00 forwarded one truck Coal No. L2559 weighing 5 tons 14 cwts. Consigned to Waikaka Station in 60 bags for Robt Boat.

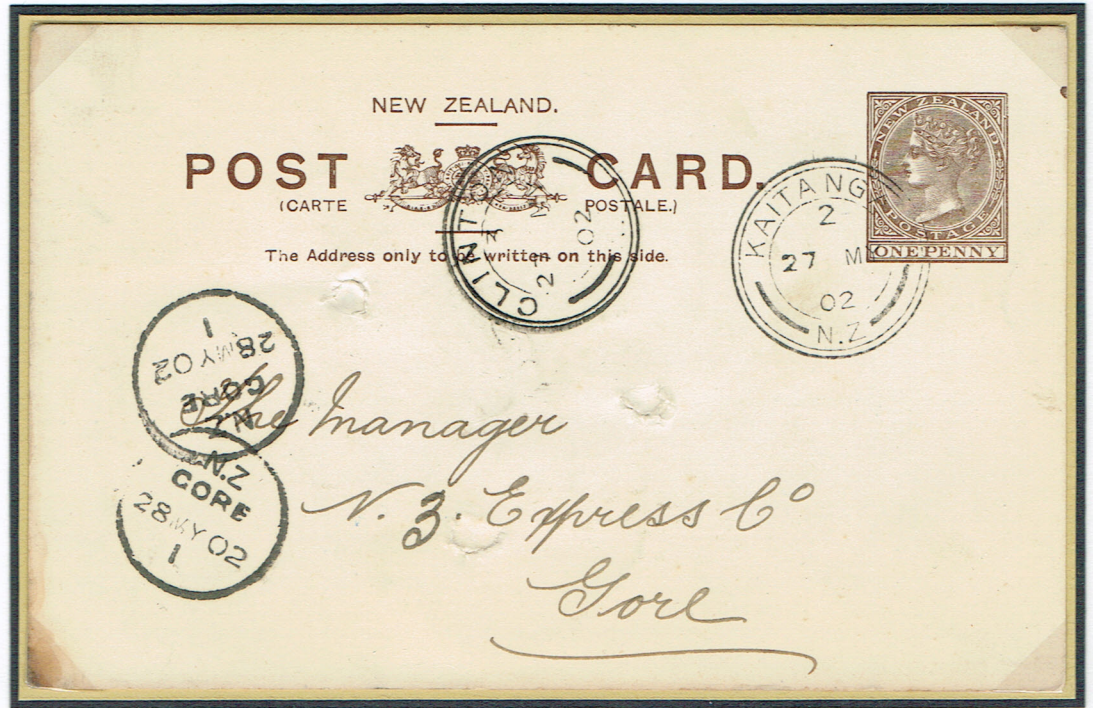






1d Brown  
Queen Victoria  
[1901]

The New Zealand  
Coal and Oil Co.,  
Limited  
Kaitangata.



**The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., LIMITED.**

Kaitangata, *Nov 15* 1901

We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order, we have this day forwarded the undermentioned Coal, consigned to *Gore* Station.

For The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., Ltd.,  
*Monahan* Station Master.

TRUCK No.	CLASS.	CONSIGNEE.	WEIGHT
<i>L2028</i>	<i>coal</i>	<i>Express Co</i>	<i>6.5</i>
<i>L3986</i>	<i>Kuts</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>5.2</i>
<i>m881</i>	<i>coal</i>	<i>M<sup>rs</sup> Stewart, Groydon</i>	<i>4.0</i>

**The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., LIMITED.**

Kaitangata, *May 22* 1902

We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order, we have this day forwarded the undermentioned Coal, consigned to *Gore* Station.

For The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., Ltd.,  
*Monahan* Station Master.

TRUCK No.	CLASS.	CONSIGNEE.	WEIGHT
<i>L1648</i>	<i>Peas</i>	<i>Express Co</i>	<i>5.8</i>



1d Brown Queen Victoria  
scene at lower left  
[September 1901]

**The New Zealand  
Coal and Oil Co.,  
Limited  
Kaitangata.**

Kaitangata 19 MY 02  
R.P.O. DN-S 20 MY 02  
Gore 20 MY 02

**The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co.,  
LIMITED.**

Kaitangata, *May 19* 1902

We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order we have this day forwarded the undermentioned Coal, consigned to *Gore* Station.

