ARCHIFACTS

Bulletin of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand

April 1991
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 bulletin at least once a year and other publications in furtherance of these objects.
ARCHIFACTS

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Editorial

'Surviving monetarism' is the title of a paper that caught my eye recently. In it, Geoffrey Smith summarizes those beliefs that have come to underpin our public life. 'To survive we must know and say what we are doing, how we are doing it, what it costs and why we are doing it.... the effectiveness of our service in adapting to serve special interest groups is a key factor in our credibility - and therefore our right to survive.'

Smith is writing about public library service but the questions are equally appropriate to ask of our Association. How well has ARANZ weathered the monetarist - that is, Douglasist - ethos? How well have we addressed the 'why are we here and how well do we do' questions? A glance at our objectives - printed on the inside front cover - makes for grand reading. We aim to foster, arouse, co-operate, promote, encourage, advise, support and publish.

From my recent two-year term as a Council member I believe that members do not give Council initiatives the support they deserve. Council needs members' opinions and feedback. This is not to say that Council itself should not initiate change. Of course it should. Council needs to be clear about its direction and its priorities and lead us in effective advocacy of those priorities. But I believe there is still too great an expectation from members about what Council is able to achieve without members' active support. We must work toward lessening the gap between expectation and results by rebuilding members' commitment and involvement.

Perhaps we need structural change so that communications between branches and Council are better. Should branch chairmen and chairwomen have places around Council's table, for example? Could Council delegate more to branches - the drafting of policy papers, for example - as a way of involving members? Could Council co-opt more members to carry through specific projects? The results of two ad hoc groups that worked throughout 1990 - with the backing of Council - certainly prove that small groups with a specific brief work well. Kathryn Patterson's Constitutional Review group and my Subcommittee on Access to Archives provided results that were long overdue (the latter Subcommittee,
incidentally, owes a great deal to David Thomson's incisive questioning and thought-provoking circulars to the group).

A branch with an active presence at Council was a real delight to me at meetings. It showed an active, and committed, membership. I have nothing but admiration for the indomitable Otago/Southland branch in its lobbying of Council - with the patience of Job - for support and funding for the *Records Manual for Clubs and Societies*. Such commitment needs fostering. Let us hope that 1991 is the year in which the necessary questions are answered and that an invigorated Council leads us as a purposeful and credible organisation. But let us not forget that Councillors are our representatives, not our workhorses, and that the responsibility for our credibility rightfully rests with us all.

Peter Hughes.

**REFERENCES**

In looking at our profession in the 1990s, I decided to follow the constructs provided by the Conference theme - 'Where we are' and 'Where to go?' There is something tentative about these constructs. The first implies a need for redefinition or for taking stock of our position. The second implies that we are at a crossroad and that there is a choice of futures awaiting us. I think the notion of uncertainty reflects my own view that in spite of our gains we have cause for concern about our ability to shape the future as we would wish to see it.

As archivists we have a strong sense of our own identity and our own mission. We have a considerable body of technical literature which is constantly being reaffirmed, revised and further developed as we respond to new challenges such as those posed by electronic records. We belong to a growing profession whose importance is being acknowledged by more people outside it, by both increased resources and enhanced public profile. But we are still impatient with our own progress. I think this is partly because it is in the nature of our work to encounter backlogs and control, preservation and access problems. We can always find examples of where more funds could be spent or where more archival material could reach the user if only we had the time, space or people.

The public may still have a fuzzy notion of what we do, but I think the image is becoming clearer, because more people are using archives and because others are coming into indirect contact with archives, for example, through published works and film, television and radio productions based on archival research. The number and variety of archives jobs has been increasing. Yet we are aware that in these times of recession some archives have declining budgets, some are stagnating and some new programmes are being postponed indefinitely. It seems that we are constantly finding that our development as a profession is accompanied by the contradictory experiences of the loss of known opportunities to extend our message and our presence.

For a case study of our progress as a profession, I decided to look back ten years to get some measure of change within the Australian archival world. I focussed on the Australian Society of Archivists (ASA) and the Australian Archives to draw out some contrasts between 1990 and 1980. In 1980 the ASA had a little less than 300 members, while today it has
around 650. Its budget was small, and its horizons were constrained by concerns of securing its own identity and that of the profession as a whole.

