ARCHIFACTS

Journal of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand

October 1992
OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The objects of the Association shall be:

i. To foster the care, preservation, and proper use of archives and records, both public and private, and their effective administration.

ii. To arouse public awareness of the importance of records and archives and in all matters affecting their preservation and use, and to co-operate or affiliate with any other bodies in New Zealand or elsewhere with like objects.

iii. To promote the training of archivists, records keepers, curators, librarians and others by the dissemination of specialised knowledge and by encouraging the provision of adequate training in the administration and conservation of archives and records.

iv. To encourage research into problems connected with the use, administration and conservation of archives and records and to promote the publication of the results of this research.

v. To promote the standing of archives institutions.

vi. To advise and support the establishment of archives services throughout New Zealand.

vii. To publish a journal at least once a year and other publications in furtherance of these objects.
ARCHIFACTS

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ARCHIVES AND RECORDS
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Sometimes, without premeditation, a theme emerges from the collection of writings which make up an issue of Archifacts. In this case there is a centring of interest on the question of institutions meeting their public’s needs. David Hamer’s comment on ‘public histories’ reflects on the style of publications that tax payer readers might value from the Historical Branch. Researchers in the Tomorrow’s History section speak their opinions to institutional keepers on the advantages and disadvantages of the new National Library and National Archives in Wellington. And Mark Stoddard focusses on the question directly when he assesses the results of a survey of National Archives, Auckland.

How do keepers of archive and records know if they are doing what their clients want? Monetary profit as an indicator of success has no application here – although it might well have before long. Verification of a job well done must come from other sources. Casual comments, given verbally on the spot or written up for publication, provide some measure of assessment, but are scarcely common or persuasive enough to prompt change in practice or the kind of self-critical analysis which should proceed change. As Stoddart remarks ‘... archivists have tended to neglect users’ perceptions and evaluations of the service provided by archival institutions as part of performance monitoring systems even though in day-to-day work archivists generally accord user satisfaction a high priority’.

Given the need to use financial resources judiciously and a greater expectation by the public to participate in the decision-making of their institutions, it is perhaps time for the archives and records professions to consider in-depth application of user surveys to help define their role now and in the future. We put this point with two thoughts in mind: one that researchers may be encouraged to communicate their views about archive and records management through Archifacts, and two that ARANZ might look at ways of engaging a conversation between public and profession to ensure (to adapt a phrase from the Treaty debate) that we are always speaking.

The Auckland Editors.
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RAECO NO.1 LIBRARY SUPPLIER NATIONWIDE
Protection with the Best!
Auckland Public Library was established largely as a consequence of Governor Sir George Grey’s gift in 1882 of his personal collection of manuscripts and rare publications. The bequest of some 8,000 volumes finally reached the Library in 1887 and Grey continued to add to it until his death in 1898. In all (and excluding the New Zealand autograph manuscript collection) a total of c.14,000 volumes was donated. It was not Grey’s first library however. In 1861 an equally impressive library had been donated to Cape Town Public Library, South Africa. Auckland’s ‘Grey library’ comprised a rare books collection (including 34 volumes of incunabula), a collection of New Zealand publications of national significance (including one of the three largest known collections of Maori books), and a series of manuscripts. Grey’s generous bequest inspired many other citizens and organizations to donate materials, and in the 110 years since its inception the Library has developed rich and diverse special collections, unusual for even a large public library. Together with the Auckland Institute and Museum Library, it provides the Auckland region with a resource that may well be described as ‘the Turnbull of the North’.

How these materials (in particular the manuscripts) have been cared for in the past, and recent policies introduced at Auckland Public Library to ensure they are preserved for and accessible to future generations, is the focus of this article.

The collections discussed specifically are those that come within the sphere of the New Zealand and Pacific Department and do not include the manuscript and published works which are the responsibility of the Rare Books Librarian. Indeed it is no longer possible to view the ‘Grey Collection’ itself as a totality since responsibility for its diverse parts has devolved over the years onto various subject departments. Despite the setting up of a separate room in the ‘old library’, shortage of space meant that the collection became dispersed in storage throughout the building. Removal to the present library in 1971 and the establishment of subject departments, formalized divisions between Grey’s New Zealand
Clearly the home of a collector. Drawing room of Mansion House on Kawau Island, 1870s. Sir George Grey with his niece and adopted daughter, Annie Thorne George. Auckland Public Library Photograph Collection. A3034.
and non-New Zealand collections. Ironically, this appears to have been in keeping with Grey’s original intention, as Wynne Colgan comments: ‘Grey had wanted the books he was giving to Auckland to be distributed throughout the library. It was only when officials of council assured him that it was the wish of the citizens that the collection remain intact and be placed in a separate room to be known as the Grey Collection that he somewhat reluctantly consented.’

In 1971 the New Zealand Grey resources became part of the busy New Zealand Reference Department with the books and manuscripts stored in a special area but accessible to the public via the departmental inquiry desk. Grey’s rare international collection meanwhile was housed, serviced and displayed in the separate Rare Books Room under the jurisdiction of the Literature, Arts and Music Department.

While these special collections were cared for and augmented by donation and library purchase, limitations of staff time and funding meant they were not given top priority by library management. This is not to say that the arrangement and description of the Grey manuscripts were neglected. The enormous task of indexing, transcribing and cataloguing of the papers was undertaken, almost single-handedly it seems, by Miss Gertrude Terry, chief cataloguer at the Library from 1953 to 1965. Due to Miss Terry’s efforts then and in retirement, the following series were established:

- Grey New Zealand Manuscripts (GNZMS). c.300 items including diaries, literary works and official documents.
- Grey Maori Manuscripts (GMMS). c.149 items in Maori including waiata, whakapapa, whakatauki and tribal traditions.
- Grey Maori Autograph Letters (GNZMA). 780 letters in Maori to Grey including some translations.
- Grey New Zealand Letters (GLNZ). 1,400 letters written by New Zealanders and/or pertaining to New Zealand affairs.
- Grey Letters (GL.) 2,167 letters to Grey re non-New Zealand affairs.

Cataloguing of the GNZMS series, the compilations of a name card index to both series of the English correspondence, full transcription of the GL series, and epitomes of the GLNZ series by Miss Terry has meant that researchers have had access of some kind to the collections for several decades.

In the last ten years or so two distinct but related trends have become apparent which have influenced library policy. Firstly there has been a growing international awareness of the need to conserve materials by the implementation of preservation polices. Secondly, a growing sense of national identity has developed which has resulted in enormous pressure on these finite library resources.

The policies I outline have developed in part in order to cope with increasing pressure of use on New Zealand resources in general. Certainly
Grey as Keeper of the Record. Sir George Grey recording a phonograph message to the citizens of Auckland, February 1891. On his right the Mayor of Auckland, Mr J. H. Upton; on his left Professor Douglas Archibald.

Auckland Public Library Photograph Collection. 4411.
an explosion in New Zealand historical research was a phenomenon of the 1980s – the culmination perhaps of a new sense of national identity, a shift in emphasis in educational curricula and part of a worldwide interest in family history.

Apart from published books, journals and ephemera, there are three distinct categories of special materials in the New Zealand and Pacific Department - Map, Photograph and Manuscript Collections. Each of these collections includes some Grey resources as well as a multitude of other historical and unique items obtained either by purchase or donation. While staff have traditionally been allocated areas of special responsibility, the care of these collections by necessity has taken a lower priority than the constant and ever-increasing public interface. Pat French, speaking at a national seminar on preservation in 1991, noted that 'from the mid 1980's on... [there] has come an increasing awareness of the important role that conservation must play in the library'.

By the early 1980s the need for a Maori language specialist to access Maori language materials and to assist Maori clients was being mooted. Criticism of a Pakeha orientation in the arrangement and description of manuscripts, such as that made by researcher Jane McRae that 'access to Maori manuscripts in public institutions involves more confusion than should be necessary', due to the lack of Maori language skills amongst staff, added fuel to the debate.

In March 1984 the City Librarian Mary Ronnie formally recommended to Council the development of a 'permanent prescription for a Maori language librarian' and of a photocopying and conservation programme for the Grey Maori Manuscripts. In that year a cataloguing and photocopying project for the Grey Maori Manuscript Series was begun using the PEP scheme, and in January 1985 the Library's first Maori specialist librarian was appointed. In the same year, and with Department of Maori Affairs assistance, duplicate photocopies were made of the series and a copy supplied to both the University of Auckland and Alexander Turnbull Libraries.

Further developments in the care of the Manuscript Collection (conservatively estimated at one kilometre in size) came in 1987 when Jane Wild undertook a local centennial study tour of manuscript management in Britain, America and Canada. A set of recommendations were made in a subsequent report, among them that 'the library appoints a qualified staff member to develop the manuscript and other non-book collections in the interest of their own conservation and their best use by the public'.

In 1989 an appointment of a Curator of Manuscripts was made and for the first time in the Library's history the papers (housed in four locations spread over three floors) came within the sphere of a named position. In the same year another Centennial Study Award was granted to Chief Binder Shelley Clifton to investigate paper conservation techniques in twelve American institutions. Again recommendations were made in a subsequent report, among them for a survey of the environmental and
May his soul feel a joy for bequests made here.

Precising and following, his works made him dear.

May angels catch hold, where we earth falls bare.

And grant him rewards in a progression there.

Where still he may act as a large philosopher,

For some love love, and some money: But best be he!

Who both a philanthrope was, and a genius free!

Lancelot Fewster.
storage conditions for special materials, the appointment of a conservator and guidelines for a programme of conservation treatment of materials.\(^6\)

Partly in response to these reports, City Librarian Jan Thompson initiated several major preservation and related policies, a remarkable achievement in view of budgetary constraints in local government.

Influential too were a series of in-house discussions (held in 1988) where library staff were invited to consider their own and the Library’s role in the community. Early on in submissions the conservation of collections came through strongly and it became a key point in what was to be Auckland City Libraries Mission Statement:

Collecting, preserving and promoting access to recorded knowledge and expression relevant to our diverse community... giving particular emphasis to the heritage of New Zealand and the Maori, especially in relation to the Auckland area.

In 1990 a Library Disaster Plan was formulated and a list of priority items for rescue drawn up with a recovery kit and a team poised for action in the event of disaster.

Between 1990 and 1991 a survey of the conservation requirements of the collections at Auckland Public Library was conducted by conservator Michael Wheeler, partly funded by the Cultural Conservation Advisory Council. Part One of his report dealt with manuscripts, maps, plans, photographs and Part Two with a survey of works of art on paper.\(^7\) While a starting point for a more detailed study, several of the recommendations have already been implemented. For example, there is now a Library Conservation Committee which meets regularly to report on and discuss conservation projects. A programme of phase-boxing of fragile books and manuscripts has begun, and historic photographic negatives are gradually being placed in archival enclosures.

In 1991, acting on the recommendation of the Curator(s) of Manuscripts, the conditions of access to select special collections were altered in order to protect the materials and provide a more suitable environment for researchers. All manuscripts and certain categories of historic maps and photographs are now available for consultation in the Rare Books Room between the hours of 10a.m. to 1p.m. on weekdays. While this has regrettably limited the hours in which these materials are accessible, reaction by users to the new policy has been positive and it is anticipated that in time (and major library renovations allowing) other special collections will be given the same treatment.

This year two major developments have occurred which promise to have wide-reaching effect: the Grey Manuscript Photocopying Project, and the launching in July of the Auckland Library Heritage Trust.

In 1991 application was made by the City Librarian to the Cultural Conservation Advisory Council for a $1:$1 subsidy to a maximum of $11,500 for a conservation treatment for the autograph letter series of
From the collection. An illustrated portion of the 234 page manuscript written by Wiremu Maihi Te Rangikaheke for Sir George Grey, providing commentary on the waiata published by Grey in *Ko Nga Moteatea me Nga Hakirara o Nga Maori* (1853).

The Grey Manuscripts Collection. Although approved in May 1991, the project was not begun until April this year and we found ourselves working within a framework of three months to complete the task within Auckland City’s financial year. Our objective, to copy onto archival paper the GNZMA, GLNZ, and GL series of the papers and to folder, label and box the original documents using archival materials, was achieved using three skilled contract workers and relying on the efficient services of Conservation Supplies and B.J. Ball Ltd.