For The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., Ltd.,  
*H. J. [Signature]* Station Master.

TRUCK NO.	CLASS	CONSIGNEE.	WEIGHT
L410	Nuts	Express Co	4.19
L2457	"	"	5.4
L507	Coal	"	5.18
L181	Nuts	"	5.8
L323	"	"	5.9
L2268	"	"	5.10
L170	"	"	5.9
L4857	"	"	5.8
L541	"	"	5.10
L4131	"	"	5.10
L1606	"	"	5.2

NEW ZEALAND.

**POST CARD.**  
(CARTE POSTALE)


The Address only to be written on this side.

N.Z. GORE  
20.11.02



ONE PENNY

N.Z. MR. NGATA



LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON.

*The Manager  
N.Z. Express Co  
Gore*







1½d King George V Yellow-Brown New Die by Perkins Bacon & Co., with white border around portrait.  
 Issued September 1921

**The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., Ltd. Proprietors of Kaitangata Coal.**

**The New Zealand Coal and Oil Co., Ltd.**  
**PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL.**

Kaitangata, *Dec 17* 1921

*We beg to advise you that, in accordance with your esteemed order, we have this day forwarded the undermentioned Coal, consigned to*

*Dunedin* Station.

From THE NEW ZEALAND COAL AND OIL CO., LTD.

*Moore* Station Master.

TRUCK No.	CLASS.	CONSIGNED.	WEIGHT.	
			TONS.	CWTS.
<i>69499</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>31 hi Leau</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>15</i>



**Kaitangata 19 DE 21 to  
 Anderson Bay, Dunedin.**

One truck Coal 7 tons 15 cwts.  
 consigned Dunedin Station

[Reduced Colour Scan]







**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd. Proprietors of Kaitangata Coal.**

**Provisional Postcard** first issued April 1932: King Edward VII Reply Card divided and both portions stamped with impression of ½ d King George V die alongside the ½ d King Edward VII. Reply Card deleted in green. Overprinted **HALFPENNY** in Blue – reissued June 1, 1932



Stirling 13 AP 33 to Hillside Workshops [Railway] Dunedin

**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd.**  
**PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL.**

Kaitangata, *13 APR 1933* 1933  
 We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order we have this day forwarded the undermentioned.  
*The undersigned* Stationmaster.

TRUCK NO.	CONSIGNEE	STATION	CLASS	WEIGHT	
				TONS	CWT.
<i>L12598</i>	<i>Hillside</i>	<i>Hillside</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>19</i>

The Coal is sold on Truck at Stirling, and when railage to destination is prepaid, it is done for the convenience of the consignee.

**Kaitangata 13 Apr 1933** forwarded Truck L12598 to Hillside Station Coal Nuts 6 tons 19 cwts.  
 Note: in text at lower edge "Stirling" is spelled "Sterling" - Reduced Scan



Provisional Postcard 1d Field Marshall overprinted HALFPENNY in blue [1 June 1932]

**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd.**  
**PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL.**

Kaitangata, 19 JUL 1932 193

*We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order  
 we have this day forwarded the undermentioned.*

*J.H. Muddlemass* Stationmaster.

TRUCK No.	CONSIGNEE	STATION	CLASS	WEIGHT	
				TONS	CWT.
L152	Workshops	Hillside	Nuts	7	8
		Received 21/5/32 J.H.M.			

The Coal is sold on Truck at Stirling, and when railage to destination is prepaid,  
 it is done for the convenience of the consignee.

**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd** 19 Jul 1932 forwarding Truck L152 of Nuts weighing 7 tons 8 cwts  
 to [Railway] Workshops and Hillside Station – annotated received 21/5/32

**Kaitangata** 19 JL 32 [reduced scan]







½d King George V  
postcard  
[reissued 1932].

Stirling 23 NO 33

1 Truck 'Nuts' to  
Benhar

**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd.**  
PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL.

Kaitangata, ..... **13 MAY 1937** 1937

*We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order we have this day forwarded the undermentioned.*

..... Stationmaster.

