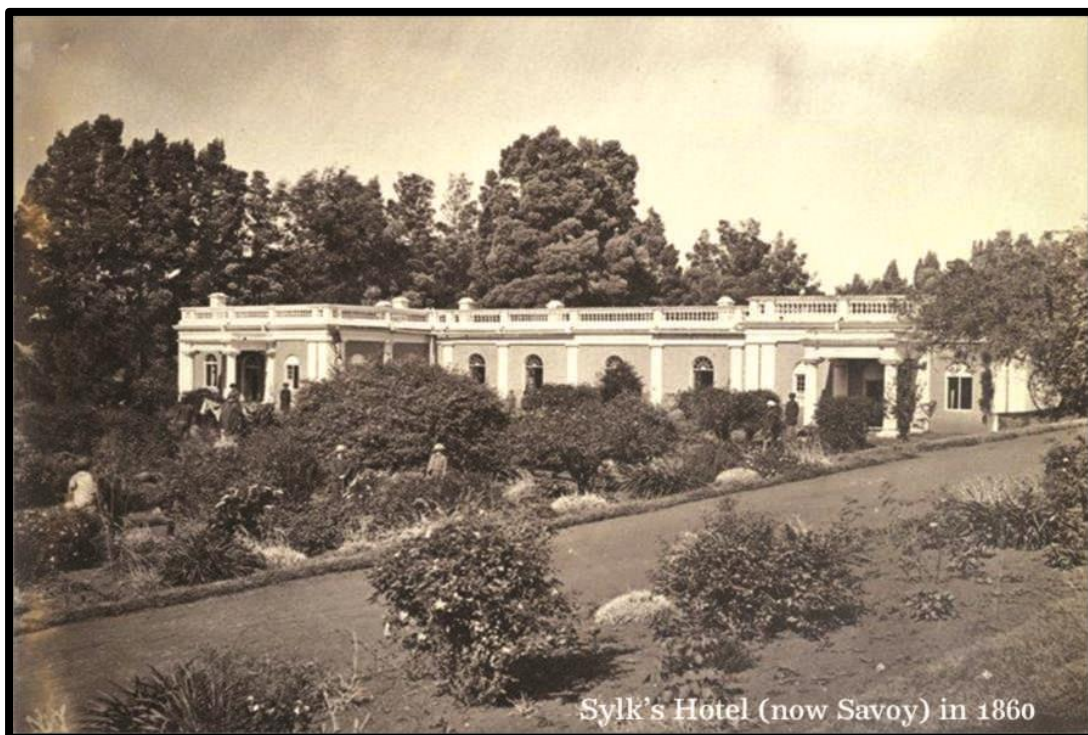


## SAVOY HOTEL OOTY

Savoy Hotel was opened in 1841 by Mr H. Royal Dawson and was called Dawson's Hotel and also "The Union". It was built around the site of a cottage called Woodwille which was built about the same time when St. Stephen's Church was built and it's one of the oldest Building in Ooty today. This Cottage now forms "Garden Cottage" of the hotel.

The main building of the Hotel was constructed in 1829 as a school for European children in the Nilgiris. As in the case of the building of St. Stephens Church the massive beams came from Tipu Sultan's Palace at Srirangapattanam. These beams were dragged all the way from Srirangapattanam up the Singhur Ghat by Elephants.

In 1868 the name of the Hotel was changed to Sylk's Hotel and later stage to savoy Hotel. When His Majesty King Edward VII the then Prince of Wales came to India in 1875, a visit to Ooty formed part of his program and his entourage was booked at the Savoy.



The Savoy has been a Hotel continuously from 1841 and it has changed very little. The hotel has been featured in novels, Travelogues, Magazines and Newspaper articles all over the world. Internationally famous people have chosen the Savoy as their temporary abode and among them names worth mentioning are "Harold Robbins" the famous fiction writer and "David Lean" who directed films like Dr. Zhivago and Lawrence of Arabia.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation featured the hotel prominently in a Television program on India and the British Broadcasting Corporation featured the Savoy on their program "Snooty Ooty". The Garden of the Hotel has been used for the exterior scenes of many British and Indian movies and it is one of the best-kept gardens in Ooty.

Savoy is very popular with visitors. It has several independent cottages, a well-stocked bar, a spacious multi-cuisine restaurant and sprawling lawns with heart-warming bonfire in the evening.

### OOTACAMUND

Called the 'Queen of Hill Stations' picturesque, green Udhagamandalam better known as Ooty is the most popular hill station in the South. Located in the Western Ghats at a height of 2286 Meters (7620 Feet), it is the headquarters of the Nilgiris district where the two ghats meet.

It was developed in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century by John Sullivan as a retreat for the colonial British Governors of Madras (Chennai). Small Victorian cottages nestle on the slopes, whilst the town features a golfing range, a race track and numerous sightseeing attractions. It is also an excellent starting point to explore both the nearby Nilgiri (blue) mountains, named after the brightly hued Lavender which grows here.