An estimated 4,355 letters were copied within this time and the end result - 206 volumes (two sets) of bound photocopies to the collection (each with its own contents listing) were compiled within the budget allocated. The success of the project was in no small part due to the generous supply (at a peppercorn rental) of a superior Nashua photocopier by Gestetner Office Systems Limited, and to Jack Fry of Conservation Supplies who patiently explained the various folder and box shapes available for order. Nor can the advantages of an on-site bindery with staff skilled in conservation techniques and able to cope with a sudden influx of work be underestimated.

As a consequence of the project researchers are now able to consult copies of the Grey letters outside the hours of normal manuscript usage and (within the usual restrictions) to copy from the photocopies. The originals, to be used only in exceptional circumstances are protected as never before. Regret that the researcher is now one step removed from the source itself is outweighed, I believe, by these advantages. There now only remains the GNZMS sequence to be photocopied when funding is obtained.

Unfortunately CCAC’s vital support for this project comes at a time when the Council is under review and its current activities and assets frozen. Disappointing from our point of view is the freezing of an agreed one year salary for the appointment of a paper conservator to the Library. The preparation of a long-term conservation plan for all resources is vital for the implementation of preservation policies at the Library.

On July 29 this year the Auckland Library Heritage Trust was officially launched by its patron the Governor-General and a new era in Auckland Public Library’s history heralded. The purpose of the Trust is ‘to establish and operate a sound financial base to ensure the protection, survival and availability of the documentary history of Auckland for the understanding and use of future generations. The initial target to be used as a capital sum is $1,000,000.’ Credit for the creation of the Trust must go to City Librarian Jan Thompson whose concept it was and who has been instrumental in forming a committee of city representatives in the areas of the arts and commerce. While it is independent of Auckland City there is a close working relationship between the Trust Chairman Mr Christopher Parr and the City Librarian.

The Trust’s proposed activities are: ‘to encourage and assist the acquisition... of primary documents, written, oral and photographic
which record the history of the Auckland region. Encourage and assist
the acquisition programme of the George Grey Rare Books Collection
as a collection of works representative of the history of the book, its
manufacture, printing, publishing and illustration. Encourage and
assist the preservation and conservation of these documents to standards
which will ensure their availability to subsequent generations.\textsuperscript{9}

The scope and objectives of the Foundation are outlined together
with a list of individual and corporate subscriptions, in a brochure
available from the George Grey Rare Books Room.

The Library, while not abdicating responsibility for this work, has for
the first time publicly acknowledged that the task it faces is greater than
the funding and staff Council can afford, and so public assistance is
sought. In conjunction with the launch of the Foundation, an exhibition
entitled ‘Slow Fires and a Thousand Thumbs’ is on display in the Rare
Books Room which alerts the public to the work required to preserve
what is our heritage.

The role that our and other libraries play in the community should not
be underestimated, as A.R.D.Fairburn commented in the 1950s: ‘I’m a
sort of millionaire. I don’t own a steam-yacht, or a Rolls-Royce, or a string
of racehorses - yet. But for years past, I’ve been a book millionaire. That,
in a couple of words, is what the public library system has meant to me’.\textsuperscript{10}

Addendum
As this article went to press the Library lost its advocate and leader Jan
Thompson. Jan died on 4 October 1992. Her vision for the Library
will remain through the Heritage Trust which she established and
through the staff whom she inspired.

Theresa Graham and Jane Wild, Curators of Manuscripts.

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1 W. Colgan, \textit{The Governor’s Gift: The Auckland Public Library 1880-1980}, Auckland,
2 P. French, ‘The New Zealand Experience’. Address to the ‘Preservation and
Conservation Management in Libraries and Archives: A Seminar for Managers’,
3 J. McRae, ‘Maori Manuscripts in Public Collections’, \textit{New Zealand Libraries}, 44 (1),
4 M. Ronnie, Auckland Public Library Archive. 18. Maori Services and Resources.
7 M. Wheeler, ‘Survey of the Conservation Requirements of the Collections at the
9 Auckland Library Heritage Trust Brochure.
10 W. Colgan, p.208.
How well or badly are we performing? It is imperative that a service profession, as ours is, vigorously strives to improve its services, but how do we assess our performance?

In this discussion I have focussed on the reference service at National Archives in Auckland and have highlighted the users' wishes and needs above all others. I am taking the view 'that all aspects of information work should aim at the same goal of assisting the user to find the appropriate information to satisfy their information need'. A 'user-centric' stance down-plays the management and preservation role of archivists and their need to ensure the safe custody and preservation of archives for current and future generations of users. However, successful co-operation between user and archivist in the provision of information depends, in part, upon the users' understanding of the responsibilities of archivists for the protection and integrity of their holdings—duties that sometimes may appear to conflict with their responsibilities to aid researchers. It is my personal contention that archivists have tended to neglect users' perceptions and evaluations of the service provided by archival institutions as part of performance monitoring systems, even though in day-to-day work archivists generally accord user satisfaction a high priority.

Archival institutions have for a long time used quantitative measures to report on what they do. These measures have been used as an indicator of public support and organizational support. They have also been used to justify successful arguments for additional resources. The following statistics for National Archives in Auckland are typical quantitative measures of demand or use.

Based on the measures below, one may judge we have been effective in terms of:

- making more records available to users;
- identifying and saving more records of permanent value;
- attracting more people to use our service.
Archifacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
<th>Reader Visits</th>
<th>Production of Archives to Readers</th>
<th>Written Inquiries Answered</th>
<th>Government Loans issued</th>
<th>Accessions received (linear metres)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>687</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>624*</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>1580</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>1180*</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>751</td>
<td>2893</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>879*</td>
<td>651</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>3332</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>923*</td>
<td>860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>1264</td>
<td>5111</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>1178*</td>
<td>934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>2258</td>
<td>6883</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>1210*</td>
<td>971</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>2434</td>
<td>8251</td>
<td>514</td>
<td>726</td>
<td>1319</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>2599</td>
<td>11145</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>1712</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Combined Archives and Record Centre loans

But such measures raise other questions. What is the number and ratio of first-time visitors (or written inquiries) to repeat visitors (or written inquiries)? Similarly, in terms of records accessioned, are we taking in more records from fewer agencies or are we appraising records from an increased number of agencies, encompassing a wider range of new and old clients? In view of the time taken to capture and monitor statistics such as those above, it is important that we count what is important, either positively or negatively.

What qualitative measures have been used by National Archives in Auckland to determine performance? Examples are the requirements to be met when issuing government loans, registering written inquiries, accessioning records and issuing reader requests. The compilation of the GAIMS manual in 1985 provided much needed guidelines for arrangement and description, and the introduction of appraisal charges on 1 November 1991 resulted in many existing appraisal practices, procedures and standards being codified. At a more general level, the compilation of Business Plans for the past few years has necessitated the systematic formulation of performance standards for various ‘outputs’.

Examples of performance criteria used in these plans are:

Appraisal

- Minimum of 1 linear metre of records to be appraised per hour.
- The appraisal report to be completed within two weeks of completion of the appraisal examination.
- The appraisal report to be factually correct, formatted correctly and take into account previous appraisal decisions.
Shorter Articles

Arrangement and Description

- Location Guides to be completed to 100% accuracy within 24 hours of shelving of the records.
- Each new accession should receive interim documentation for the last recorded series and the time to search and draft all interim agency and series documentation should not exceed 2 working days.

Reference

- Basic inquiries to be answered within 5 working days of receipt of the letter.
- Letter to be registered and indexed within 24 hours of receipt.

Common Indicator: Number of justified complaints about service and staff attitude.

Measurement of the criteria during the 1991/92 financial year resulted in the following assessment of National Archives Auckland performance in terms of % of the criteria met.

- Appraisal 80%
- Reference 90%
- Arrangement and Description 85%
- Outreach 90%

No complaints were received.

How significant or relevant are our indicators (or standards) of performance effectiveness? Preliminary Findings of a Public Library Effectiveness Study by Thomas Childers of Drexel University and Nancy Van House of the University of California at Berkeley identified a number of broad aspects or dimensions of library effectiveness. Under a number of their broad aspects, I have endeavoured to outline some of the results and comments from a visitors' survey questionnaire National Archives in Auckland conducted between April to June 1992. (While the operations of a public library and archives reference service do differ, I believe the findings of the Library Study can be usefully applied.)

1) Physical Facilities, including building appearance, convenience of location, parking etc. Visitors were asked:

   a) 'For your first visit to National Archives Auckland did you have difficulty locating us?'

      Result: 23 said 'yes', 70 said 'no', 4 gave no answer.
Archifacts

b) Visitors were also asked to comment on the quality of facilities for example:

1) Spaciousness of the reading room.
   Results: 8 - very spacious, 20 - spacious, 35 - satisfactory, 26 - cramped, 3 - very cramped, 1 no answer.

2) Attractiveness of decor or furniture.
   Results: 6 - very attractive, 19 - attractive, 47 - satisfactory, 17 - unattractive, 3 - extremely unattractive, 1 no answer.

3) The level of comfort.
   Result: 24 - very comfortable, 38 - comfortable, 26 - satisfactory, 3 - uncomfortable, 1 - extremely uncomfortable, 1 - no answer.

Comments elicited from the survey with regard to Physical Facilities:

Feels like working in a prison. Amenities don’t worry me as long as I can extract information. A purpose-built permanent home should be a high priority if the archives are to be used to their full potential. Concern of easy access for burglary and/or vandalism and a lack of parking by the building. Tucked away on unknown (unfamiliar) streets and no major entrance - far from bus route. No one could tell me where it was and the building is not very visible from the street. There is no direct access to toilets, a need for a separate visitors’ room from researchers’ room, a better reception area and a separate area for volunteer workers. Staff are cheerful and pleasant despite what must be difficult working conditions. It is a pity that Auckland Archives were not relocated as planned to large premises.

(The building and storage facilities fall well short of the British Standard BS 5454:1989 Storage and Exhibition of Archival Documents. This viewpoint has been confirmed by a building report performed by a professional conservator.)

2) Service Offerings, including range of materials, range of services, convenience of hours etc. Visitors were asked whether there were any services desired but not available at present. In response, a number of people indicated they wanted weekend or late night access or at least computer access to finding aids and microfiche film of some archives to be available outside the premises.

3) Material Provision, including availability of archives, speed of service, information about collections. Visitors were asked:
Shorter Articles

a) Were the finding aids and indexes easy or difficult to use?
Results: 15 said very easy, 42 - easy, 28 - satisfactory, 5 - difficult, 1 - extremely difficult, 2 - no answer.

b) The promptness with which you received attention.
Result: 16 said very prompt, 27 - prompt, 5 - satisfactory, 1 - slow, 0 - Extremely slow.

c) Helpfulness of leaflets in explaining procedures etc.
Result: 25 said very helpful, 43 - helpful, 10 - satisfactory, 1 - unhelpful, 0 - extremely unhelpful.

Comments elicited from the survey with regard to Material Provision:

A need for much more indexing of resources so that results may be achieved much more quickly. Computer lists of records available on disk and searchable on-line systems with Christchurch and Wellington to assist with research. Services need to be more widely advertised. The system of filing the available material [i.e. finding aids] in reading room (i.e. via folders) is archaic and needs updating by computer indexing, thus time needed in order to get to the relevant archives will be greatly reduced. Service has always been helpful and prompt, despite at times the number of people making requests.

4) Internal Processes, including staff morale, efficiency, staff quality etc. Visitors were asked:

a) Accuracy or correctness with which your orders or requests for archives or information were met.
Result: 64 - said very accurate, 24 - accurate, 5 - satisfactory, 0 - inaccurate, 0 - extremely inaccurate.

b) Helpfulness of staff in explaining procedures.
Result: 81 said very helpful, 12 helpful, 0 - satisfactory, unhelpful or extremely unhelpful.

c) Knowledgeability of the staff about the archives relating to your research or interest.
Result: 56 - very knowledgeable, 29 - knowledgeable, 6 - satisfactory, 2 - lacking in knowledge, 0 - extremely lacking in knowledge.
Archifacts

Comments:

Staff are very knowledgeable. The staff are courteous and very helpful to one like myself with little knowledge of how and where to start looking. Staff are very helpful - but under staffed. The staff are most helpful and friendly, perhaps overworked or not enough on duty. I have always found the staff very helpful and friendly - it is the surroundings that are not so pleasant and that is the problem of an inappropriate building I suppose. The service has always been first class - the staff are friendly and most helpful.

5). Community Impact, including awareness of services, evolution of services, relations with community.

In response to: ‘How do you rate the services overall?’ 75 said very good, 16 good, 2 satisfactory, 0 Poor or very poor.