TRUCK No.	CONSIGNEE	STATION	CLASS	WEIGHT	
				TONS	CWT.
L 6571	M. McKeown & Son	Stirling	Peas	9	12

This Coal is sold on Truck at Stirling, and when railage to destination is prepaid, it is done for the convenience of the consignee.

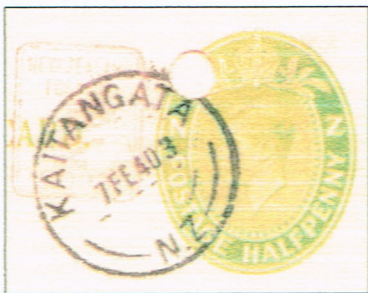


½d Fantail Postcard  
[issued 1 May 1935]

Kaitangata 3 MY 37  
1 Truck 'Peas' to  
Benhar

½d King George VI  
[issued 25 July 1939]  
uprated with ½d Meter  
[rate increase 1 FE 40]

Kaitangata 7 FE 40



**Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd.**  
PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL.

Kaitangata, ..... **7 FEB 1940** 1940

*We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order we have this day forwarded the undermentioned.*

..... Stationmaster.

TRUCK No.	CONSIGNEE	STATION	CLASS	WEIGHT	
				TONS	CWT.
L 2016	M. McKeown & Son	Stirling	Coal	6	11

This Coal is sold on Truck at Stirling, and when railage to destination is prepaid, it is done for the convenience of the consignee.

1 Truck Coal to Benhar



One Penny King George VI

Carmine [March 1940]  
Yellow-Green [April 1941]

Kaitangata 20 OC 42

# Kaitangata Coal Company Ltd.

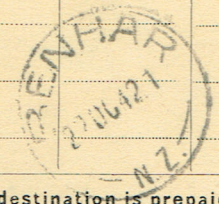
PROPRIETORS OF KAITANGATA COAL.

Kaitangata, 20 OCT 1941 194

We beg to advise you that in accordance with your esteemed order we have this day forwarded the undermentioned.

Stationmaster.

TRUCK NO.	CONSIGNEE	STATION	CLASS	WEIGHT	
				TONS	CWT.
L <sup>a</sup> 16334	M <sup>s</sup> Skg. & Son	Stg	Peas	9	14



This Coal is sold on Truck at Stirling, and when railage to destination is prepaid, it is done for the convenience of the consignee.

INLAND



POST-CARD.



M/s. McSkimming & Son,  
Benhar.

Kaitangata 4 NO 42

1 Truck 'Peas' to Benhar

Kaitangata 7 MY 41

1 Truck 'Nuts' to Benhar

RD.



Messrs. McSkimming & Son Ltd.,

BENHAR.







**Delivery of Kaitangata Coal**

1d Queen Victoria Postcard [Issued May 1890] Dunedin 16 MR 97

Addressed to "Mr A Kitchener, Coal Merchant Castle St, Dunedin.

Message reads "Please send Mrs Grater 1/2 ton Kaitangata Coal."



All Kaitangata Coal was sent via railway on the Company line to Stirling then via the Government railway. Coal advice postal cards were sent advising the delivery details [truck numbers, coal type and weight, Station]. Each Railway wagon had an attached card with similar details.

<b>KAITANGATA COAL.</b>	
From THE NEW ZEALAND COAL AND OIL COMPANY, LIMITED.	
To <u>Gore</u> Station <u>Urgent</u>	
Consignee: <u>N.Z. Express Co</u>	
Date: <u>8/4/02</u>	No. of Truck: <u>L141</u>

Kaitangata Coal  
8/4/02: Truck L1415: 4 ton  
19 cwt. to Gore Station  
"Urgent"

<b>KAITANGATA COAL.</b>			
FROM THE NEW ZEALAND COAL AND OIL COMPANY, LIMITED.			
To <u>Gore</u> Station			
Consignee: <u>N.Z. Express Co</u>			
Date: <u>25/5/03</u>	No. of Truck: <u>L96120</u>	Tons: <u>8</u>	Cwt.: <u>9</u>

Kaitangata Coal  
25/5/03: Truck L96120: 6 ton 9 cwt.  
to Gore Station



**KAITANGATA COAL RECEIPT**

Account for **Kaitangata Coal** dated 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1912 sent to Dunsandel

HIGH STREET.  
OPPOSITE TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

P.O. Box 363  
DUNEDIN.

