

PLAQUES OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

From the early endeavours of Sir Robert Stout and Victoria's founding Professors Kirk, Easterfield, Rankine Brown, Hunter, Mackenzie, Laby, von Zedlitz and Cotton, through to the twenty-first century Nobel Prize winning genius of Professor Alan MacDiarmid, the international man of science, Victoria has named significant buildings and spaces to celebrate and commemorate the achievements of its people. The University also remembers those who served in both World Wars.

This register of plaques, located across the University, offers insights to those who have contributed to Victoria since it was established in 1897 to commemorate the sixtieth year of the reign of her Majesty Queen Victoria. These plaques do not include those that accompany art works.

KELBURN CAMPUS

Hunter Building
Level 1, exterior near the
Memorial Window on the Kirk
Building side

This stone was laid in memory of the members of this college who fell in the Great War 1914 – 1919.

Mortalitate relicta vivunt immortalitate induti



Hunter Building
Level 1, inside original
entrance vestibule

The Hunter Building

Designed by F Penty and EM Black and constructed between 1904 and 1923, this historic building was saved from demolition through the efforts of the Friends of Hunter, the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and the University. It was strengthened and restored between 1991 and 1994 by Victoria University with financial contributions from: Friends of Hunter Incorporated, New Zealand Lottery Grants Board, The Todd Foundation, Thomas George Macarthy Trust, the Sutherland Self Help Trust, Wellington City Council.

Architects: Ampersand Architects Ltd, assisted by Craig Craig Moller Ltd. Services Engineers: Stephenson and Turner New Zealand Ltd.

Contractor: McKee-Fehl Constructions Ltd.

Structural Engineers: Beca Carter Hollings and Ferner Ltd.



Quantity Surveyor: Dean Murray and Partners Ltd.

**Hunter Building
Level 1, lift foyer**

Foundation Campaign for Victoria University 1994.

The significant support for the campaign of the following commercial suppliers to Victoria University is gratefully acknowledged: AESEC Association Electronic and Security Systems Ltd; Apple Computers; Craig Craig Moller; Damba Steel Furniture Wellington Ltd; Ericsson Communications Ltd; Feltex Carpets New Zealand; Fuji Xerox New Zealand Ltd; Haines Recruitment Advertising; OTC Office Supplies Ltd; P&O Crothalls; Stephenson and Turner New Zealand Ltd.



**Hunter Building
Level 1, foyer**

The first home of Victoria College resulted from a design competition won by F Penty and EM Blake.

It was constructed by Alan Maguire in four stages opening in 1906, 1910, 1922 and 1923. Named in 1959 after Sir Thomas Hunter, the first fulltime Principal, the Hunter Building was deemed an earthquake risk and evacuated in 1974. The efforts of the Friends of Hunter saved it from demolition.

In 1985 a new architectural competition was held and joint winners were Gordon Moller from Craig Craig Moller and Grahame Anderson from Ampersand Architects, who eventually won the commission in 1986. Construction by McKee Fehl took place 1991-1993. Unveiled to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the laying of the Foundation Stone by Leone Harkness, Chairman of the Friends of Hunter, on 27 August 2004.



**Hunter Building
Main staircase landing
leading to Level 2**

The Foundation Stone of this College was laid by the Governor of this Colony
27th August 1904

Sapientia Magis Auro Desideranda



**Hunter Building
Council Chamber, Level 2,
under the Memorial Window**

War memorial plaque

Inscribed below are the names of the members of this college who gave their lives in the Great War 1914-18

(to see the full list of names please visit:

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/plaques.html - or visit the plaque in person)

Brevis a natvra vita nobis data est at memoria bene redditae vitae sempiterna



**Hunter Building
Council Chamber, on
pillars (four plaques)**

Members of the College who served in the Great War 1914-1918

(to see the full list of names please visit:

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/plaques.html - or visit the plaque in person).



**Hunter Building
Level 3, outside HULT323**

**C3
Supporting Learning at Victoria University**

This plaque commemorates the support of staff and alumni of Victoria University of Wellington who donated funds to help preserve the memory of the C3 lecture theatre. The fund acknowledges the time that has been spent teaching and learning in the lecture space since the 1920s.

Led by the Chancellor at the time, Elizabeth Orr, donations to the fund were

received over a number of years from 1994. The fund now provides scholarships for second year students from any discipline within the University.

The impetus for the fund was sparked by the restoration of the Hunter Building in the 1990s, which reminded many alumni and staff of their close connection with one of the key rooms in the University's early history, renowned for the steepness of its tiered seating.

The South wing of the Hunter Building was constructed in 1923, originally to provide teaching space for the Physics Department. The lecture theatre, now known as HULT323, was originally known as C3, as each level of the Hunter Building was labelled alphabetically.