Australian Archives had just embarked on the Joint Management Review, the first phase of its eventual restructuring in 1980. Records, staff and users all had to endure the sub-standard conditions of the temporary structure (consisting of Nissen huts tacked together with a bit of brick) on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin in Canberra. Today, Australian Archives is a vastly different organisation. It is much larger, and it has legislative clout following the passage of the Archives Act in 1983. It has introduced many new programmes for services to agencies and to the public. There is considerable concrete evidence of the success of its initiatives in managing the archival resources of the Commonwealth of Australia. Australian Archives also serves the wider profession, for example, by providing advice on archival automation and through its preservation research and publications on recycled paper. It is also increasingly supportive of the ASA. However, no national building is in sight, nor has there yet been a representative of the archival profession on the Advisory Council to Australian Archives.

There has been progress Australia-wide in legislation, and in the commencement of new archives programmes in business, local government and universities. Several major new buildings have been constructed as purpose-built repositories and original materials have benefited from new building projects by major libraries. Recently, archivists have been involved in successful lobbying on legislation concerning the records of spent convictions. We are still trying to secure useful amendments to copyright law. The issue of the status of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) as an agency under the Archives Act is still being pursued. (ASIO is seeking exempt agency status under the Act.)

The past five years in particular have seen significant achievements by the ASA. In New South Wales, the ASA received a grant to run workshops on the basics of keeping archives in country areas from 1986 to 1988. This work is being continued with ASA funding and now involves cooperation with the Australian Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Materials. Similar activities are being held in other states, and in August 1990 a joint workshop of the Victorian and New South Wales branches was held in the border city of Albury.

In June 1987 the ASA published Keeping Archives which has now sold over 5500 copies world-wide. It has made the ASA a lot of money. A new edition is planned for release in mid-1991, hopefully at the ASA 1991 Conference. Other publication projects in the pipeline include a new Directory (successor to Our Heritage which appeared in 1983), a handbook for members and the proceedings of the joint ASA-ACA workshop on electronic records. Archives and Manuscripts is growing in size and in importance as a professional journal. The bi-monthly ASA Bulletin is an essential source for current events in archives in Australia.
The last two conferences held in Perth (1987) and Hobart (1989) were both very successful. This was attributable to the presence of overseas speakers and to the efforts of the local organising committees in providing interesting programmes and excellent hospitality. The Sydney conference will be the largest and most ambitious to date. From 1990, ASA conferences will be held annually, the idea being that there is a need for more frequent gatherings, and that they can be sustained financially.

The ASA has more members and more funds than ever, but I am convinced that there are limits to the ASA's capacity to grow if it does not move away from its present leadership structure and voluntary orientation. I find the words of William Joyce in his speech as incoming President of the Society of American Archivists in 1986 very appropriate to the ASA today: 'We need to be careful not to induce member “burnout”. We also need to be more effective in recruiting new members, in encouraging younger members to feel that they belong to the Society, and in encouraging them to participate in our activities.'

The ASA is in the position of trying to achieve more with fewer leaders. We may have more members but we do not have a growing pool of active members to assume the roles of leading, planning, coordinating and participating which are necessary to take the Society forward into the future. Why is this so? Although we speak for the profession we do not control entry into it, nor can we provide industrial strength to defend our members' interests. In most cases it is not necessary to belong to the ASA to advance one's career. Some members employed in larger institutions question the ASA's relevance to their work and themselves.

For some archivists work is humdrum rather than professionally challenging. It is simply a way of earning a living, and they question the need to belong to or be active in a voluntary professional association. Other members are deterred by the amount of time and work put into the Society by their colleagues holding office in branches, special interest groups, committees and on council. Finally, there is no perception that it is an honour to serve one's profession by devoting oneself to the ASA, unlike the situation in the USA where there is a plethora of awards for service to the profession at large, to the Society of American Archivists and for individual achievement in professional work.

What can the ASA do? I think it should take the plunge and set up an office to look after its routine administration. Such an office should also become a coordinating point for communication within the Society, as well as for publicity outside. With its current level of membership, its future plans and ambitions, the ASA cannot afford to keep relying on part-time assistance with publications and occasional secretarial help. Here the comparison with 1980 is quite striking in terms of the activities and achievements of the ASA, but the problem of attracting people to do the work of running the Society is much the same.