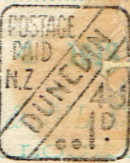
*Dunedin 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1912*

*Mr Hugh Brown*

*In account with Dunsandel*

*The New Zealand Coal and Oil Company, Limited.*

*Proprietors of* **KAITANGATA COAL.**

<i>1912</i>	<i>June 1</i>	To A/c rendered	£17 19 10
		Less. 9 tons @ 1/-	" 9 "
		" 2 1/2% on £15:9:5	" 7 9 " 16 9
			17 3 1
		RECEIVED PAYMENT.	
			
		N. Z. COAL & OIL CO. LTD. O. G. HART Secretary	16 12 6
		To Balance	" 10 7

1d POSTAGE PAID from Moss Machine 4, Model C Number 48 franking machine [with die type introduced in 1910] used by New Zealand Coal & Oil Company as receipt payment.



2d Yellow King George V lettercard [May 1921]

## Kaitangata Coal.

The N. Z. Coal & Oil Co. Ltd.  
Postal Address:  
Box 363, DUNEDIN.

Dear Sir or Madam,

Owing to the heavy demand for Coal in the Winter, there is usually some considerable delay in executing orders at that time of the year.

We would suggest, therefore, that you consider the question of placing your orders for Coal within the next few months, in order to avoid the possibility of having to wait for supplies if not ordered until the Winter.

As you are no doubt aware, "Kaitangata" is the favourite Coal for cooking and heating purposes, and is the most economical Coal on the market.

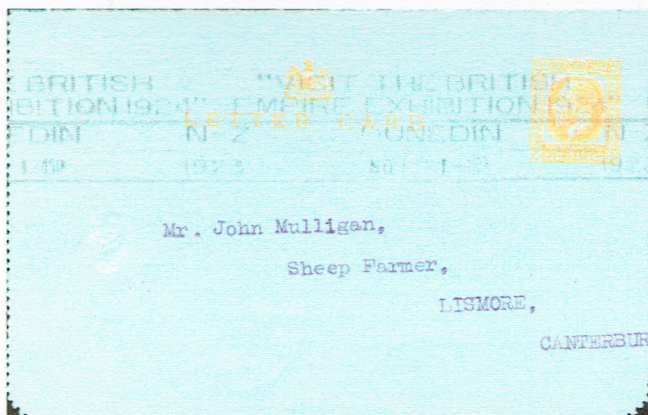
We shall be pleased to supply any information regarding prices, etc., and any orders you send us, either direct or through one of our Agents, will have our best attention.

Thanking you in anticipation,  
Yours faithfully,

*J. W. Robinson*

29th October, 1923.

Secretary.



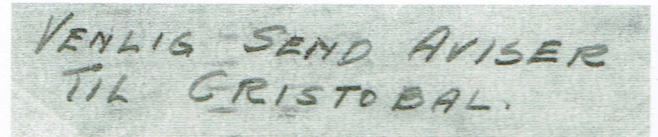
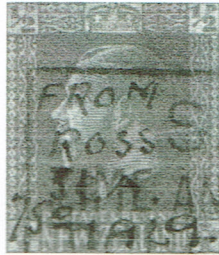
**Kaitangata Coal**  
**Promotional Lettercard**  
Dated 29<sup>th</sup> October 1923.

Dunedin NO 1 1923;  
Hinds 2 NO 23;  
Lismore 3 NO 23



**C A Larsen "FROM ROSS SEA 75° 1929" - Byrd Expedition & Whaling Voyage.**

Envelope with 2 stamps with manuscript annotation "FROM ROSS SEA 75° 1929" additional 1d stamp - making correct foreign postage of 2½d - cancelled at Dunedin NZ 18 FEB 1929. Annotation on reverse and Oslo 30.III.30