On the face of the above answers, it appears a reasonable conclusion that National Archives in Auckland is performing effectively in terms of ‘customer satisfaction’ and ‘community impact’. However, a little caution is needed on two counts when assessing ‘customer satisfaction’.

First, are we as archivists in a position of advantage? For example, since our knowledge of the holdings is frequently greater than that possessed by visitors, they cannot readily discern what we have not told them not only verbally but in our finding aids. (A simple, easy-to-understand finding aid may be incomplete, lacking recent accessions etc.) And, often, helpfulness and interest of staff in a research question substitutes for knowledge, in that these encourage (even empower) the enquirer in the search.

Second, how do the measures of customer satisfaction relate to internal standards? Some enquirers might be very pleased if an archivist attended on them constantly. Others might appreciate compliance with a request to photocopy a fragile item. We need to cross-check constantly to ensure that the intended standard of service is being achieved and to measure how acceptable that standard is to users.

Internal standards relate to (and are determined by) two primary and inter-related factors:

a) organization priorities, for example, the need to ensure records are not lost but appraised for archival values,

b) funds available.

Because National Archives in Auckland is (like most archives) constantly expanding in terms of quantity of material held and the extent of use made by enquirers, there is a constant push for increased funding. Yet resource allocators tend to assume that there must be economies of
scale - it will not take twice the staff time to service twice the number of enquirers. So the qualitative measures become a crucial factor in defining the standard of service when the volume of work is growing.

Caution is also needed when assessing ‘community impact’. The existence of a large body of voluntary support from genealogical groups, located in Auckland, North Shore, Pukekohe, Papakura etc. suggests a high community involvement. It is assistance which National Archives greatly appreciates and acknowledges as an essential facet in the increased accessibility of our holdings. However, other performance indicators show we need to be cautious when evaluating our ‘community impact’. For instance, why do a considerable number of visitors and telephone callers say they have been unaware National Archives had offices outside Wellington?

Have our performance indicators been too archivally orientated, focussing on what Sir Hilary Jenkinson expressed as the archivist’s primary function ‘to take all possible precaution for safeguarding of his archives and for their custody which is safeguarding of their essential qualities. Subject to the discharge of these duties he has in the second place to provide for the needs of historians and other research workers. But the position of primary and secondary must not be reversed’.

When archivists consider users, has there been a tendency to concentrate on control mechanisms and responsibilities to government rather than to evaluate closely the needs of our users? Do we need to, as Randall Jimerson argues, reconceptualize our basic services from a user’s view? Could advanced technologies and information systems procedures make archives a backwater, not because the material is irrelevant but rather because of the difficulty users have in reaching information hidden in the records we hold? Users will follow the path of least resistance in seeking information, and they may increasingly find sufficient without recourse to archives. Users expect speed, accuracy and integrity of information. Finding aids and reference services provided by archivists need to respond to such demands.

‘Greater imagination in studying users and potential users will disclose their needs. We must begin to learn systematically, not impressionistically as is our present tendency, who our users are, what kinds of projects they pursue, in what time frames, and most importantly, how they approach records.’ The Visitors’ Survey highlighted a range of user concerns, particularly with regards to our finding aids. An initial attempt to educate about user needs and study how to make our finding aids more user friendly was made through the provision of a session on GAIMS at the ARANZ Conference. A Finding Aid Survey Questionnaire along the lines of the Visitors’ Survey is a possibility. Other ideas elicited from the Conference included the setting up of a User Group representing users’ views, and the need to explain/market GAIMS to user groups and solicit feedback from these sessions.

As we are a service organization, the government’s perspective of our performance and of our usefulness will ultimately determine our sur-
vival, not our custodial concerns. It is therefore imperative that we do not become hung up on purely technical criteria about our performance and pay more attention to user views. The Visitors' Survey suggests National Archives in Auckland is doing some things well but also shows that we need to pay more attention to some areas of performance. We must build on the support we have and broaden awareness and knowledge of archives in the Auckland region. Otherwise Auckland may well become (some would say remain) a black hole for archives, and archival programmes, such as a purpose built archival repository in Auckland, will become archival illusions rather than realities.

REFERENCES

Three of the documents on permanent display in the Constitution Room of National Archives, the first sheet of the original Treaty of Waitangi, Captain Hobson's appointment as Lieutenant-Governor, and the present Coat of Arms. The Exhibition Hall has changing displays of fascinating chapters in our history. Documents from the collections are available by request in the Reading Rooms.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
All facilities open Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm
Constitution Room & Exhibition Hall also Saturday 9.00am - 1.00pm
30 Mulgrave Street, Wellington. For information telephone 499-5595
In this report I have focussed on those sessions that I felt were the best or would be of most interest to New Zealanders.

Holding the Conference outside the main centres inevitably caused a few jokes: 'Wagga where?' being one of the more polite. But I can report that New South Wales is civilized outside of Sydney. In fact Wagga Wagga is similar to Palmerston North, a little smaller, with an agricultural college that grew into a fully-fledged campus and the same reliance on the surrounding agricultural region.

The keynote speaker was Dr Eric Ketelaar, National Archivist of the Netherlands. Overseas speakers can be something of an expensive lottery, but Dr Ketelaar was superb, and his contributions were amongst the highlights of the Conference. His keynote address emphasized issues of access and privacy, which also were the focus of a later Conference session. He reported that the Dutch Archives has four kilometres of World War II files, of which a total of 250,000 are concerned with collaborators, informers etc. Indexes to these records are consulted 10,000 times per year, and 700 files examined. Access to these files is especially sensitive; people could see the names of their accusers, children could see the record of a parent giving names to the Gestapo after torture.

Dr Ketelaar pointed out that issues of privacy and access are functions of culture and time. In Britain estate value, cause of death and wills are public documents. In Holland, France and Germany the latter are regarded as sensitive. The tobacco-cancer link, he said, could not have been established in Europe because of restrictions on access to individuals’ records. Dr Ketelaar’s position was that research needs should yield to the right of privacy, because the former is done by the few, the latter is a right of all. Exceptions should be clear and for exceptional benefits. He also noted that growing harmonization within the EEC is showing that in many respects there is diversity of archival practice on access periods, transfer periods etc., which are largely historical in origin.

Archives in Australia

Steven Stuckly’s paper on the Australian Archives reported that a cycle of building construction and refurbishment was effectively completed, and that additional funds for capital works are not likely to be available in the near future. They are now reviewing all records held, including permanent records, but primarily records which do not have a disposal status - about 40% of all holdings. Retention, he said, will be linked to cost, including conservation. The estimate is that within the unexamined
material there is a lot not worth retaining. Corporatization has cut about 20% from the base of Australian Archives. Reaction will be in terms of offering an attractive service rather than a change in legislation.

In speaking about the State Archives of South Australia, Ewan Miller mentioned that they now work from an economic charter and are expected to return 8% of expenditure. Like Australian Archives they are reviewing a lot of their holdings. At present, when looking at holdings likely to be routine in character, 80% of what is being reviewed is found to be not worth retaining.

Regional Archives

Dr Ketelaar commented that in Holland there are 600 municipalities employing about 60 archivists. They spend about $15 per capita on archives. Cost per visitor is approximately $200-$350. Discussion about this session prompted Dr Ketelaar to agree that the per capita figure was high, partly representing a long-term historical commitment, also the high cost of holding medieval records. The cost per visitor was regarded as an unusual figure, potentially useful for institutional comparisons.

Ethics

Ann Mitchell presented a draft code of ethics for the Society. A draft was presented at the 1991 AGM and a later version was held over at the 1992 AGM. Ann explained that the code was prescriptive, not inspirational; that it is primarily for members and can only apply to members. Discussion suggested that many were not well-informed about it.

Dr Ketelaar then initiated what was probably the most useful and entertaining part of the Conference when he selected someone in the audience to answer how they would handle a particular ethical situation. Examples included access to files concerned with women forced to be prostitutes in Indonesia in World War II; what you would do if offered the papers of a local Mafia chapter, or the papers of a group that assisted draft dodgers and which otherwise are likely to be sold; or how to handle a Minister who wishes to give a visiting dignitary a national archive. Sometimes the question came in two parts, and just when you thought you had got off lightly, the sting came in the second part.

The session convinced me of the need for a code of ethics, but left me in mild despair over the process. If archivists are to regard themselves as professional, then they should have a code of ethics to clarify for themselves, employers and users what is appropriate behaviour. One thing the session made very clear was that to assume all archivists will know the ethically correct action in any particular situation, and act accordingly, is at best naive. Unfortunately, the ASA, like others, has found that getting a code approved is a long and at times soul-destroying process for those who do most of the work. While at the beginning of the session it seemed as if little progress had been made despite all the work done, by the end of it there was a more optimistic air.
Archives and Local Government

This session was devoted to the ASA-NSW Branch Local Government Records Project. Essentially this involved visiting interested local authorities and giving advice on what was necessary to administer their archives appropriately. After ‘seeding’ the Project was to some extent self-funding. Most Councils were keen on advice and willing to pay for it. Storage situations ran the usual spectrum from one authority that had spent $90,000 on a purpose built archives to another using a boat shed and petrol depot. Shelving was frequently wooden, with archives heaped around the floor, and stored with old computers, recycling bins and other junk. Basically the same story one meets everywhere.

In a final session Dr Ketelaar noted with some surprize the absence of any mention of training at the Conference. Peter Örlovich of the New South Wales School of Librarianship later commented that he had battled against the idea that archivists are just another form of information, the more so at the higher level. His belief was that twenty years of common core topics at the New South Wales Diploma had just confused students.

It is unfortunate that cost allows only a few New Zealanders a year to go to the ASA Conference. For me it confirmed what a reading of the literature also shows, that archival issues and concerns are much the same the world over. The importance of Australia is that with a bit of effort linkages between individuals and institutions ought to be possible on a continuing basis, to everyone’s benefit.
Tomorrow's History

David Hamer
Professor of History
Victoria University

Public History

As an academic historian, I see the current interest in and debate concerning ‘public history’ as bringing into sharper focus the characteristics of the type of history which is perhaps most distinct from it - academic history. In certain respects history which is written by historians employed in the academic world has become very ‘private’. It conforms to and respects the rules that have been established and are very closely monitored within what is an increasingly closed, self-contained world. Academic history now operates on a massive scale as is evidenced by the growth of university history departments and of associations representing academic historians. To a marked extent now it is history written by academics for other academics. It consists to a considerable degree of challenges to the methodologies and assumptions of books and articles written by other academics. This is how many historians now make reputations - through challenging and overturning interpretations that have been advanced by their academic predecessors. Discoveries of new materials are often not as significant as the devising of new interpretations of material that is already known about. Academic historians tend to operate in a closed world. Promotions in universities are largely dependent on publication in refereed journals where the referees are academic peers. The ‘public’ is largely excluded from these processes and feels so. Major works of historical reinterpretation are lauded by academic critics but are unintelligible to most non-academic readers and go largely unread. Some are written in a private language or jargon which owes much to the influence of sociology. There are vested interests in the maintenance of this fence around our academic world: it preserves a guild-like ‘mystery’. Innocent non-academic readers seldom complain and indeed tend to blame their own inadequacies and ignorance for their failure to penetrate the complexities of the texts.

This is why I welcome the new emphasis on contact between the historian and the non-academic public. I myself have found very salutary the opportunities that I have been given to translate my academic history
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into language and concepts that make them of value and interest to that wider public. I would hope that there will not be separate worlds of public and private history but that the two can increasingly be linked. There is a great deal of fascinating and significant work being done in the universities. Much of it is written in clear and readily intelligible style. But 'academic history' has an image which seems to create a barrier and prevent its findings being communicated to the public as readily as ought to be the case. In New Zealand one of the most significant and effective forces working to break down this barrier and establish easy and productive relations between the worlds of academic and public history is the Historical Branch.

Comments on the new facilities at the National Library and National Archives

Roger Blackley
Auckland

One of Wellington’s latest lunch zones is the café in the National Archives’ foyer. Espresso or cappuccino, focaccia, fresh salads. No wonder many from the adjacent National Library have abandoned their dreary basement cafeteria to those with a taste for scones, sausage rolls, and the other staples of cucina novaezelandiae. As any serious researcher knows, the octane level of the fuel has a direct bearing on performance, and New Zealand scholars can now enjoy an adequate pit-stop.