One of the supporters of the fund was Sir Frank Holmes, Emeritus Professor in the School of Economics and Finance at Victoria. He taught his first lectures in C3 in the 1950s and remembers being very nervous and slightly daunted by the looming tiered room before him:

"Most students were part-time, and the majority of classes were held after 4pm. Sometimes it was difficult to capture their attention in the 7-8pm classes on Fridays."

The architects for both the North and South wings of the Hunter Building were Swan, Lawrence and Swan, who worked in practice together from 1915 until Lawrence's death in 1933. Buildings by all three architects still remain in Wellington, with John Swan, in particular, designing a number of landmark Wellington buildings, including Erskine College and the former Clarendon Hotel on the corner of Courtenay Place and Taranaki Street.



**Hunter Building
Level 3, outside HULT323**

C3 Fund
Janice Campbell
Edith Campion
Professor Margaret Clark CMG
Colin Blair OBE
Douglas Fraser OBE
Bernard Galvin CB
Emeritus Professor Ian Gordon

Sir Frank Holmes
Professor Patrick Hutchings
Margaret Jeffries
Emeritus Professor Stuart Johnston
Elizabeth Orr CNZM
John Perham
William and Margery Renwick
Dr Eddie Robertson
The Hon Whetu Tirikatene-Sullivan ONZ
Beverley Wakem CBE
Peter Young
C3 Professors and Students



**Hunter Building
In the courtyard under a tree**

Celebrating the life of John R. McCreary

Professor of Social Work 1971-1982

Lest auld acquaintance be forgot.



**Kelburn Parade
Located on the footpath
facing 18 Kelburn Parade**

A seat for everyone and no one.

EM Kingston



**Adam Art Gallery
Via Gate 3, exterior near the
entrance**

Adam Art Gallery Te Pātaka Toi
Opened by His Excellency, The Rt Hon Sir Michael Hardie-Boys, GNZM, Governor
General of New Zealand, on 22 September 1999.
Chancellor: Douglas White QC
Vice-Chancellor: Professor Michael Irving Athfield Architects Ltd, LT McGuinness
Ltd



**Student Union Building
Main staircase between
Levels 2 and 3.**

The construction of the Student Union Extension was a joint venture between the
Victoria University of Wellington Students' Association Trust and Victoria University.
Opened by Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard, GCMG, DBE Governor General
of New Zealand on May 13, 1992.

Architect: Athfield Architects Ltd
Building Contractor: Mainzeal Construction Ltd.



**Student Union Building
Level 2 – atrium**

New Zealand Institute of Architects National Award for Architecture 1993 Student
Union Extension Victoria University of Wellington

Architect: Athfield Architects Ltd



**Student Union Building
Level 2 - atrium**

Sapienta Magis Auro Desideranda

George Finlay Dixon CBE

A Foundation student who during 50 years has continuously given unsparing
service in advancing the welfare of this College and its students. He has done
much to incorporate the spirit of unselfish devotion in the tradition of the College.
Students of 1899-1949 hereby record their gratitude and esteem.



Student Union Building
Track below the building
South end to Mount St

In Living Memory of Anne Butler, S.B.S. Technician, 1900-1991



von Zedlitz Building
Level 1 exterior – South side
of building, left of the
entrance steps

This garden was given in memory of Audrey B. O'Brien B.Sc.

1927-1981

By her family



Te Herenga Waka Marae
Behind 46 Kelburn Parade

Te Tumu Herenga Waka

6 o Hakihea 1986



Kirk Building
Level 3 foyer

Harry Borrer Kirk, first Professor of Biology, appointed 1903.

This building is founded upon his great services to Victoria College which stands enriched by his inspiration and example.

Colleagues and students of 1903-1940 hereby record their gratitude, affection and esteem.

HE TAUMATA * HE WHARE NUI



**Murphy Building
North end planter**

**Maurice Hugh Frederick Wilkins
1962 Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine**

Born Pongaroa, 1916. Lived here at 30 Kelburn Parade as a boy. Received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine with Francis Harry Compton Crick and James Dewey Watson, “for their discoveries concerning the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significant for information transfer in living material.”

In 1945 Maurice Wilkins decided to study the molecular structure of genes. In 1947 he began studying genes in living cells, DNA, and viruses using new types of optical microscopes. In 1950 he concentrated on x-ray diffraction of DNA with Raymond Gosling and Alexander Stokes, and they discovered that DNA was helical. In January 1951 Rosalind E. Franklin (1920-1958) joined the work at King’s College, followed by Herbert Wilson in September 1952, and their work considerably aided the X-ray studies. In April 1953, Nature published the Watson Crick model of DNA. The crystallographic data supporting the model appeared in the same issue in two separate papers by Rosalind Franklin and Maurice Wilkins.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the publication of the discovery, this plaque was unveiled on 11 February 2003 by the Nobel Laureates in Chemistry who together discovered and developed conductive polymers: Professor Alan J Heeger, Professor Alan G MacDiarmid (Victoria University of Wellington alumnus), Professor Hideki Shirakawa.