Manuscript Enhanced: Oslo backstamp and annotation

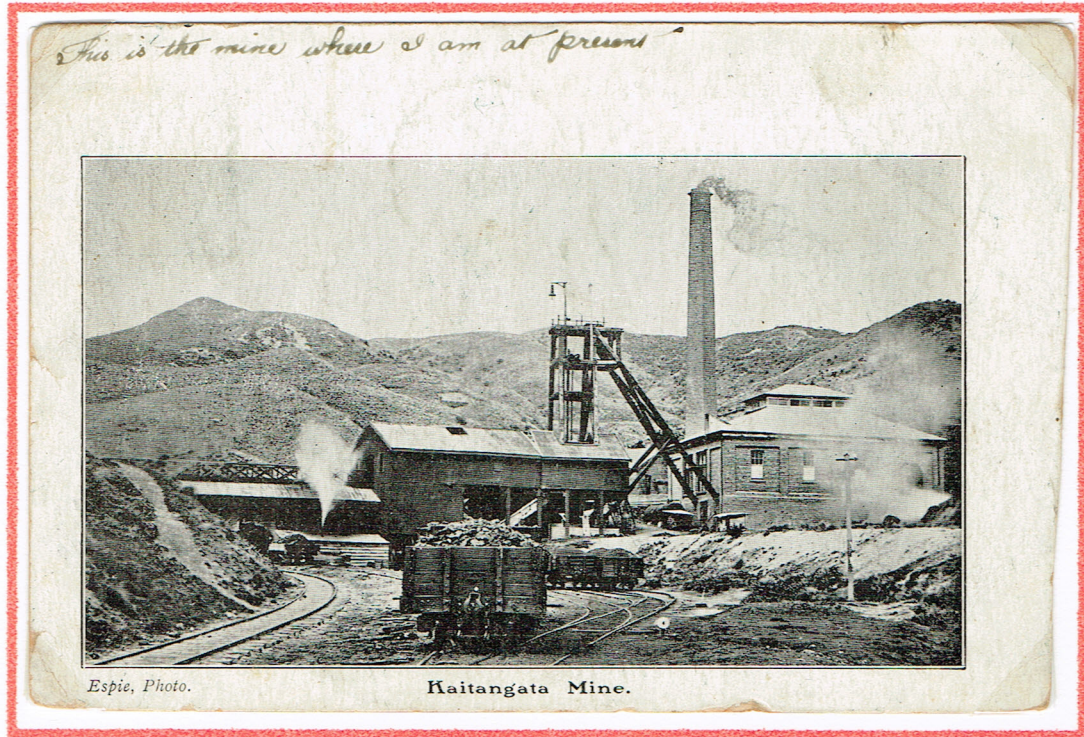


Richard Byrd boarded the *C A Larsen* at San Pedro, California October 10, 1928. The ship arrived in Wellington, New Zealand on November 5, 1928, unloaded at went on Norwegian Whaling voyage under Oscar Nilsen to the Ross Sea. The ships of the Byrd expedition were *City of New York* and *Eleanor Boling*. The *C A Larsen* had *City of New York* under tow December 15-23, 1928. Byrd landed on the antarctic continent December 24, 1928. On February 28, 1929 the *C A Larsen* met with the *City of New York* and transferred a load of Coal.

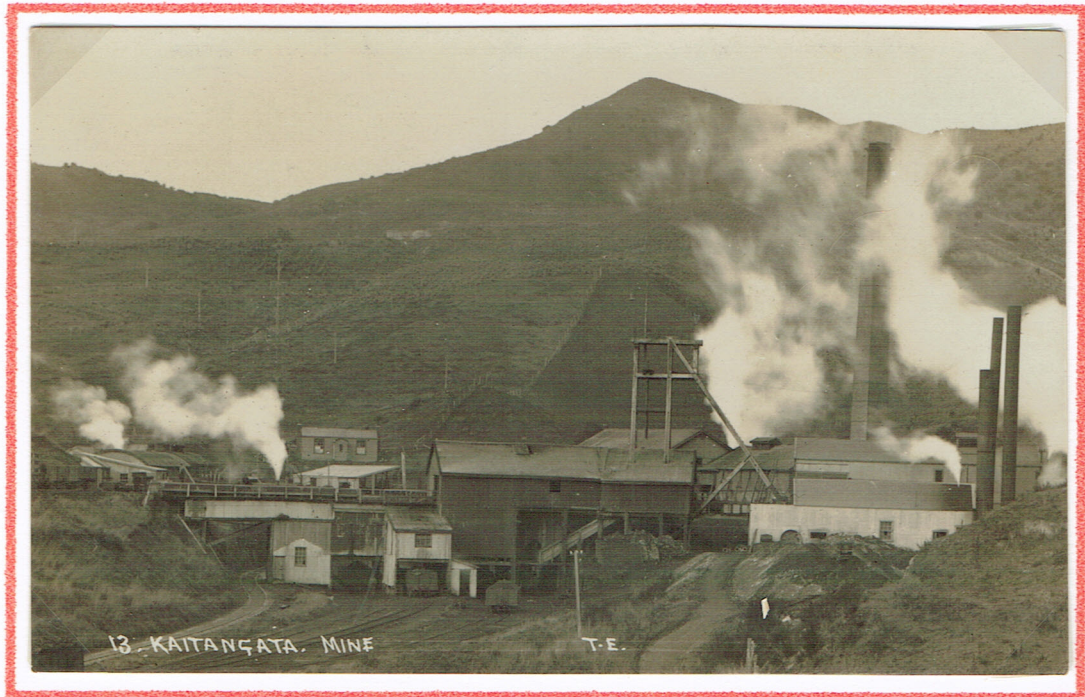
Manuscript applied at **Antarctic Circle 75° S** while whaling in the Ross Sea 1929 after assisting the *City of New York*. The load of coal later transferred would have been loaded at Dunedin and come from the Kaitangata Coal Field by railway.