You’ve finished lunch? Take a right turn and see the Treaty of Waitangi, once the guard has opened the door to the vault. We are now in the inner sanctum, the most secure zone in the entire building, where New Zealand’s ‘founding documents’ rest on simulated greenstone, protected from light, temperature and humidity. The ravaged appearance of the original Treaty reminds us that in the past this document was afforded minimal protection. As those who have worked at the Auckland National Archives on a humid summer day will be especially aware, there are archival repositories in New Zealand which still lack any kind of climate control whatsoever.

In the adjacent exhibition space is Over here: America and New Zealand in the Pacific War 1942-1945, which includes photographs and paintings from the National Archives’ collection of war art. A particularly talented ‘official’ artist in the Pacific was Russell Clark, some of whose large watercolours are the most striking works in the show. Their immaculate surfaces point to production in a studio rather than in the war zone, raising the same questions of ‘authenticity’ as the large retrospective
canvases of the first world war. Far more convincing is Clark’s oil study of men resting on their bunks, obviously painted from life.

You still have time on your hands? Through the glass curtain walls you can see into the reading room, with its murals on which the weary researcher’s eye might rest in unfocussed contemplation. The casual visitor is also able to gain unhindered access and, compared with the protocols governing entrance to the reading rooms of other National Archives, this democracy of access is truly remarkable.

If you’re serious about killing more time, there’s another place to visit on the second floor. The New Zealand Portrait Gallery inhabits several small rooms, and in June you could see a selection of photographs from the collection of the New Zealand Centre for Photography. Curator William Main has assembled some marvellous images, which are very far from ‘official’ portraiture; so far, in fact, that some of these personalities remain anonymous. Accompanying information is brief and not altogether reliable: Geoff Perry’s dramatic portrait of the artist John Holmwood is labelled ‘Homewood’. After experiencing this uncanny Russian-doll effect, of a national institution within a national institution, you will almost certainly be ready for another coffee, and perhaps some chocolate cake as well.

Sarah Dalton
Wellington

The new look National Archives can boast a service which matches its very pleasant surroundings.

On arrival at the archives, bags are left in a supervised security area. Once at the reference desk, first-time patrons are provided with a kit comprising guides to National Archive facilities and services - and a free pencil! As well as giving most of the information the average researcher will need to know, the kit is well designed, i.e., nice to look at. The resealable plastic bag in which the kit is contained is ideal for holding your own papers, car keys, etc., once inside the reference areas.

The new computer ordering system is fully explained to new patrons by desk staff and is very easy to use. After registering under the new system, a National Archives identity card is supplied. This carries the patron’s name and unique number (which is displayed on an electronic board when requested items are ready for use), but patrons must remember their (self-chosen) password. To register and receive my new card took less than five minutes: quite impressive.

Unfortunately, National Archives’ material is, for the average patron, as difficult to find as ever, requiring fairly particular knowledge of what one seeks to be of any use. Perhaps one day the Archive will have the
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luxury of a database such as TAPUHI which can cope with more general subject, as well as specific, searches. However, Archives’ staff were very helpful and went ‘above and beyond the call’ to assist me with my rather vague requests for help.

Photocopying requests still take up to a week or more to process and cost twice as much as that of their neighbour, the Turnbull.

The research areas are spacious and light, with plenty of room to work, and a visit to the café - before, during, after, or instead of using the reference facilities - is an absolute must: sublime coffee, sumptuous cakes and glorious lunches. This is an archival eating place beyond compare - unlike the vastly less salubrious coffee shop at the National Library.

Philip R. Hart
Department of History
University of Waikato

I left Archives after my visit on opening day on 9 December 1991 bearing a certificate to prove that I had been one of the first customers, a card with my own special number, a folder of useful information, and a variety of impressions. The building: undoubtedly a great improvement on the earlier premises, but the air-conditioning in certain parts of the reading room sounded like a ship’s engine. The bag check was a good idea, but the number of security guards seemed both quaint and an unnecessary expense. The computer access system was rather a hurdle for all concerned, and the queue to sign on was the first indication of the inadequate number of terminals available for customers to request items, and for staff to record the issue and return of items. The staff were enthusiastic, all doing their best to cope with a new computer system that intermittently failed, a slow lift, and no Register Room because of the absence of any shelves therein!

As things have settled down, the consequences of the move have become apparent, especially for ‘out-of-towners’. One regrettable aspect is delays and waste of time. Assuming an arrival in Wellington by the morning plane, if one is on the doorstep in time to type in requests by 9.15, there is then a delay until 11.30 when material is received. Of course one can then rush off to the National Library to fill in the time - but that institution has a delay factor built in as well! Also, a decision has been made that in the interests of democracy nobody can ask for more than 11 items at a time; however, some (e.g. Inquests) may be as brief as two or three pages in length. If quickly perused and handed back, they are not (and cannot be) immediately checked off by staff, and the computer
**Tomorrow’s History**

therefore does not know that there are only, in reality, say three or four items still in the pipeline, and so does not allow researchers to type in more requests. Why not have a system whereby (upon explanation to staff), extra requests can be typed in? Naturally it would be unfair of customers to expect instant production of the material, but at least the material would be in the pipeline being processed. Can there perhaps be a special deal for ‘out-of-towners’, whose visits are rare, and who wish to spend every minute of the day working?

The process of enrolling seemed rather cumbersome. Many people were simply making one genealogical enquiry, and might never visit Archives again in their lives. Do they really need to go through the process of having their own special number, secret password, etc: especially as so many of them find the process of putting requests in via computer intimidating? And a suggestion to ease the workload on staff: could the *Intentions to Marry* volumes be microfilmed over time and held on open shelves for instant access?

Most of the impressions are positive, despite the grumbles above, and I appreciate that the difficulties have arisen largely through lack of government funding, resulting in under-staffing and less than desirable computer facilities. The staff are friendly, the conditions of work are very comfortable (but why are the microfilm readers so close to the windows? Could they not be in a darker room where they can be read with more ease?) and one splendid step forward on the old buildings - the café is excellent!

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Megan Hutching  
Historical Branch  
Department of Internal Affairs

The Alexander Turnbull Library Manuscripts Section has a new computer-based catalogue - TAPUH1 - which allows users to search horizontally and vertically through its files. The system is great, although it takes practice to get used to it. Fortunately the staff are very thorough in their explanations and there is a tutorial that users can put themselves through, if they have time and want to learn how to use the system to its best effect. The ordering system for items on TAPUH1 is now done by computer as well. The disadvantage is that not all files are on TAPUH1 and so two systems are working at the same time. This is not a major problem, however, and will not cost users too much time.

The Oral History archive, based in the Manuscripts Section, has a few more problems for users. First of all, the computer catalogue on KIWINET is difficult to use and virtually inaccessible without the help of
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a staff member. The abstracts (annotated indexes) to the interviews have been time coded - an excellent idea - but the listening copies of the tapes are not, so that you cannot copy down references from the abstracts, for example, 12' 40", and go straight to that place on the tape. Instead, you must listen to the whole side in order to find the part you want. It seems a complete waste of time to have a time-coded index but not a time-coded tape. However, it is likely that this will change. The other problem is that the tape decks in the listening booths are on a shelf, making it uncomfortable to use them if you are transcribing - your arm gets tired as you switch the recorder on and off!
Legal Records in the Commonwealth

The legal records project is a multi-disciplinary research study involving cooperation between the University of London, the Commonwealth Legal Education Association and the Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Records Managers.

The project's aim is to analyse problems relating to the management, appraisal, preservation and destruction of legal records of all kinds and, through an in-depth case-study in Ghana, to develop a flexible model for formulating and implementing policies for the management and preservation of legal records in Commonwealth jurisdictions. The project will concentrate on records that are of semi-current or archival value, but will also have practical implications for the management of current records. The objectives of the study are to:

- analyse questions relating to the nature, extent, and potential uses of legal records of all kinds;
- collect information about the state of legal records in selected Commonwealth jurisdictions;
- analyse factors relevant to devising informed policies regarding the management, appraisal, preservation and destruction of legal records of semi-current or archival value, and suggest guidelines;
- produce and disseminate the findings of this study in a form that will be useful to interested institutions and individuals in different jurisdictions of the Commonwealth, especially in developing countries.

... The project will last for two and a half years from April 1990... Apart from any influence they may have on official policies, it is hoped that the results of the study will help to spread awareness of developments in records management in legal circles and of changing conceptions of the scholarly relevance of legal records among archivists and records managers. It is also envisaged that the project will stimulate local reappraisals of current policies and practices affecting legal records in many Commonwealth jurisdictions in both the public and private sectors....

For further information contact William Twining and Anne Thurston, c/o ACARM, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, 28 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DS. Society of Archivists Newsletter No. 60 March 1992

Cartoons Collected

New Zealand cartoonists, among them Al Nisbet of "The Press", will have their work officially honoured next week by the establishment of the New Zealand Cartoon Archive. The archive is a partnership between the Cartoon Archive Trust and the Alexander Turnbull Library. It will build on the library's existing cartoon collection, with 24 cartoonists including Murray Ball, Tom Scott, Eric Heath, and Sid Scales, giving a representative selection of their work. A collection of the work of the late Neville Lodge will also be deposited with the archive. Newspapers will send bromide copies of their cartoons to ensure the archive continues to grow.

Christchurch Press 28 March 1992

Picture Shows from the Kiwi Past

The New Zealand Film Archive is dusting the cobwebs off its collection to unspool a new era in accessibility and entertainment. "For the last 10 years we've been working very much behind closed doors to repair nitrate film before it disintegrates," says archive director Cheryl Linge. "Now we're ready to throw the doors open and show what we have."

To this end, the archive has appointed a marketing manager. The creation of the post coincides with the launch of the archive's Last Film Search pilot in the Wairarapa... and the finalising of plans for a motion picture museum to open in Wellington called The Picture House.

"The general public doesn't know a great
deal about us," says Linge, who took over the directorship last year. "We have appealed to more of an academic film audience. What we would like to do is broaden that perspective and to have some blockbusters....
We want to make our films not only more accessible but entertaining and fun as well. We want to get New Zealanders in touch with their past."

...Lynne Carruthers [marketing director] believes the new-era archive has "unlimited potential... The archive reflects who we are. It's our national identity. We have only barely touched the surface of what's available here. For example, the Magic Moments television advertisements were of tremendous interest. New Zealanders have an insatiable appetite for nostalgia. Moving images have been described as the ultimate time machine. And New Zealand history has been surprisingly well documented on film. The earliest film in the archive dates back to 1897, and the earliest New Zealand film to 1901."

With this library, along with 60,000 stills and 30,000 posters, the archive offers ripe prospects for sponsorship and merchandising, says Carruthers."

Evening Post 4 April 1992

NZ Film Archive Gets Own Home
The New Zealand Film Archive is getting its first permanent home - the John Chambers building in Jervois Quay, which will be set up as a moving pictures showhouse and resources centre. ....
The site has a 1990 GV of $2.6 million - while the building is valued at nothing. The archive will not disclose what it paid for it. It will be refurbished for $1.1 million by architect Ian Athfield. The archive is now in five places. Internal Affairs Minister, and Lottery Grants Board chairman, Graeme Lee presented the archive with a $1.2 million cheque today - to go towards refurbishing and moving into its new home. He said the archive had had temporary and sub-standard accommodation since it began in 1981. Ms Linge said the archive would seek a further $1 million in sponsorship to update equipment. The cost to move would be between $100,000 and $200,000.... Planned public facilities include;

- A national film theatre for screenings of archive and other material.
- A gallery to house exhibitions of early film equipment, film restoration work, props from well-known New Zealand film and television productions, and other historical and contemporary material.
- Film and video viewing booths.
- A cafe-restaurant.

Evening Post 14 July 1992

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Records Recovered
Valuable forestry records taken by a former Forest Service employee when the service disbanded in 1987 have been recovered by West Coast Timberlands after a lengthy legal battle. Mr Gernot Uhlig, the director of Angel Sustained Forest Management Ltd, has had to return records worth about $300,000. They are critical to the management of rimu forest reserves in Saltwater and North Okarito on the West Coast.

The Press 15 April 1992

Bank Learns System Lesson the Hard Way
The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco has just learnt a key lesson in disaster recovery: Don't test your disaster recovery system at a time when it's likely to cause a disaster.

During such a test, the West Coast arm of the Fed's mainframe in Los Angeles froze for 12 hours, leaving thousands of consumers in California and Arizona stranded without automatic payroll deposits. Though the Fed would not make public specific figures about the funds affected, about US$2 billion (NZ$3.5 billion) is processed each day through its Los Angeles office....