The ASA should also now approach the question of the representation of the interests of archival institutions. Institutional membership is a
means of providing revenue for the ASA, as it is for many other comparable organizations. But what is the role for this category within the ASA, now that after five years the Australian Council of Archives is gathering momentum as the mouthpiece of archival employers? This question is relevant in terms of the proposed code of ethics for the ASA. The code is to be couched in terms of the individual member’s acceptance of a statement of norms for his or her professional behaviour. But how will the code cover ‘unprofessional conduct’ by employers? There are many example of dilemmas for archivists who have acted according to the ethical precepts of their profession, yet who have been unable to receive more than moral support from their colleagues at times of conflict with their employers. These employers were also members of the ASA but it was not able to censure them effectively.

I would like to turn now to the question ‘Where to go?’ I have selected three areas which I think we should concentrate on in the quest to further the cause of archives and archivists in the coming decade. They are: cooperation with related professions, commitment to archival education, and promotion of the cultural value of archives.

These three areas may seem obvious and I realise they overlap, but I think that we must pursue them actively if our profession is to develop. If we do, we will be building on our existing strengths and projects and further clarifying our image in the public mind. There is a place for institutional and individual activity in taking up outreach goals for archives. I would hope that the roles and responsibilities of archival institutions and professional societies will become more clearly understood as we pursue the causes of cooperation, education and cultural value.

Cooperation is vital for our future. I see two groups as our main targets for renewed and stronger cooperation: our fellow professionals in related fields, and our users. The first group includes records managers, librarians, museum curators, conservators, information scientists and computer professionals. The second group includes genealogists, public historians, local historians and other coalitions of participants in archival research.

With our fellow professionals we face the challenges of changing technology and changing work. Much is written and spoken these days of converging technologies and converging disciplines. The changes we are currently experiencing in adapting to automated workplaces are occurring alongside the continuation of the traditional functions of archives. Our work is not static, but neither has it completely changed. Archivists will still be needed as the people trained and skilled to perform such functions as appraisal, arrangement and description, and administering access to original materials. I do not think that we should feel threatened by the changes - technological, organisational and industrial - that surround us. It is our duty to keep abreast of change and to study its implications for our working lives as archivists. We can adapt appropriately, without abandoning our established professional values.
For example, our relationship with records managers is close, but neither group is in danger of being submerged in the other’s identity. Most Australian archivists are involved in nearly all the stages of the life cycle of the record. Many have responsibility for semi-current records, unlike their European counterparts. However, they recognise the particular expertise of records managers and take advantage of opportunities for mutual benefit, such as conferences and training for records management.

Our relationship with librarians has sometimes been problematic. But there are several areas where their experiences can help us to face our emerging problems. For example, the change from card catalogues to online public access catalogues was a major change in libraries, just as the development of computerised finding aids is now for those archives relatively advanced in automation. Librarians have been successful in campaigns against the introduction of the user pays concept. Their assistance could prove valuable in the defence of the right of free public access to archives.

Looking at our users, I see that we still have uneven relations with historians. There are persistent problems in the education of historians as users of archives. This is one area where we should look to our colleagues in North America. In the United States, historians training in the discipline of historic preservation are cross-trained with archivists. The SAA Conference held in Seattle in 1990 had several sessions which celebrated the interdependence of archivists and historians in documenting that society’s memory. Archivists are integrated into the wider heritage community there, whereas we are often rather marginalised in Australia.

We need to take the initiative in improving communications with historians. For example, we want to ensure that there is real cooperation in commemorative projects for major national celebrations. Evidently there was more success in this direction in New Zealand in 1990 than in Australia in 1988. The Australian archival community is still very much aware of its failure with the Historic Records Search, where $1.3 million was available to document records in private hands throughout the country. The project was the poorer for the lack of real involvement of archivists in the larger states. Many of our concerns for the future preservation and accessibility of local archival materials remain unanswered. The next major historical festival in Australia will be in 2001, the centenary of the federation of the Australian states. We are concerned that this event receives appropriate attention and monuments. A session on plans for 2001 is to be held at the Sydney conference in 1991. Australian Archives as the archival body for the federal government should also be a significant presence in this celebration.