**KAITANGATA MINING POSTCARDS**



**Kaitangata Mine - Espie Photo. Undivided Back - Message "This is the mine where I am at present"  
Kaitangata "H" Class on 1/2d Mt Cook, 9 AP 06  
to Bristol received MY 14 06 with "T 5" postage due with handstruck 1d.**



**13 KAITANGATA. MINE "T.E" Real Photograph**



## Kaitangata Mining Postcards



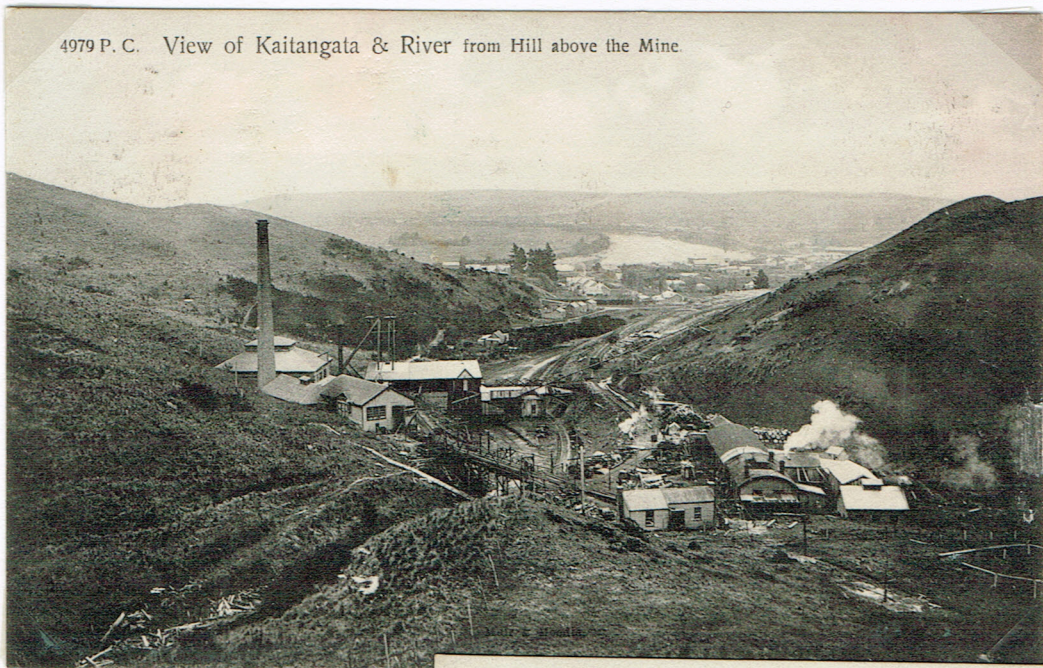
**MOUTH OF KAITANGATA MINE** - Universal Series, Dunedin - divided back  
Gore 15 MY 13 Violet writes to her music mistress in East Gore ½d Edward.