About 15 banking institutions were affected... Among other responsibilities, the Fed acts as a clearing house for automatic payroll deposits and social security checks for banks in its district.

The computer snafu occurred when programmers in the Fed's San Francisco office were testing procedures for recovering data in case of disasters such as earthquakes, according to Nancy Emerson, director of application's systems.

In testing the procedures, which involve transferring back-up data from an IBM 3090 in San Francisco to one in Los
**News & Notes**

**Angeles**, a dataset used in the internal operation of the mainframe interfered with a similar dataset already in use by the Los Angeles machine, causing it to shut down, Ms Emerson said.

"More than anything it was timing," she said. To avoid such problems in the future, the Fed is changing the time of day it tests recovery procedures. The bank is also investigating just what happens to data when it arrives in the Los Angeles environment. The Fed initially—and erroneously—blamed the disaster on human error.

*Dominion 11 May 1992*

**Records of Genocide in US Safekeeping**

A tattered, yellow file tells of the tragic short life of Sulayman Ali Tayh, aged 16, an illiterate Kurdish shepherd, and three of his teenage friends in President Hussein’s Iraq.

His mistake was letting sheep graze near one of northern Iraq’s Kurdish villages, which Iraqi forces had razed and declared off-limits. Taken into custody by the secret police, he said he had just followed his sheep and did not know anything about Kurdish rebels in the area....

After that, the file contains a notation directing the secret police to carry out 'paragraph five': as ordered by the ruling Baath Party. Four green death certificates, dated March 1, 1988, list executions as the cause of their deaths.

As they undertook their leader’s brutal, three-year campaign of destruction aimed at the Kurds, Iraq’s secret police compiled millions of pages of meticulous records. Kurdish leaders and human rights organisations say these documents provide a unique historical record of the gross human rights abuses in Iraq. These could be used some day to charge members of the regime with crimes against humanity or genocide....

Kurdish rebels, known as Peshmerga, seized the documents last year during their uprising after the Gulf War. But the Kurdish leaders, and Western human-rights groups, feared Iraqi authorities would try to capture or destroy them.

Last week, in a politically sensitive mission, the United States military flew some of the files from Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq for safekeeping in the United States. The nearly 900 crates of documents arrived in Washington at the weekend on a United States Air Force jet.

Some of the documents provide a bureaucratic register of officially sanctioned killings. One ledger, with a flower-patterned cover, lists on each page the name and personal information of those executed on a single day. The names of four brothers follow one another on four pages.

'These documents detail extensive atrocities committed against the Kurdish population of northern Iraq, including torture, destruction of villages and cities, and mass murder,' said Mr Peter Dalbraith, a staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

*New Zealand Herald 27 May 1992*

**Letters on Show After 150 Years**

Letters written by a German missionary from Warea, South Taranaki, almost 150 years ago will get their first public airing in Taranaki this month.

The letters were written by Johann Friedrich Riemen Schneider in the late 1840s and 1850s and translated from their original German by the dean of humanities at Waikato University, Professor Peter Oettli.

According to the Taranaki Museum archivist, Mary Donald, they will be discussed at the Archives and Records Association conference in New Plymouth and will be one of the highlights.

"It will be like opening a time capsule," she said. "The letters were written before the Land Wars broke out - they could be just religious reports but hopefully will be very enlightening."

*New Zealand Herald 6 August 1992*

**Russia Today - Everything For Sale**

....Should Russia be a place where literally everything is for sale?... Not a day seems to pass without another former Soviet institution succumbing to the predations of the free market. Moscow Times recently gave a chilling account of how the body in charge of most of the state and federal historical archives in Russia was selling publication rights off to Western publishers.

....Like everything else here, Roskomarkhiv, the organisation that administers 18 federal
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and state archives in Moscow and St Petersburg and 2000 archives throughout Russia, is running out of money. It barely has enough money to pay the wages, but soon the electricity and the telephones will be cut off. They can petition the government and there are those around Yeltsin who do understand the cultural implications of what is happening, but the state budget is running a huge deficit. They too are broke.

So the historians in charge of Roskomarkhiv look at what they have got locked away in the vaults that they can sell. They signed a $3 million contract with the Hoover Institution under which Hoover and Chadwyck-Healy, in Britain, are given the right to microfilm 25 million pages of archival documents. This money alone will pay for equipment and the salaries of the staff.

The committee on archives is in similar negotiations with the Feltrinelli Foundation in Italy, the Institute of Social History in Holland, and the University of Tel Aviv. Apart from the fact that none of these countries or institutions would allow the same thing to happen to their archives, deals such as these are doing the same thing to the archives as Stalin or Lenin did. All over the country, the doors are closing again.

Russians and American historians are now finding that they are being denied access to whole sections of the archives, because they are under contract. No one is taking them physically away, but for the period in which a book or several books are being researched and written, and that runs into years, access remains the exclusive right of the buyer.

Roskomarkhiv are more than aware of the ethical dilemma they are in. They can’t simply turn off the light, close the door, and let their archives be eaten by Moscow’s burgeoning rat population... They cannot pay to keep the light on, so they need to find some way of surviving.

At least Roskomarkhiv are honest about it. The KGB, who are doing the same thing to their prize secrets, assume an air of injured innocence when asked how much they are getting for their contract with Random House in the US. I am sorry, I should have said the Russian Intelligence Service, that completely reformed body of idealists and seekers after the truth, who feel it their responsibility, nay, their duty, to make sure that only serious historians can have access to their archives - with serious money...

Books and Book Reviews


Professor McIntyre has written an impressive book that manages to combine, in relatively short compass, a detailed work of reference to the multifarious organizations and activities in the Commonwealth framework with a perceptive analysis of Commonwealth history, current ethos, and the personalities of some of its leading practitioners. While he fairly presents the criticisms that have been levelled against it and the questions that have been raised about its relevance to the world of today, the reader emerges with a picture of a remarkably lively and dynamic system that continues to evolve and adapt organically to its changing internal and external environment. It does still appear to have a unique and useful role to play for its member countries and the world at large.

The author rightly attributes much of the Commonwealth’s vitality and effectiveness to the personalities, visions, and strength of the first two Secretaries-General, who both left indelible imprints on the Commonwealth Secretariat, set up in 1965, and the Commonwealth system -Arnold Smith, former Canadian diplomat, and Sonny Ramphal, former Foreign Minister of Guyana. The third, Emeka Anyaoku (a very experienced, intelligent, and sensible man who has also been Foreign Minister of Nigeria) had barely had time to make his mark when the book was written. At the time of this review, the dramatically changing situation in South Africa and hints of its possible wish to rejoin the Commonwealth have put him in a potentially key position to exercise backroom influence (in which he is adept) on the pattern and pace of change within the Republic and in its relations with the Front Line States and the rest of Africa and the world.

One of the fundamental needs facing successive Secretaries-General and the Secretariat was to establish and maintain its complete and visible independence from the British government, which clung to a natural and historically not unreasonable assumption that it was both director and leading actor on the Commonwealth stage. To some extent this assumption was still shared by a number of the new Commonwealth countries, which on occasion threatened to withdraw from the Commonwealth in order to punish Britain for some aspect of British policy or action they did not like, and some blunt talking by the Secretary-General was sometimes necessary to straighten this out.

Another basic need was to counter the attitude of several governments that the Secretariat was merely a clerical and servicing office with no
authority or ability to take action or to initiate proposals to governments. The book gives several amusing accounts of how Secretaries-General countered periodic attempts to put them and the Secretariat in their place. In this tussle they could often rely on the support of many of the smaller countries which saw the Secretariat as a protector of their rights and provider of their needs. In the upshot, the Commonwealth has achieved an existence independent of Britain as an international organization in its own right, growing out of its own soil.

Arnold Smith's ten years (1965-75) were the crucial ones in laying the groundwork and building a powerful and effective Secretariat. The Queen recognized the importance of his part in strengthening the Commonwealth system, and her own role as its Head which has turned out to be such a major and irreplaceable cohesive factor, by creating him Companion of Honour. He initiated the emphasis on functional cooperation for which its historical evolution had made it particularly well suited; and Sonny Ramphal substantially expanded it. Ramphal also strengthened the Secretary-General's role on the world stage. ('The Commonwealth cannot negotiate for the world, he said, but it can help the world to negotiate.') As Professor McIntyre says, 'between them, Arnold Smith and Sonny Ramphal established the position of Secretary-General as one of major significance'. Ramphal was the only common member of all five of the independent world commissions of the 1980s - the Brandt Commission on international development, the Palme Commission on disarmament, the Brundtland Commission on the impact of development on the environment, the South Commission on self-reliance through 'South-South' (i.e. underdeveloped) cooperation, and the Independent Commission on Humanitarian Issues. In these and many other ways, all three Secretaries-General have pursued the goal of 'globalizing' the Commonwealth.

Although Commonwealth political activities are sometimes more publicly visible, the greater part of the resources and action goes into important practical fields such as education (including distant learning), human resource development, youth activities, the promotion of democracy and human rights, women and development, and many others.

The Commonwealth gave a major lead in popularizing programmes of governmental assistance to developing countries, and ridding them of the perceived stigma of imperialism, by establishing the Colombo Plan, which was spawned by the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Colombo in 1950. The Secretariat has built further on this by setting up the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, a modest (£22 million in 1988-89) but very efficient and effective aid-giving agency with a special capacity for rapid expert response to urgent needs of developing Commonwealth countries. In this, departing from the then conventional approach, it has drawn experts largely (and more economically) from other developing countries which have succeeded in surmounting similar problems.

Archifacts
Reviews

Even in the sensitive field of national security, Commonwealth connections were helpful in a number of difficult situations. And at their regular biennial meeting in 1983 in Delhi, the Heads of Government decided to look into ways of helping small countries to protect themselves. The resulting expert group reported that the Commonwealth ‘had decided operational advantages [because of] its well-established informal and flexible channels of communication’. The Rhodesian settlement, analyzed at some length in this book, could probably not have been achieved peacefully without protracted Commonwealth pressure on both sides.

A significant part of the book is its exploration of the ‘unofficial Commonwealth’ which is seen as its main underlying strength - the enormous all-pervasive network of professional, sporting, cultural and people institutes, assemblies, conferences and committees that involve, the author estimates, perhaps a million people, most of them influential, around the Commonwealth. While much of this has evolved spontaneously as a result of shared history, much too has been stimulated by the Secretariat and other parts of the ‘official Commonwealth’. Even to the initiated, the impact of Professor McIntyre’s wide-ranging research and presentation of this uncharted field is eye-opening.

The breadth of ground to be covered in what is in effect a comprehensive catalogue of the Commonwealth and its development has made for compression and density of writing in some sections. But this is compensated for by lively discursive and analytical writing in others, and most of the book is eminently readable. A minor quibble is at the (no doubt unavoidable) proliferation of acronyms in some sections. Most, though not all, are explained somewhere in the 269 pages of text. But when the reader’s memory fails, it can be time-consuming, not to say exasperating, business looking back (or in a few cases, forward!) for guidance. Even the knowledgeable reader might reel back when faced with ‘The CCFMSA met during the CHOGM and Heads of Government reiterated their support for the 1986 EPG’s “Possible Negotiating Concept”’. A table of acronyms for quick reference would have been a great help.

That said, this is a most useful and perceptive book. Skilfully setting the evolving Commonwealth role within the changing world situation, it will interest not only students of the Commonwealth but everyone seeking to understand the relationship between ‘North’ and ‘South’, the developed and developing world, that is so crucial a component of the national and world scene.

R. Hunter Wade
Howick
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Archifacts


The provincialism which has dominated New Zealand’s health services and which has hindered the development of a comprehensive health policy also dominates this guide to medical and public health archives. The entries are listed by 17 regions, from north to south. This organization makes sense if one wants to study the Sunlight League in Canterbury, for example, but it does not facilitate national studies. Tuberculosis is a case in point: the index has one entry referring to the papers of Sir Charles Hercus held in the Medical Library at the University of Otago (p.63), yet a careful reading of the whole guide would reveal clues to other sources, such as the material on the Taranaki Mobile X-ray Unit held in the New Zealand Room of the New Plymouth District Library (p.11). The directory is, therefore, an unwieldy instrument, but despite deficiencies in organization it should stimulate research into aspects of New Zealand’s medical history.