To turn to the area of education - another of the directions for the 1990s. It might seem unnecessary to stress a commitment to education as a future direction, but I think it is an area where our activities often tend to be ad hoc. Sometimes we have missed opportunities to enrich
our own professional lives and to help those outside the profession who needed our assistance. Archivists have expectations that their professional society will provide continuing education programmes or at least occasional workshops or seminars on technical matters. Depending on resources and other factors such as distance and willing instructors, such activities are already taking place. But I think they must be strengthened if we are to develop further professional confidence. They are essential for archivists working by themselves or in very small institutions. Likewise, providing basic introductory workshops to interested volunteers and users should be a priority for any broad-based archival organization. Professional archivists owe this to the associate or general interest members of their organizations.

Another aspect of our educational focus should be participation in the development and review of formal archival programmes in educational institutions. It is important that professional organizations have some means of providing feedback to archival educators. Without some mechanism for dialogue, education and practice may diverge, to the detriment of both. This would be unfortunate in a profession which places a high value on the tradition of relevant, practical education for its new recruits.

Lastly on education, I think it is incumbent on the present generation of archivists to provide for the future of the profession. We should be using our experience and our perceptions of how our practice and our education could change to meet the needs of the next century. We need to be forceful and visible, taking the opportunity to advise on directions for education in archives in schools and tertiary institutions.

My final suggestion for 'Where to go?' is that we should actively promote the cultural value of archives to our communities. We already do this in explaining our mission and our tasks to people unfamiliar with what it means to be an archivist. I think this should become a major concern of ours. There is a growing feeling that we have a substantial achievement in our technical literature and in our agreement as to the technical aspects of archive work. Yet this is not matched by an appropriate understanding in society of the importance of archives and the contribution of the archivist. The example of the success of the New York State Archives, where strong public advocacy of archives has brought greater recognition as well as expanded programmes, is something for other larger institutions to study and emulate.

Archives need resources and in these straitened times if we are not understood, we may not survive. If we are seen as an introverted and minor group with highly specialised skills but without relevance to wider societal concerns, we may find it difficult to compete for resources. We are already competing with museums which have easier public appeal and are seen as 'cultural'. Jean Dryden, in reviewing the 1990 Association of Canadian Archivists Conference, was enthusiastic about the prospects for our cultural future, provided we commit ourselves to it 'when funds can be devoted to marketing strategies to get the public to
understand us better and give us more money without selling our souls by making fundamental changes in what it means to be an archives. In the meantime we can be thinking of creative ways to improve public programming, and establish a more positive image for ourselves and the profession. I think that if we do this, if we decide to orient ourselves more firmly in the direction of selling the value of archives to our society and the various cultures within it, then we will be serving society in general, our institutions and ourselves more effectively.

It may be difficult for us, in competition with other professional organizations which have greater resources, to follow these directions. We should take the initiative, but we have limited financial and human resources. We need to plan our targets and our campaigns and to seek out our allies. We need to build better lobbying skills and connections. It might seem like a diversion from more traditional concerns, but we may have only a restricted and marginalised future if we do not take up the challenge of selling ourselves to society.

These are my observations on the questions 'Where we are' and 'Where to go?' We can begin the decade with an optimism grounded in our past achievements but we cannot rest there. We will succeed in strengthening the broad interests of archives if we select our own directions. At the same time, we must respond to changes around us. I consider that if we look outward and actively spread our message, then by the end of this decade we will have a more positive self-image and a more recognised public face. We will also have a stronger position in the cultural life of our communities.

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Before I tackle the real topic of this paper, I would like to make a plea on behalf of one of New Zealand's endangered species. It's rather a pet subject so I take any opportunity to put the case for this species threatened with extinction and I trust that I am addressing a sympathetic audience.

Let me tell you something about this species. It generally inhabits man-made structures and within these surrounds itself with an assortment of items which analysis has revealed to consist of reconstituted plant matter, principally arboreal. It is predominantly carnivorous (although some of the species have been known to be herbivorous) and it seems to have no difficulty in terms of food supply. The individuals of this species appear to have very wide territories - sometimes ranging over several kilometres during one day. They also appear to have complex social relationships and, in fact, to be quite intelligent and adaptable creatures. In spite of this, however, they are declining rapidly in numbers and are presently threatened with extinction.

In case you have not yet recognised the endangered species I'm describing, it's the business archivist. I began by saying that I hoped I was speaking to a sympathetic audience, and I am sure I am. I am not, however, seeking your sympathy. My intention is rather to challenge everyone and inspire business archivists in particular to stand up and fight rather than despair.