**Kaitangata Mine - Untitled Real Photograph**  
Kaitangata "H" Class 1 OC 13 on 1d Dominion asking Joe why he has not written!  
Message in part *"Do you know this old place?"*



4979 P. C. View of Kaitangata & River from Hill above the Mine.



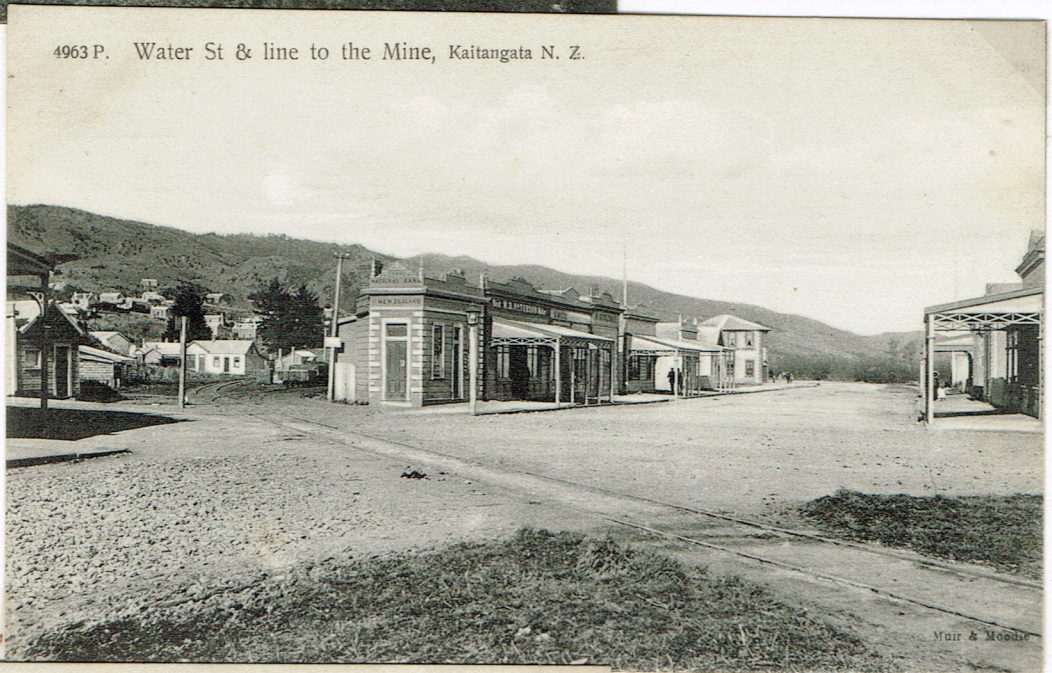
**Muir & Moodie Postcards  
Copyright Series of Views  
Divide back.**

**4979 P.C. View of  
Kaitangata & River from  
Hill above the Mine.**

**Kaitangata "H" Class  
15 AP 07 to Lovell's Flat**

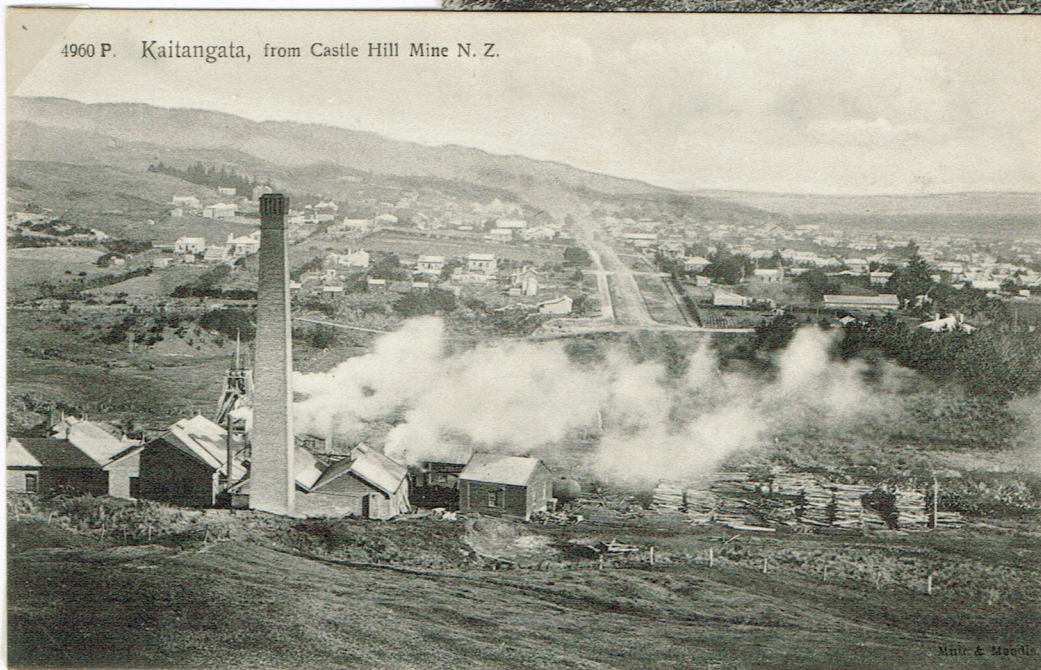
**4963 P. Water St & line to  
Mine, Kaitangata N.Z.**

