McCahon's developing approach to the Otago landscape. He had a childhood affinity with art and the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, which he saw as a place of study and learning. Throughout his life, McCahon looked to the public library and the view from the ‘Bullock Track’, a steep walking track that connects the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, some by foot and others by a short car journey. From the galleries of Dunedin Public Art Gallery, to the Dunedin School of Art and experimenting with materials, he created a body of work that continues to evolve.

McCahon’s Ōtepoti Dunedin, illuminating key sites and landscapes that shaped his artistic journey. McCahon’s exploration of the Otago Peninsula and Dunedin interweaves with a series of landscapes depicting significant political, cultural and religious events, represented through collages, drawings, prints and paintings. In his series of the late 1960s, this was in the Dunedin Public Art Gallery and Otago Peninsula. It was controversially purchased 1992 with New Zealand Lottery Grants Boards funds purchased 1992 with New Zealand Lottery Grants Boards funds. From the Dunedin School of Art, to the Dunedin Public Art Gallery, and back to the Dunedin School of Art, McCahon’s Ōtepoti Dunedin has a horror vacui, a sense of being almost too small and too visible, a horizon that is always close.

The Ōtepoti Dunedin section of the Hocken Collections Uare Taoka o Hākena, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Auckland University Press. (2019) p.50

Has a very special smell and a more sacred feeling than the distance of Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, these paintings offer both an articulation of McCahon’s strong and enduring connection to the Otago Peninsula begun in 1946. The first was originally commissioned for the Oamaru Florence Nightingale Memorial by the Cromwell (1939) once hung in the home of Colin McCahon’s parents, purchased 1992 with New Zealand Lottery Grants Boards funds. This was followed by the major series of Otago Peninsula begun in 1966, painting the landscape is articulated in strong, dark outlines, the hills and valleys are large, dark and basic, the land is divided into large sections, the horizon is always close. The Ōtepoti Dunedin section of the Hocken Collections Uare Taoka o Hākena, Dunedin Public Art Gallery, Auckland University Press. (2019) p.50

Dunedin Public Art Gallery
On the Corner, Dunedin
Monday – Sunday 10am – 5pm
252 George St, Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand
www.dunedinartgallery.org

The Dunedin Public Art Gallery was founded in 1920 by the Dunedin Public Art Gallery Committee and is a registered charity. The Gallery is a significant cultural institution and an important centre for the arts, hosting a wide range of exhibitions and events. It is located in the historic Taieri Street building, which was designed by architect William Noton and completed in 1995.

Hocken Collections Uare Taoka o Hākena, University of Otago
82 Avenir Avenue, Dunedin Monday – Saturday 10am – 5pm
The Hocken Collections Uare Taoka o Hākena is one of New Zealand’s premier collections of archives and rare books, housing a vast array of material relating to New Zealand history, culture and the arts. The collections include books, manuscripts, paintings, prints, photographs, and other ephemera. The Gallery is a significant cultural institution and an important centre for the arts, hosting a wide range of exhibitions and events. It is located in the historic Taieri Street building, which was designed by architect William Noton and completed in 1995.

Woodhaugh Gardens
From outside George St, Dunedin, between Malvern Road and the Leith Rd
COLLAGE: COLIN McCAHON
Looking down on Woodhaugh, Leith St Safety 1939
COLLAGE: COLIN McCAHON

Otago Harbour (parties location unknown)
Path up to the look-out point, which is approximately 500m from the site of the Leith Rd walk to St Leonards.

Hawea Harbour Care Centre
Hawea Harbour Care Centre, Highcliff Rd, Pillans Point, Otago Peninsula
Collagen: Colin McCahon 1940 (10cm long) painted 1944
McCa on’s Waterfall theme & variations

Dunedin Botanic Garden
111 Marine Parade West, Dunedin, Otago
The Dunedin Botanic Garden is a beautiful garden that is home to a vast collection of plants from around the world. The Garden is a significant cultural institution and an important centre for the arts, hosting a wide range of exhibitions and events. It is located in the historic Taieri Street building, which was designed by architect William Noton and completed in 1995.

Sandymount
The Sandymount walking track begins at the end of Sandymount Rd, Oamaru Peninsula

North Otago
Oamaru Public Art Gallery
252 George St, Oamaru, Otago
www.oamaruarta.co.nz

Tomahawk Beach
(03) 477 8222
Tomahawk Beach Huts
The Tomahawk Beach Huts offer a range of accommodations, including cabins, yurts, and camping facilities. The Huts provide a comfortable and convenient base for exploring the surrounding area. The Huts are located near the beach and offer stunning views of the ocean. The Huts are open all year round and are available for bookings online.

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