Frank Rogers makes clear at the outset the limitations of the directory. It is based on the finding aids of the major archival institutions and supplemented by questionnaires sent to others. Description of the entries is minimal, but one gets a sense of the range of people concerned with health matters throughout the country, from the files of Medical School Deans and politicians to the letters of a psychiatric patient. The somewhat cramped presentation is enlivened by appropriate illustrations; the sketch of the fire escape chute from Sunnyside asylum reminds us that a wealth of information can be gained from visual images alone. Reading the whole directory provides a useful introduction to the fields, and is particularly timely with the current reorganization of the health system. It is a testament to a time when health was a public concern and created documents that entered the public arena. Frank Rogers is to be thanked for making the record of that period more accessible.

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This is top-notch official history. Like Mr McGibbon’s distinguished first book, *Blue-Water Rationale: The Naval Defence of New Zealand 1914-1942* (Wellington: Government Printer, 1981), it goes far towards achievement of the ideal of dispassionate analysis rooted in meticulous consideration of the full range of sources. It is also an important and timely
study. For too long New Zealand's part in the defence of the British Empire prior to the First World War has been related as a fragment of general studies, or of those whose focus is Britain, Canada or Australia.

The story of Britain's military relations with her settlement colonies is a remarkable one. When in the mid-nineteenth century Britain withdrew her armed forces from the colonies for ideological, financial and strategic reasons, those young communities were scarcely willing or able to mount a minimal local self-defence effort. In 1914-18, less than 50 years after the last British garrisons went home, Canada, Australia and New Zealand poured more than a million troops - one person in ten of their populations - into 'Imperial' armies in the Middle East and on the western front. Becoming virtually national armies in themselves, these forces fought tenaciously, at times brilliantly, and played no small part in making Britain a predominant land power. At the same time, naval contributions helped to fill critical gaps in British seapower, and many thousands of overseas personnel served in the British air forces.

However clear and dramatic the outcome may have seemed in 1914, the transformation of the settlement empire into a formidable alliance is a difficult subject. Defence issues were at the vortex of complex and rapid change - in the emergence of the settlement colonies as quasi-national states with distinct interests and political cultures, in relations between the colonies and the mother country, in government institutions in Britain and overseas, in international relations, in military technology, and in the nature of armed forces. The records are rich, but their use demands painstaking scholarship, emanating as they did from several British departments, both armed services, and colonial administrations and armed forces whose structures were often ambiguous. Because defence was so frequently a leading and emotive public issue, newspapers, periodicals and private papers must also be mined.

The author has succeeded admirably in shaping this mass of material into a clear, brisk narrative of only 259 pages. Specialists, particularly those who reside overseas, will be grateful for the skilful manner in which he nevertheless summarizes a wealth of documents from New Zealand archives, relates them to sources found elsewhere, and provides model references.

Yet the book is certainly not an arid record of what officials and clerks in capital cities wrote to one another. Mr McGibbon describes the evolving organization of the New Zealand forces in sufficient detail to relate general policies to developments in particular districts. He has also mastered the sometimes arcane weapons technology of the time - spar-torpedo boats and control submarine mines are two examples - to describe with satisfying fullness the equipment New Zealand procured and the installations that were constructed. An excellent selection of photographs, diagrams and maps complements the text. A Canadian culture vulture might justifiably exclaim, 'This is better than history: it's "heritage"', high praise that, roughly translated, means that the book is
destined for an audience wider than an academic one. It should attract everyone with an interest, professional or casual, in military museums, historic sites and artifacts.

New Zealand's experience echoed that of Canada and Australia in many respects. Although the author does not remark upon the parallels, he presents a good deal of evidence bearing on common threads. All three governments were periodically unsettled by Britain's willingness, as it seemed, to sacrifice colonial interests to maintain stable relations with other powers. Yet in periods of international calm, the colonial populations and most politicians took no interest in defence, and the armed forces, largely volunteer militias, became little more than social clubs. British officers engaged as advisors, themselves caught up in controversies at home over organization, technology and strategy, made contradictory or impractical recommendations, and on occasion flagrantly challenged the constitutional authority of colonial governments by publicly denouncing their policies.

New Zealand nevertheless frequently took the lead in urging Imperial co-operation, particularly during and after the South African War of 1899-1902, when the relative decline of British power became evident. This point has been made by other writers, but Mr McGibbon sharpens it by showing how fully New Zealand crafted its policies and forces to promote the cause, indeed to press other dominions and Britain to follow suit. Moreover, although the author scrupulously reports dissent from the pro-Empire line, he demonstrates that it was insignificant in the face of a broad consensus. That is perhaps the most interesting feature of New Zealand's story when compared to the controversy between parties and communities in Canada and Britain and, on certain issues, in Australia as well.

Mr McGibbon, however, does not celebrate a unique and laudable devotion to the mother country or some higher ideal of Empire union. Rather, the core of his analysis is that New Zealand acted out of intelligent self-interest, dictated by the needs of an isolated, small community utterly dependent upon a British strategic umbrella that increasingly looked like it needed propping up. In this, the author strongly supports the conclusions of the literature about Australia, Britain and Canada produced during the last 30 years. Historians, in sifting through personal correspondence and confidential files, have discovered what successful political leaders of the time understood. As Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Prime Minister of Canada, put it in secret sessions of the Colonial Conference of 1897, the real basic principle of Imperial defence was 'looking after No.1 first'.

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Recent threats of compulsory power cuts have brought home forcibly to New Zealanders the extent to which the nation depends upon electricity as its primary energy source. It was not, of course, always so. As late as the first decade of the present century coal accounted for around 90% of all inanimate energy consumed, it not being until the 1920s that domestic, as well as industrial, use of hydro-generated electricity burgeoned. Once the pattern was established, however, it was maintained. After a brief hiccup in the 1930s, likely future demand being wrongly assessed, the trend towards electricity dependence accelerated in the post-World War II years. The upshot was that demand constantly threatened to outstrip supply. It is therefore understandable that power generation, particularly hydro-electric power generation, should have attracted a high public profile. After all, it was energy being produced locally, and being promoted as indispensable for industrial development and, by extension, economic growth; and the generation capacity was being created amidst a flurry of employment-providing constructional activity. Controlled by giant concrete or earth dams, artificial lakes proliferated in both islands, recasting micro-landscapes. High-voltage transmission lines tracked to even the most isolated districts. There has not been one year since 1945 in which at least one major generating plant has not been under construction somewhere in the country. The volume under review endeavours to retrace the efforts to satiate the continually growing energy hunger through the provision of additional capacity, and to place them in the context of official policy development, itself the product of interacting economic preferences and imperatives and changing social trends. Hence the nicely alliterative title.

It must be stated unreservedly that, in appearance, this is an attractive book. Of large format, profusely illustrated, well printed, it is a fine example of the publisher’s art. The selected photographs, most interesting, some striking, are uniformly well reproduced. Refreshingly, good use is also made of technical drawings, though it is disappointing these are largely confined to the early chapters. Such representations often lie neglected, which is a pity. They are singularly appropriate to such a study. The (presumably) specially drawn maps of particular power schemes are clear and crisp, and, with their boxed accompanying notes, constitute handy summaries of the component parts, past and present, of the national grid. In all, then, this is an admirable browser’s book, one to be dipped into, one to delight the heart of the public relations section of the commissioning organization.

Yet, in what purports to be an official history, there must, or should, be even greater emphasis on the text. In the end, that is what constitutes the record, the future reference source. Evaluated in this light, the
Account is always informative, if at times a little pedestrian. Couched in
matter-of-fact prose, the story is set down in three parts. In a brief
introductory survey, the beginnings of power generation are traced
through to 1917. The demand for an alternative energy source is
established, and the first experiments, for example, at Bullendale and
Reefton, probed. Of even greater significance, the reasons for the state’s
direct entry into the electricity generation industry are discussed. As with
so many other colonial developmental projects, it was the state, and only
the state, which possessed the borrowing ability to ensure accomplish-
ment. The second part essentially covers the inter-war years, then the
years of emergency to 1945. In the space of three chapters the growth of
demand is considered, and the response, the planning of a national
generation network and the beginnings of its construction, recounted.
By far the greater part of the book, nine chapters, is devoted to post-1945
developments. After a brief review of changing planning priorities, the
major schemes of the past half-century (Waikato River, Central North
Island, Lower South Island) are outlined. Both the successes and
difficulties are summarized. To round things out there are also separate
chapters on the laying of the Cook Strait cable, the building of thermal
stations and experiments with geothermal generation. With comment
on the state’s changing role linking the parts, it is to be regretted that
discussion of the most recent change, the transfer of generation respon-
sibility to a commercially oriented state-owned enterprise, is cursory.
Throughout, the overwhelming emphasis is on power generation. With
responsibility for distribution having been delegated to popularly elected
boards from 1918 (this being dealt with in Neil Rennie’s Power to the
People, 1989) the separation is perfectly appropriate. The treatment of
plant construction is never less than workmanlike. Discussion of policy
formation is somewhat more succinct. More might have been made of
conflicting influences and the place, particularly in recent decades, of
changing public opinion. Related to this, it might also have been
possible to knit more tightly the power generation strand into the wider
story of New Zealand development. These, however, are the habitual
reviewer bayings for the book which might have been written, rather
than criticisms of that which has been.

Despite its informativeness and general readability, however, it is in
respect of the text that a number of reservations arise. For a start, there
is the puzzle of authorship. While the editor’s name appears on title page
and spine, there is no immediate indication to whom authorship may be
attributed. Tucked away in the preface is the statement that the book has
its origins in a work commissioned by the Electricity Division of the
Ministry of Energy in 1985. Some distance on the reader learns that Peter
O’Connor and Mary Ronnie researched and wrote this first draft, but
‘are not responsible for the text in its published form’. Dr Martin, we are
told, ‘was largely responsible for this work’, undertaking both extensive
revision of the existing text and the research and writing of additional
(unidentified) chapters. Was, then, the editor’s role strictly that?
Reviews

Apparently not. Did Dr Martin's contribution amount to authorship; or at least to co-authorship? The reader is not told. This raises some difficulties, the most serious being just whose interpretations and judgements the reader is being asked to accept. This caveat is not just pedantry. If the book is to have ongoing importance as a reference source for future inquirers, it is surely imperative that authorial responsibility for the various sections be fully spelt out.

There is also the matter of referencing. Given the uncertainties of authorship, it is doubly important that the book's findings be readily verifiable, that the serious researcher be signposted to the most important data lodes. Wisely, presumably with a general readership in mind, the editor has opted for endnotes in preference to sometimes intrusive footnoting. This has the effect of adequately accommodating two potential audiences. At first glance there seems ample provender even for those who flick to the notes first, perhaps for scholarly reassurance. Ten pages are given over to 'notes and references' and a 'select bibliography'. Closer examination of those pages, however, stirs further disquiet. The notes and references, in most cases, more closely approximate 'suggestions for further reading' than normal scholarly apparatus. While some obscure articles in professional publications have been helpfully cited, there is little indication of the use of manuscript records. This is borne out in the select bibliography, which is very select, and predominantly a listing of published books and articles, together with relevant journals and theses. The only sign of the use of primary sources is a noting of three classes of published official papers. Of the surely critical files of such agencies as the Works and Electricity Departments there is no mention. This begs several questions. Did the editor confine himself to secondary materials in bringing the book to publication? Was the O'Connor-Ronnie draft on which the book is based undocumented? If the latter were the case, as one who shared the National Archives reading room with Professor O'Connor for nearly 12 months of the research phase, I would be astounded. In that time the Professor turned over, almost literally, a mountain of files, taking notes all the while. Has all this documentation been lost? Conversely, was there a conscious decision to restrict referencing to what might be considered readily available sources?

It may be considered that the immediately foregoing comments are unduly 'picky', that what has been accomplished should be celebrated rather than subjected to what is intended as constructive criticism. That might be so, but for the fact that the volume has recently been vigorously advanced by the Department of Internal Affairs' Historical Branch, the unit in which it was brought to publication readiness, as 'a model' of what a sponsored official history should be. That is the basis on which it must be judged. This can scarcely be so in terms of research and writing, given the apparent problems in preparation. As a model, therefore, it has to be assessed on product presentation. There can be little doubt it is representative of a new genre in sponsored official histories. It has been suggested that such histories should in future be both authoritative
reference works and, at the same time, works of broad general appeal. In itself, this is unexceptionable. The two objectives are not necessarily antithetical. But there must be balance. The prescription for achieving the second objective is 'packaging': put bluntly, restricted length, copious illustration and bold format. This too is unexceptionable; so long as packaging considerations do not obscure the desirability of also producing deeper seminal works. By the current Chief Historian's own admission these remain desperately needed, and are unlikely to emanate from the halls of academe in the foreseeable future. If the Branch is not to initiate and oversee the preparation of more deeply researched, more substantial, administrative histories - who is? Quite clearly a number of perceptions have motivated this apparent change in approach: a need to build up the Branch's annual list, the attitudes of collaborating publishers, not least a belief that commissioning agencies prefer the sketch to the master work. About the first there can be no quarrel. With respect to the second, the proof will lie in eventual sales figures. As to the third, it is surely a Branch mission to guide commissioning agencies as to the most appropriate form for a commemorative volume, and at the highest possible level. That there is considerable disagreement, at least among outsiders, as to what might constitute a model official history, is evident from the informal discussions stimulated by recent exchanges in the Branch's newsletter.