Maurice Hugh Frederick Wilkins
Nobel Laureate



**Kirk Building
Level 3, Ilott Cafe**

Jack Ilott B.Com 1940

Student, after retirement, from 1982

Generous benefactor of the university and donor of this coffee lounge in 1985.



**Old Kirk Building, under a
tree on steps leading up to
the Quad**

In memory of Jan Pinborg, 1937-1982

Professor of Classical Philology at the University of Copenhagen

This tree was planted by his friends at Victoria University



**Kirk Building
Level 2**

The H.D. Gordon Herbarium

Professor and Head Botany Department

1947 - 1977



**Kirk Building
Level 5**

The Heyes Laboratory

JK Heyes, Professor of Botany

1970 - 1993



12 Wai-te-ata Road
Seat in top garden

Presented by Mrs A Danilow in memory of her husband Dr Nicholas Danilow who pioneered the teaching of Russian at Victoria University of Wellington from 1942-1967.



12 Wai-te-ata Road
Seat in top garden

For my Dad
Ron Thwaite
Head Carpenter & Locksmith here at Vic for 32 yrs
1963 – 1995
“Died on the job”
4 October 1995



Cotton Building
Northeast courtyard

In memory of Jim Ansell

Professor of Geophysics

d. 28 July 1993



Easterfield Building
Level 0, main entrance

Sapienta Magis Auro Desideranda



**Easterfield Building
Level 0, main entrance
foyer**

This stone was laid on 15th May 1956 by
The Rt. Hon. S.G. Holland C.H.M.P
Prime Minister of New Zealand
Gray Young Morton & Calder Architects
Fletcher Construction Company Limited Contractors



**Laby Building
Level 1, foyer**

Victoria University of Wellington Te Whare Wananga o te Upoko o te Ika a Maui
The Extensions to the Laby Laboratories of the
School of Chemical and Physical Sciences
Te Wānanga Matū were opened on 22 July, 1999, by Alumnus Professor Michael
Kelly, FRS, FEng
Chancellor: Douglas White, QC
Vice-Chancellor: Professor Michael Irving
Head of School: Associate Professor James Johnston



**Half-way down the steps from
Te Puni Village to Devon
Street, via Gate 7.**

This Kowhai Tree commemorates the founding of the Speech Communication
Association (NZ) Inc following a meeting held on this campus in October 1952.

Presented by The New Zealand Speech Board November 1992.



**Cotton Building
Northeast courtyard**

Planted in memory of Alf Harris

1920 - 1982



**Cotton Building
Level 5,
Beacon Room, CO508**

Beacon Room

The Beacon Room is named in honour of Professor Peter Barrett
(The first Director of the Antarctic Research Centre from 1971 – 2007)

In recognition for his work on the Beacon Supergroup, a succession of Devonian to Triassic (420-200 million years old) sedimentary strata that stretches the length of the Transantarctic Mountains.

Peter's discovery of the first vertebrate fossil remains in Antarctica highlighted the environmental significance of the Beacon Supergroup, and his continued research has been fundamental in promoting a better understanding of the Antarctic environment and its role in the global climate system.



Carpark between the Wai-te-ata Apartments and the Boyd Wilson clubrooms

In Memorial

This plaque commemorates an oak tree that graced this site for forty years. It was felled by the bureaucracy in December 1990 to make space for one more car.



**Rankine Brown,
Garden bed outside**

This University Sucks



**Cotton Building
Level 5, Antarctic Research
Centre, CO505**

Antarctic Research Centre

Benefactor
Lee Seng Tee

Endowed Development Fund

Silver Sponsors

2004
Antarctica New Zealand
Webster Drilling & Exploration Ltd
Peter Barrett
Warren Dickinson

2005
Austral Pacific Energy Ltd

Bronze Sponsors

2004
Tony Allen
Richard Barwick
Dave Bennett & Jenni Lean
Ray Dibble
Robin & Feriel Falconer
John Gamble
James & Diana Kennett
Harry Keys
Barry Kohn

2005
New Zealand Sea Ice Programme
Colin Bull
George Grindley
Michael & June Hannah
David Kelly



Barrie McKelvey
John Nankervis
Bryan Sissons
Tim Stern
Daniel Zwartz

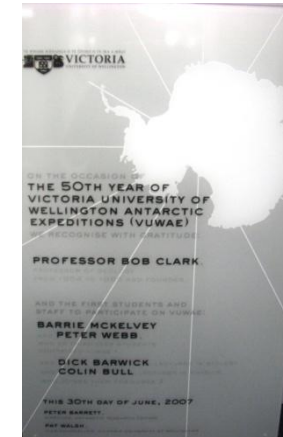
**Cotton Building
Level 5, Antarctic Research
Centre, CO505**