The past year has certainly seen an alarming trend towards the extinction of the species now identified as the business archivist, with NZI, Westpac and the BNZ all suffering losses of them. At the same time, however, at Fletcher Challenge we have been busier than ever, more needed than ever and if times weren’t so tough I would even consider asking for another staff member.

So what I want to do is suggest that there are ways to help ensure that business archives survive. The only way this can be done is by having our own organisations recognise their value. Businesses are not going to support archives because of the intrinsic value of history, a sense of duty towards the preservation of the country's history or some vague future benefit to be gained. For business to survive it has to be making a profit
and today that is harder than it has ever been. A business has, therefore, to see some tangible, present day benefits for its expenditure on archives. And it is the person in charge of the archives who has to make sure it gets those benefits and sees the value in them.

Ensuring that the value of archives is recognised may well involve acquiring new skills and it will certainly involve a lot of effort, but those are the challenges involved in ensuring our own survival. While the business archivist must remain as true to the ethics and principles of the profession as anyone else, I do not believe that we can afford the luxury of taking an academic approach to archives.

There are four principal strategies by which business archivists can attack the task of making their organisations recognise the value of the archives. I also think some of these ideas will be of use to other archivists, as I know that local bodies in particular are under considerable financial pressures while at the same time being forced to recognise a responsibility to keep archives.

1. Promoting the Use of Archives.

The first method is probably the most obvious. We have to promote archives. The question is how, and I would like to put forward some of my ideas on how we might do this.

Archives have to be marketed as a contemporary information resource with links to such areas as marketing, public relations, employee relations, planning, technical operations and other corporate areas. As you will probably all be aware, history can, in some very obvious ways, support current corporate activities. I shall cover these with some brief examples of this from my own experience:

Legal action:

The availability of complete and accurate documentation of past actions can enable an organisation to avoid legal action or help it to win a case. The use of archives in legal situations can result in considerable savings in terms of goodwill. Trademark and patent cases, for example, have always relied on well-preserved documentation of research activity. Past agreements, perhaps 20 years old, can allow a commercial advantage to be gained in a new environment. For example, our company secretary recently required the sale and purchase agreement for a company sold 5 years ago because legal action may have been pending. (This agreement was not in archives but the fact that we found it in spite of that and had a good case for saying it should have been in archives was good PR for us!)

Strategic Planning:

Archives can be valuable in the area of developing corporate strategy. A review of past activities can show patterns of success and failure in strategic decisions, in structural evolution. Decisions about new courses of business development can benefit from this knowledge. Past financial records, for instance, may be valuable in an exercise to evaluate profit-
ability over an historical period. As an example, the head of the chief executive's department, responsible for the company's strategic planning frequently visits archives to review past strategic plans for various companies in the Group.

Corporate policy:

Management is often too mobile to acquire much detailed knowledge of the relevant past history. Reference to past documents can help executives to understand the bases and contexts for the decisions of the past that have given rise to current policies. Conditions change and policies made under a different environment may not always continue to work.

Education:

Employees at all levels of any organisation must have some sense of the firm larger than their own immediate experience of it. The archives can be used to provide an integrated view of the firm's culture and dynamics, taking in organisation, management, technological development, employee relations, financial decision-making and patterns of response to public and government pressure for a variety of educational purposes, from orientation programmes for new employees to specific case studies for specialised training programmes. If they are done professionally such programmes have considerable impact and long-term value.

Responses to government policy:

As the regulatory environment undergoes changes (sometimes radical as we have seen in the last few years), the history of companies' responses to regulation is needed more than ever to help both business executives and the government policy makers better understand the successful and unsuccessful patterns of regulation or deregulation. On the one side, a good knowledge of the impact of regulatory processes on management and economic performance of a firm can help that firm prepare better-informed lobbying strategies; on the other hand, government will be able to make better decisions on the economic environment if it has access to the full story regarding the effect of past policies on business. For instance, Fletcher Challenge were asked by the former Department of Trade and Industry for details of the impact of regulations on the linseed oil industry which had been closed down by Fletcher Challenge.

Public Relations:

In a sense, all public relations efforts are based on an organisation's corporate identity. Material from Archives can contribute greatly to the development of a strong corporate identity, which is based on an awareness of the company's history, its strengths, development and culture.

