

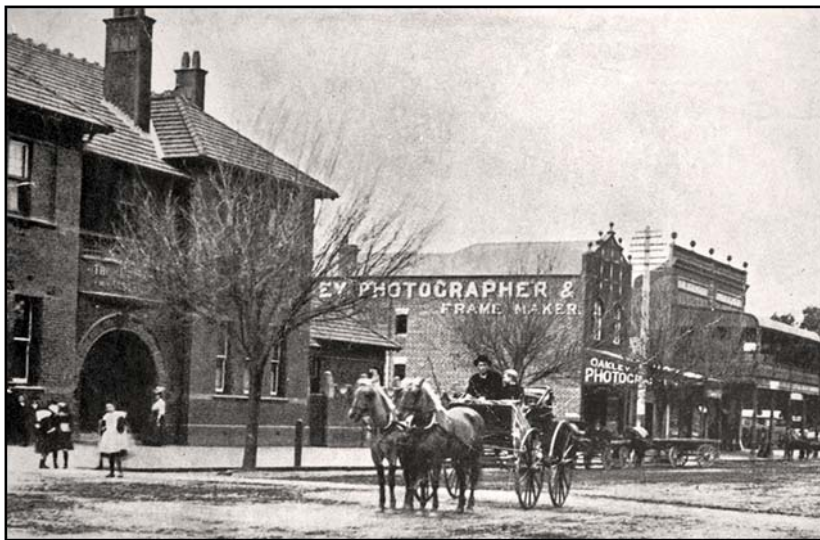
## Union Bank & Oakley Photos

*Greg Ryan*

The Union Bank building on the corner of Dean and Olive streets opened on April 3, 1907. The builders were Frew & Logan, of Albury and the *Albury Banner* reported that “the new building is certainly a credit to their workmanship.”

The building for many years was the home of the ANZ Bank, before becoming Angus & Robertson’s book store and more recently WAW Credit Union.

William Henry Oakley arrived in Albury in 1895 and quickly made himself known as a photographer. In 1904 he built the two-storey Oakley Studio building, the current site of Foto Supplies.



L to R: c1910 Union Bank, Oakley Photographic Studio,  
RG Foley & Co, Treloar’s Restaurant

The following article appeared in the *Albury Banner* in February 1904: “Slowly but surely the business places in Dean street are extending eastwards. One of the latest instances is the premises just erected by Mr Oakley, photographer ... a few years back a member of the *Banner* staff was in London, and

had with him a number of portraits all from the studio of Mr Oakley. Some of these were seen by a member of a London firm of photographers, who spoke in high terms of the excellence of the work, and expressed much surprise when informed that they were taken in a provincial town in Australia.”

William Oakley was elected an Albury alderman in 1916, was president of the Albury Bowling Club and on the hospital board. He died in 1919 and his son took over the business for short time before selling up in 1922.

The business passed through several hands before being leased by Albury born Jack Dallinger in 1942, but still trading as ‘The Oakley Studio.’ In the 1950s Jack added the name ‘Foto Supplies’ and bought the freehold. In May 1957 fire gutted the building, destroying photographic equipment.

The rebuilt premises opened in 1958. Jack Dallinger died in 2001 leaving an amazing collection of photographs of great historical significance to Albury as well as a valuable collection of vintage cameras. A third generation of Dallingers still operate ‘Foto Supplies.’

Beyond Oakley Studios is the building that housed tyre repairers R G Foley & Co and Treloar’s restaurant.