To cavil further would be churlish. People, Politics and Power Stations, if scarcely a model, remains a very useful book. Suffice it to say that this former teacher of New Zealand economic history would have been happy to have had it on his shelf during that incarnation. It would have made the preparation of at least one lecture a great deal easier!

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Kerry Howe's biography of Edward Trégear adds greatly to our understanding of the forging of a 'modern' society in late nineteenth-century New Zealand. He uses the trajectory of one individual to embody different key facets of this experience at different times - as a soldier and surveyor on the frontier and then as a scholar and bureaucrat. Much of the book is concerned with Tregear's intellectual development and its expression in poetry and Maori and Polynesian studies, and his key role as a public servant in the Department of Labour. Howe argues that Tregear's driving force was the struggle with a number of 'emotional and
intellectual colonising processes’ by which this country could be ‘civi-
lised’ and ‘domesticated’. In the very process he also forged his own
sense of self or identity. Howe effectively draws on Tregear’s own poetry
as a commentary on his life, illustrating in an intimate manner how his
identity unfolded.

The power of this book lies in the fusion of broad social processes with
the development of personal identity. Here the individual both creates
and bears the imprint of social processes; he both mirrors and casts light
on these processes.

The first part of the book describes Tregear’s experiences in the New
Zealand wars and then his surveying work in the 1870s, culminating in
his marriage in 1880. There was then an outpouring of writing on all
kinds of issues, so that by the early 1890s Tregear could be described as
being in the forefront of this country’s intellectual life and had an
international reputation in Polynesian studies. He is perhaps best known
for his first major publication on the Aryan origins of the Maori, based
on perceived parallels in language and myth; his most-respected labour
of love was a Maori dictionary.

Howe makes little judgement on Tregear’s theories other than to
incorporate them into an overarching theme of intellectual possession,
being more content to place Tregear’s ideas in the context of his time.
He perhaps merely deflates Tregear gently by drawing on Atkinson’s
facetious association of the kakapo with the origin of a ‘cock and bull
story’! He does not agree, however, with other historians’ interpretation
that Tregear’s work was an attempt to propagate a policy of assimilation
of the Maori. Instead these efforts represented one means of populating
a ‘songless’ land.

In 1891 Tregear, a friend of Ballance and Reeves, was appointed as the
first head of the Department of Labour. He subsequently became one of
the foremost public servants of the Liberal period. He had strong Fabian
‘state socialist’ views and a clear commitment to labour rather than
capital which was at times undisguised. Beatrice Webb commented that
Tregear’s espousal of socialism would have made a British bureaucrat’s
‘hair stand on end’.

Tregear later referred to his ‘warring natures’, the contrast between
his literary and political personalities, but Howe interprets Tregear’s
role as a public servant as an extension of the same intellectual coloni-
ization process. Tregear’s departmental work gradually took precedence
over Polynesian studies and he lost interest in the latter. Now the present
and future social and economic world was to be codified, regulated and
organized also.

Tregear was a crucial figure in devising the key labour bills and much
other legislation besides and, just as important, in making the acts work
after Reeves’ departure. As Howe argues, he built the Department of
Labour into a key agency of ‘social engineering’. After fears that Seddon,
as Minister of Labour from 1896, would roll back Reeves’ reforms,
Tregear soon established a comfortable working relationship based on the fact that Seddon was content for Tregear himself, for all practical purposes, to become the Minister of Labour.

In 1906, after writing and having published a rather intemperate socialist letter and being widely criticized for it, Tregear almost lost this job. Although saved, he now worked under J.A. Millar, a Minister who proved a hard taskmaster and ran a tight ship. Tregear became increasingly constrained and lost much of his enthusiasm, while his much-admired arbitration system ran into considerable difficulties.

Tregear retired at the end of 1910. Now unfettered, he launched himself into political activities such as the formation of the United Labour Party and the subsequent Social Democratic Party. His underlying motivation was to recreate unity in the labour movement at a time when all seemed to be falling apart. But the industrial world did not now seem as amenable to Tregear’s organizing impulse.

Eventually, and perhaps ironically, it was the pace and noise of modern life that drove him and his wife out of Wellington. Tregear had been knocked down by a car, while their house had become increasingly noisy because of traffic and a jazz cabaret that had opened across the road. Tregear renounced the modern world and he and his now ailing wife left for Picton. In his own words, “I was determined to take no more part or interest in public affairs, or indeed, in active life. I just occupy a seat at the world’s movie-show and watch the films as they pass.” ¹ In this manner a key figure in the transformation of our society vacated the stage.

We should not forget, as a footnote, that Tregear was among the first to argue for the preservation of archives in New Zealand. He was more than once close to being appointed as Librarian of the General Assembly Library, a key contemporary repository. As for himself, he was rather more careless. On his retirement he left his work-related books to the Department of Labour, and when he left Wellington for Picton, he sold his library. This was doubly unfortunate for the researcher since not only has the material been dispersed and disappeared, but also much of the early official record of the Department of Labour was burned in the Hope Gibbons fire of 1952.

With the material that is available, though, Howe has carefully constructed a fascinating biography of a man who has for so long been little recognized and who encapsulated many key social transformations in the forging of his own identity.

REFERENCES
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Much of the literature of public history is devoted to intensive studies of single institutions or selected state activities. These detailed works enable an understanding of the historical and modern roles of individual public agencies and particular policies. And, of course, closely delineated narratives based on thorough primary research underpin more general descriptive and theoretical works which, in turn, sketch out the background for the consideration of specific institutions and activities. G.A. Wood and J.B. Ringer provide with their respective books very worthwhile contributions to New Zealand political science and bibliography, as well as valuable though quite different adjuncts to the historiography of the public sector in New Zealand.

Ringer offers a series of brief descriptions of the development and nature of a comprehensive list of public institutions. The constitutional basis of the New Zealand polity is outlined, as is the structure within which the executive, legislative and judicial functions of government are conducted. The reader is alerted to the rather ambiguous structural position and role of state-owned enterprises and other quangos, whether trading, regulatory or advisory. Local government structures are also surveyed; but the emphasis of the book is on national institutions and ‘core’ or traditionally structured state functions. This is an entirely reasonable approach. The curious nature of SOEs is still fast-evolving, and a detailed survey of local government at the local level would unbalance what is now a very convenient source book.

Ringer’s account of events is mostly straightforward and his style is always succinct, indeed almost Spartan. This is a work of reference in which the narrative sets the scene for the book’s substantive achievement: the presentation of an authoritative guide to sources. Ringer’s skills as a professional librarian are demonstrated by the precision and comprehensiveness of this compendium of bibliographical notes. Source material is arranged by major state functions and structural forms. In addition, a final chapter provides a guide not only to central sources available and essential to the study of government in New Zealand, but also to the repositories in which this material can be located. The sources listed in the book range over the whole field of government in New Zealand, yet substantial detail is provided on each topic. This guidebook should be the first port of call for those pursuing detailed research into New Zealand government, whether in the fields of public history, politics or public administration.

Wood covers the same range of topics as Ringer but from the perspective of a political scientist; the two books in fact complement
each other very neatly. Wood does not set out to provide more than a brief introduction to source material. His text, however, is illuminating in its explanation of the nature of New Zealand’s public institutions in relation to constitutional and political theory, and particularly in the comparisons that are developed between New Zealand and overseas experience. This broad context assists the definition of government structures in New Zealand. For example, the freedom of action enjoyed by the executive can be understood in terms of a combination of factors: Westminster-type cabinet government with the executive arising from the legislature, within which, with a first-past-the-post electoral system, a clear majority is usually assured; minimal written constitutional constraints on the executive; tight party discipline; a unicameral legislature; and the general environment of a small, unitary state. On this and other issues, Wood’s analysis benefits from his close knowledge of New Zealand history.

Wood explores the distinctive features of government in New Zealand in a style that is both concise and lively. Hopefully further editions of Governing New Zealand will be forthcoming: the current (first) edition was published in 1988, and in its emphasis on developments recent at that time it is already dated. Moreover, the outcome of the referenda on the electoral system may call for major revision of sections of the book. But its utility in describing and defining New Zealand government has not yet been substantially reduced. Governing New Zealand, like Ringer’s Introduction to New Zealand Government, deserves to be regarded as essential reading for the student of government in New Zealand.

Alan Henderson
Wellington
Accessions

Alexander Turnbull Library

AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS. Minute-books. 1939-1946. 3v.

AXCELL, MALCOLM J. Papers relating to the emigration of a group of children to New Zealand in 1949, and subsequent reunion of them. 1949-1961. 2 folders.

BARTON, BERNARD. Letter from William Ellis requesting verse on missionary themes. 23 August 1832. 1 folder.

BOUZAIM, GEORGE. Journal. 1871-1906. 1v and 1 folder. [Includes account of Bouzaid's emigration from Lebanon to New Zealand.]

BRIDGET WILLIAMS BOOKS. Papers relating to the Book of New Zealand Women/Ko Kui Ma Te Kaupapa. 1986-1990. 3.7m. Restricted.

CAMERON, LAURIE. Papers relating to his involvement in Gear Meat Company, National Research Advisory Council and the National Library. 1911-1979. 1.7m.

COUPLAND, HARDING R. Letter from Edward Tregear. 1893.

CHURCH OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW ZEALAND, PARISH OF MARTON. Records of St Stephen's Parochial School, c.1868-1974. 4m.

CONFERENCE OF CHURCHES OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND. Records of the programme on racism. 1982-1989. 2.6m.


DENNIS, JONATHON. Records of the Amamus Theatre Group, 1970-1978. 60cm.

FARMER, ANDREW. Log of proceedings of the HM surveying vessel Pandora. 1855-1856. 1v.

FLETCHER, H.A. Diary of a trip to Franz Joseph Glacier. 1914-1915. 1v.

HAMILTON, JOHN JOSEPH MONTGOMERY. Shipboard diary kept on the Electra, 1877. 1v and 1 folder.

HAMMOND FAMILY. Papers of T.G. Hammond and H.D. Hammond relating to Maori history. 1842-1985. 1m.

HARROP, ANGUS JOHN. Papers relating to New Zealand News, 1926-1957. 1 folder.

HOBY, HARRY. Diary of a journey to England for medical training. 1907. 1 folder.

ISERN, TOM. Papers relating to his research into the agricultural history of the tussock grasslands of New Zealand. 1 folder.

KITSON, HENRY. Gallipoli letters and diary. 1914-1916. 2v. and 2 folders.

MANCHESTER UNITY SPECIAL BENEFITS ASSOCIATION. Records. 1936-1983. 20cm.

MILNER, IAN. Literary and other papers. c.1938-1990. 2m.

MOUNT COOK SCHOOL. Records. 1881-1988. 2m.
Archifacts

NATIONAL DANCE ARCHIVE OF NEW ZEALAND. Records and papers relating to dance in New Zealand. 1927-1990. 2m.


NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUBS. Further records. 1940-1985. 1m.

NEW ZEALAND MANUFACTURERS' FEDERATION. Records, 1881-1989. 13m. Restricted.


NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICE. Establishment and associated registers. 1841-1937. 10 microfilm reels.

NEW ZEALAND SOUNDS HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY. Records. 1917-1959. 1m.

REED BOOKS. Questionnaires for the 12th edition of Who's Who in New Zealand. 2.3m.

ROBSON, NIGEL. War diaries of Roy Robson. 1915-1918. 1v.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND, WELLINGTON BRANCH. Records of the Royal Society of New Zealand and the Wellington Philosophical Society. c.1910-1989. 4.3 metres.

SERVICE WORKERS' FEDERATION OF AOTEAROA. Records. 1923-1989. 3.3m.

