

# Blueskin Bay

Blueskin was the primary home of the first Sargisons.

Blueskin Bay is 20 km north of Dunedin and includes the townships of Waitati, Warrington, Evansdale and Seacliff.



*Figure 1 Waitati c 1875*



Figure 2 Waitati about 1900

The area was very popular for organized picnics, with special trains coming from Dunedin. The adjacent report of 25 February 1924 provides some examples:

<b>PICNICS</b>	
<p>Saturday was a very popular day for trade picnics, and the weather proved to be all that could be desired for holiday-making. At 9.35 a.m. a train of twenty carriages left for the north with the employees of the New Zealand Paper Mills, Mr Arthur Barnett's, the D.S.A., and Messrs C. and W. Hayward, and the Sawyers' Bay Sunday School. The Sunday school and the D.S.A. and Hayward's employees went to Warrington, while Barnett's and the Paper Mills' picnics were held at Evansdale. Barnett's party, to the number of about 270, made their headquarters in the Evansdale Glen, where refreshments and a programme of sports and games, including tugs-of-war, was greatly enjoyed. Tickets for all the staff were provided by the firm, and the men engaged on the new building were among those present. Special provision in the way of toys, sweets, and fruit was made for the young folk. Bathing was indulged in by a considerable number in the pools and also at the Warrington Beach. The 9.5 a.m. train for the south had five extra carriages for Messrs Kempthorne, Prosser's picnic, which was held very happily at Waihola. The painters and the Port Chalmers Congregational Sunday School held their picnics at Portobello.</p>	

Figure 3 Blueskin Bay 1887 by O'Brien

The following map shows Blueskin from Omimi north. It identifies from the bottom the following farms and sites of family relevance: the Omimi Dairy Factory (bottom left); Allan's Farm; two Reid farms; Lunam's farm.