4963 P. Water St & line to the Mine, Kaitangata N. Z.



Muir & Moodie

4960 P. Kaitangata, from Castle Hill Mine N. Z.



Muir & Moodie

**4960 P. Kaitangata, from  
Castle Hill Mine N.Z.**

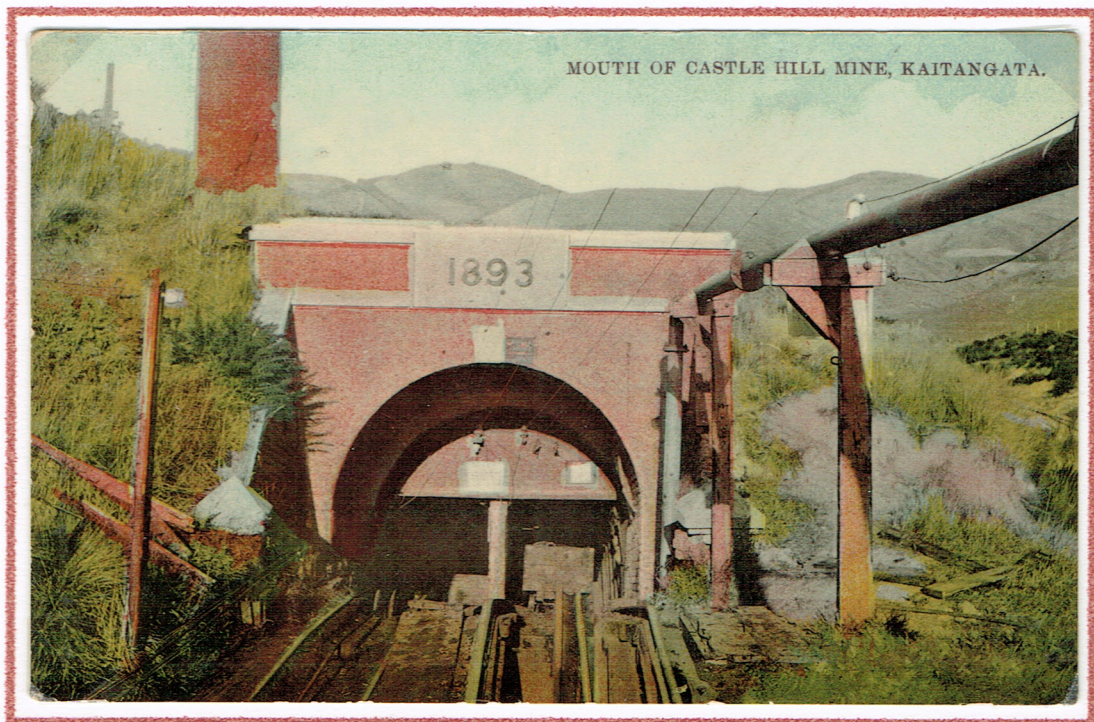


## CASTLE HILL MINE POSTCARDS

The Castle Hill Mine opened in 1893 and close 1929. From 1901 it was operated only in winter to meet demand except between June 1906 and July 1907 when the Kaitangata Mine was closed



**CASTLE HILL MINE, KAITANGATA** [Universal Series, Dunedin] divided back  
Kaitangata "H" Class 10 DE 10 used locally



**MOUTH OF CASTLE HILL MINE, KAITANGATA** [Universal Series, Dunedin, Printed in Saxony]