On the occasion of the 50th year of Victoria University of Wellington Antarctic Expeditions (VUWAE)

We recognise with gratitude:
Professor Bob Clark, Professor of Geology from 1954 to 1985 and founder

And the first students and staff to participate on VUWAE:
Barrie McKelvey and Peter Webb
Dick Barwick and Colin Bull

This 30th day of June, 2007
Peter Barrett, Director of Antarctic Research Centre
Pat Walsh, Vic Chancellor, Victoria University of Wellington



**Cotton Building
West side in garden bed
via Gate 6, Kelburn Parade**

Brian Croton
BC 53
18 years dedicated service
May the fish always bite
May your horse come in
May the beer always be cold



KARORI CAMPUS

Tennant Block
Level 3, foyer adjacent to the
main meeting room

Teachers College Crest 1880 - 2005



Tennant Block
Level 3, foyer opposite
the main reception

Foundation of the Teacher's College 1980

Founded in Thorndon in 1880 the Wellington Teachers' Training College moved from Kelburn to this site in 1970. In 1988 the College became the Wellington College of Education and in January 2005 the College merged with Victoria University to become the Victoria University of Wellington College of Education.



Karori Quad

Presented by staff and students of the Teacher's College 1997



Panckhurst Block
WJ Scott Education Library
Level 0

Staff and students who went to World War I and II and Allen Ward, a recipient of the Victoria Cross.



**Theatre Block
Outside THK 4 Theatre above
stairs level 0 to 1**

This plate marks the completion of the main buildings of Wellington Teachers College following two contracts begun in 1966 and 1973.

The architects were Toomath Wilson Irvine Anderson and Beca Carter Hollings & Ferner were the structural engineers.

Stage One was built by Walsh Construction Ltd and Angus Constructions Ltd build Stage Two

The first contract was carried out for the Wellington Education Board and the second for the Wellington Teachers College Council.



PIPITEA CAMPUS

**Bunny Street, Lambton Quay.
Affixed to boulder in the
garden at the South/East side
of the building**

Rutherford House

So named to commemorate New Zealand's most famous scientist Baron Rutherford of Nelson, O.M., F.R.S, (1871 – 1937) whose research laid the foundations of modern nuclear physics.

Rutherford House, headquarters of the New Zealand Electricity Department, was officially opened by –

The Rt. Hon. Norman Kirk, Prime Minister of New Zealand, on 26 November, 1973.



**COASTAL ECOLOGY
LABORATORY**

396 The Esplanade, Island Bay.
Attached to wooden 'ribs' of the building

"Architectural Elements"

These "Architectural Elements", conceived as part of the landscape design, were constructed partly using timber recycled from the original Victoria University Marine Laboratory by school of Biological staff Alan Hoverd and John van der Sman with assistance from students and Master boat builder, Bernie Perano.
September – November 2008



396 The Esplanade, Island Bay.
Attached to wooden 'ribs' of the building

Rua-Te-Pupuke
Kaitiaki (guardian) for the centre TE TOKA TŪ MOANA
Carver: Tamatea Kopua
March - 2009



TE ARO CAMPUS

Faculty of Architecture and Design, Dunlop Tce.
Outside the main entrance

New Zealand Institute of Architects National Award for Architecture
1995

School of Architecture and Design
Craig Craig Moller



Vivian Street Building
Level 1

Building Owner
Wellington Unipol Ltd
Architect
Craig Craig Moller
Engineer
Beca Carter Hollings & Ferner
Quantity Surveyor

Knapman Clark & Co
Contractor
Fletcher Construction
Building Re-Construction Completed
February 1994



HALLS OF RESIDENCE

Te Puni Village
Via Gate 7, Kelburn Parade
inside the dining room

Te Puni Village
Opened By
The Hon. John Key
The Prime Minister of New Zealand
on 23 February 2009

Chancellor: Emeritus Professor Tim Beaglehole
Vice Chancellor: Professor Pat Walsh

Campus Living Villages
Architectus
Hawkins Construction Ltd



Victoria House
282 The Terrace
Right side of main foyer

Victoria House Incorporated
Isabel Pope House
This building was opened by her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard GCMG DBE Governor-General of New Zealand on 28 February 1993 being 86 years to the day that the original house was opened

Architects- Bullement Fortune
Contractor – Maycroft Construction Ltd



**Victoria House
282 The Terrace
Left side of main foyer**

This plaque commemorates 100 years of Victoria House 1907 – 2007

Providing accommodation for students in the spirit of “friendship – community – success”