SPOONLEY, PAUL. Papers relating to right-wing and extreme right-wing groups in New Zealand. 1960-1991. 90cm.

TOMBS, HARRY. Letter from Frances Shurrock with bookplate for Rewi Alley. 1937. 1 folder.

WELLINGTON ORPHANS' CLUB. Records. 1910-1954. 30cm.

WESTON, ERNEST CHARLES. Diaries. 1885-1888. 3 folders.

WOMEN AGAINST RUGBY. Records. c.1981. 1 folder.


Canterbury Museum Library


BRUNDALL, MONICA. Dressmaking notebook, 1928-1930. 1 v.

BURTON, WILLIAM HALL. Papers relating to coaching, 1871-1919. 1 folder.

CANTERBURY (NZ) SEED CO LTD. Records. 15m.

CANTERBURY MUSEUM. Oral history recordings relating to Canterbury Museum history and people. 93 tapes.

CANTERBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE. Minute-book, 1905-1908. 1v.

CHILTON, DR CHARLES. Letters from Henry Suter, 1891-1894. 1 folder.

IVORY, ALICE MAUD. Letters from Charles Ivory, mainly during World War I. 1 box.

JOHNSTON, JAMES. Job/wage book, 1862-1864. 1v.

JOYNT, TOM I. Papers including reminiscences, 1924-1942. 1 box.

LANCASHIRE SOCIETY OF CHRISTCHURCH. Records, 1933-1940.
Accessions

MIDLAND CLUB. Minutes and financial records, 1906-1990. 3m. [A club mainly for commercial travellers.]

ORARI GORGE STATION. Records, c.1850-1900. 4m. Access restricted. Subject to sorting.


RICHMOND SCHOOL. Records including registers, 1869-1975. 5m.

ROYAL CHRISTCHURCH MUSICAL SOCIETY. Records, 1850-1990. 4m.

SOCIETY FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN. Further records. 5m.

STEWART, LADY CONSTANCE. Passport, flight log, pilot's licence, 1930-1933, 1946. [Stewart was an early New Zealand aviator.]

STODDART, MARK PRINGLE. Diary, 1848-1859. 1v.

WILLS, HARRY R. Diaries, 1900-1962. 18v.

WILSON, SIR JOHN CRACROFT. Reminiscences, c.1854. 1v.

Canterbury Public Library

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND, PRESBYTERY OF CHRISTCHURCH, CUST-OXFORD PARISH. Records. 1873-1977. 40cm.

LEESTON PARISH. Records. 1879-1978. 55cm.

MAYFIELD PARISH. Records. 1899-1878. 35cm.

MOTUKARAR A HOME MISSION STATION. Records. 1902-1920. 5cm.

PRESBYTERY OF ASHBURTON. Records. 1914-1949. 10cm.

PRESBYTERY OF CANTERBURY. Records. 1864-1873. 5cm.

PRESBYTERY OF CHRISTCHURCH. Records. 1873-1980. 1.20m.

ST ALBANS, CHRISTCHURCH PARISH. Records. 1957-1967. 5cm.


ST PETERS, CHRISTCHURCH (WOOLSTON) PARISH. Records. 1881-1971. 5cm.

Hocken Library

BAXTER, JAMES K. Juvenilia poems. 1938. 1cm.

BROAD, CLIFF. Personal notes on travel, business and community involvements, Invercargill. 1929-1991. 1 item.

CHRISTENSEN, CHRISTEN (IAN). Diary of voyage of Palmerston from Hamburg to Port Chalmers. 1872. Typescript. 1 item.

CLUTHA ACTION COMMITTEE. Archives (including minutes, correspondence, reports, clippings etc.). 1977-1992. 1.2m.

CRANSTOUN, MARY. Diaries, Edendale & Gore, Southland. 1906-1908. 10cm.


DUNEDIN BURNS CLUB. Letterbook. 1892-1894. 1 item.


DUNSTAN ANGLICAN PARISH CENTRAL OTAGO. Archives including marriage, baptism, burial registers, minutes, correspondence, service registers etc. Also includes component churches and the Central Vestry of the Parish. 1866-c.1986. 3m.
Archifacts

GAELIC SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INC. Daybook. 1915-1916. 1 item.

LORD, ROBERT. Additional literary and personal papers. c.1980s-1991. 1.2m. Restricted.

MCKENZIE, HUGH. Diary of settler, Martin's Bay, Fiordland. 1928. Typescript. 1 item.

MCKENZIE, ISABELLA (née ELDER). Diary of 'Trip Round the World', mainly Britain, Europe and USA. 1913. Photocopy. 1 item.

MCLAY, GWENNYTH. Research notes, on Nathaniel Wales, architect. 1985. 10cm.

MAUNSELL FAMILY. Additional papers of Maunsell family, Dunedin. c.1870s-1991. 10cm.

MERCER, CHARLES. Account book and diary of voyage to Dunedin on the Arima. 1862-1863. Photocopy. 1 item.


NEW ZEALAND DENTAL ASSOCIATION, OTAGO BRANCH. Additional archives. 1979-1990. 90cm. Restricted.

NEW ZEALAND DISTRIBUTION AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION, SOUTHERN BRANCH. Archives including those of predecessor and component unions. 1908-c.1980s. 5m. Restricted.

NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF COUNTRYWOMEN'S INSTITUTES (INC) ABBOTSFORD BRANCH. Archives including minutes, correspondence. 1970-1992. 30 cm.

BROAD BAY BRANCH. Archives including minutes. 1931-1991. 30cm.

GREEN ISLAND BRANCH. Archives including minutes. 1932-1990. 30cm.

NEW ZEALAND LABOUR PARTY, DUNEDIN WOMEN'S BRANCH. Additional archives including minutes. 1979-1988. 10cm. Restricted.

OTAGO AREA HEALTH BOARD. Pleasant Valley Sanatorium site plan (Mason & Wales, Dunedin). 1912. 1 item.

OTAGO SOCCER REFEREES' ASSOCIATION. Additional archives including correspondence. 1970s-1980s. 10cm.


ROBERTS, FITZCLARENC E JOHN. War diaries and miscellaneous papers. c.1916-1918. 10cm.

RODGER, HON. S.J. Local Body Election papers including correspondence and clippings, etc. 1965-1989. 30cm.

SALMOND FAMILY. Diary and letters mainly to and from George Cockburn Salmon during World War I service. 1916-1917. 2m. Restricted.

STEVENS, WILLIAM. Memoirs of a Southland settler. 1897. 1 item.

TAHORA SCHOOL (HINDON). Daily Rolls. 1887-1888, 1890-1921. 10cm.
Accessions

TEVIOTDALE, DAVID. Notebook relating to the excavation of Maori campsites. 1939-1941. 1 item.

WAITAHUNA SCHOOL (FORMERLY HAVELOCK). Admission Registers, 1876-1967, including Mt Smart School, 1882-1939. 1876-1967. 10cm.

WELLS, WILLIAM (‘KANGAROO BILL’). Account book of his Catlins coaching business and farm. Also includes personal poems and notes on horticultural interests. c.1914-1960. 1 item.

WILKINSON MIRKIN & KENDALL, BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS. Additional archives. c.1857-c.1964. 4.6m. Restricted.

National Archives, Wellington

ACCIDENT COMPENSATION CORPORATION. Multiple number subject files. 1980-1982. 54.6m.

BOLGER, RT HON. JAMES. Assorted papers. 1987-1991. 4.3m. Restricted.

BUTCHER, HON DAVID. Political papers. 1978-1990. 20m. Restricted.

DAC COMMUNICATE N.Z. Ex Communicate N.Z. photographs. c.1950s-1980s. 3m.

DEPARTMENT OF INLAND REVENUE, HEAD OFFICE. Wellington and Manawatu Railway Company Ltd, lists of shareholders. 1882-1888. 0.5m.


DIALOGUE CONSULTANTS WELLINGTON. Ex Energy Department, Maiden Committee papers and reports for ‘Four Futures’ project. 1984-1985. 1.7m.

DILLON, W. MP. Political papers. 1984-1989. 0.3m. Restricted.

DSIR, PUBLISHING DIVISION. Assorted records. 19.3m. Restricted.

DUNNE, PETER MP. Political papers. 1990-1991. 3m. Restricted.

FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY. Assorted records, 1979-1989. 4.6m. Restricted.

HOUSING CORPORATION OF NEW ZEALAND, HEAD OFFICE. Staff files, TDU. 2m.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, COURT OF APPEAL. Case files. 1863-1989. c.130m. Restricted.

MASTERTON DISTRICT COURT. Criminal and civil files. 1981. 0.5m.

NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT AND HIGH COURTS. Case files. 1867-1981. 113m. Restricted.


WAIPUKURAU DISTRICT COURT. Registers and indexes. 1874-1989. 163v.

WELLINGTON CORONER’S OFFICE. Coroner’s files. 0.1m. Restricted.


LANDCORP, HEAD OFFICE. Land settlement programme photos. 1912-1978. 0.5m.

LANDCORP, NEW PLYMOUTH. Assorted files. 1894-1990. 15.6m. Some restricted.

MCLAY, HON ROGER. Political papers. 1988-1990. 2.7m. Restricted.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. Trade and Industry ministerial briefs. 1979-1987. 7.3m.
Archifacts

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, HEAD OFFICE. School publications branch, staff meeting files. 1959-1975. 0.1m.

MINISTRY OF MAORI DEVELOPMENT. Service schedule classification cards from IWI Transition Agency and Department of Maori Affairs. 3.2m. Restricted.


WELLINGTON REGIONAL OFFICE. MNS files. 1954-1972. 1.7m.

MULDOON, SIR ROBERT. Political papers. 1940s-1990. 4.3m. Political papers. 1991. 3.3m. Restricted.

NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE HEADQUARTERS. War histories. 1913-1952. 4m.

NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE HEADQUARTERS, RNZAF. Unit histories. 1941-1969. 0.6m.

NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE, NAVY HEADQUARTERS. Navy HQ Multiple number subject files (staff). 65m. Restricted.

NEW ZEALAND PLANNING COUNCIL. Assorted records. 1976-1991. 33.3m.

NEW ZEALAND POST LTD, ELECTORAL ROLL CENTRE. Electoral rolls. 1991. 0.8m.

NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY. Exam result books. 1918-1953. 1.3m.

NEW ZEALAND RAIL, PASSENGER BUSINESS GROUP. Service schedules, card index; staff register. 1903-1978. 2.5m.

NEW ZEALAND RAIL, PASSENGER BUSINESS GROUP. Assorted files, 1932-1991. c.30m.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAY AND LOCOMOTIVE SOCIETY. Boiler register and register of machinery. Created by MOT, Marine Division. 111v.


PARENT ADVOCACY COUNCIL. Multiple number subject files and enquiry files. 1989-1991. 4m. Restricted.

PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES. Multiple number subject files and assorted records. 1876-1988. 49.3m. Restricted.

POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOWER HUTT STATION. Incident and offence files. 1955-1988. 4.6m. Restricted.

MASTERTON DISTRICT. Civil and criminal case files. 0.3m.

NELSON DISTRICT. Incident and offence files. 1.6m. Restricted.

PALMERSTON NORTH. Incident and offence files. 1978-1985. 4.6m. Restricted.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND POLICE COLLEGE. Police training multiple number subject files. 1955-1983. 6.6m. Restricted.

SCHOOL OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING. Block numeric files. 1973-1989. 2.1m.

STATE INSURANCE OFFICE. Multiple number subject files. c.1899-1980s. 17m. Restricted.

TELECOM. Post office securities documents. 0.1m.

TERRIS, JOHN MP. Political papers. 1983-1990. 0.6m. Restricted.

TORERE SCHOOL. Registers of daily attendance. 1903-1919. 0.1m.

TOWER CORPORATION. Alpha client policy card index. 1869-1988. 14m.
Accessions

UTIKU SCHOOL. Assorted records. 1898-1980s. 1.3m.

WELLINGTON POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL OF NURSING. Dental school assorted records from Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch. 1921-1991. 10m.

WETERE, HON KORO. Political papers. 1988-1990. 5.3m. Restricted.

WORKS AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES CORPORATION, CONSULTANCY SERVICES DIVISION. Staff cards. c.1940-1961. 7.3m. Restricted.

WELLINGTON BRANCH. Ex MOW multiple number subject files. 1887-1986. c.100m.

University of Auckland Library

WORKING WOMEN'S COUNCIL, AUCKLAND BRANCH. Records, 1970s-1980s. 1m.

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