The uses of archives by Public Relations are numerous and range from using photographic material in publications (where they provide instant impact and money is often saved by avoiding refilming or photographing subjects again), to supplying background research for speeches. Assisting serious outside researchers can also be viewed as a public relations
exercise, as can the mere fact of preserving an aspect of the nation’s economic (or other) activity in an archive.

Marketing:

Archives have considerable value to those involved in marketing and it is in this and in public relations that their use is most obvious to the outsider. For instance, in advertising, relatively undifferentiated products can be given a strong and distinctive identity if linked with a company’s history. A well-researched history and strong corporate identity can bring associations of stability, competence, longevity and even a certain romance to a product which is unique to that company.

Research and development:

The retention of records relating to past original research, investigations or exploration can have enormous potential value. Such activities, conducted to evaluate new business areas, generally cost vast sums of money. Sometimes, however, the business will not go ahead at the end of the initial project because, in the final analysis, the environment is judged not right at the time. A number of years later, however, conditions could be quite different and it could become feasible to proceed with the project, or even to sell the technology or research to another party. Retaining the records in such cases means a saving or a profit of possibly thousands, or even millions, of dollars.

Fletcher Challenge’s archives have been used in all of the above areas. But I have said that we have to promote the archives. It’s my experience that most people will not think of archives unless there is nowhere else to turn for the information they need, so considerable effort is required to bring them to their attention, especially to senior management. Some of the ways I have used include:

- Going out to talk to people in the office. We have to be pro-active and show them how archives can be used in some of the ways I have mentioned. We can promote archives as a branch of information management, which is something current and respected in the world of business.

- Writing reports regularly. Even if we are not asked to produce a report, we should do so. We must tell management what we have done, put it on their desk at least every six months and make sure they know we exist and are being used. Anyone of importance in the organisation is generally expected to report on activities regularly, so we should do so too.

- Compiling statistics to go with reports. This includes always ensuring that we find out for what purpose the research is required and highlighting instances of money made or saved as a result.

- Make sure that it is part of the Personnel Department’s programme to bring all new staff to visit the archives as part of their induction. This provides an opportunity to spend time talking to the new recruits and showing them what archives are and how they can be used. It is a good idea to have a brochure to hand out at times like this and for distribution at other times.
- Make sure we feature regularly in staff magazines, by writing and contributing to newsletters or find other ways to bring archives to the attention of staff.

2. Records Management:

One of the best means of promotion that I have found, however, is really another whole strategy for making staff value archives, and that is through records management. Without records management, there will never really be good archives. Providing records management advice and assistance impacts upon the current, day-to-day business life of staff and is somehow more valued. The introduction of good records management practices leads naturally to an acceptance of the place of inactive records and archives. Archives, after all, represent just one part of the life cycle of records - albeit one requiring special skills and training to administer. The benefits to be gained from active records management are obvious to people and provide an excellent opportunity to educate them also about the benefits of archives.

3. Providing a Service:

The third strategy is something that we all should be trying to do all the time. That is, to provide the highest possible level of service to our organisation. An in-house archives will generally act as a research centre as well as the keeper of records and we must provide quickly the most accurate and complete information possible.

- We must have very high standards of appraisal - if the right material is not chosen, nothing of value is retained for reference or it is not retained in a useful form.
- We must have high standards of arrangement and description.
- Our finding aids must yield results quickly so that enquiries can be satisfied as soon as possible. I believe computer-aided retrieval is essential for this today.
- High standards of environmental protection are required and staff must be confident of the level of security. The precautions you are taking to protect the records in your custody will be crucial to people's acceptance of the archives as a repository.
- Good staffing is probably the most important requirement as everything else is clearly dependent upon it. Among other things, however, good staff ensure a high quality of service to the company in terms of responding to requests quickly and professionally. The archives must be regarded as a service to management; its reputation will be based on results.

Finally, the direction and value of the archives depends on its management. We must develop or acquire general management skills in addition to our archival skills, through training. In addition to the good management of our own staff and resources, we must ensure that our systems and procedures are of the highest standards.
4. Adapting to Our Environment:
   This brings me to my fourth strategy for ensuring that the value of archives is recognised. I believe we should acquire a certain level of business knowledge and take on board some of the language and methods of business. We should learn a bit about how business operates - its legal structures, funding mechanisms etc. We should learn to speak and write to business people in their own language. For instance, like the business areas of the company, we can develop annual strategic plans with short, medium and long term goals. Respect for our work will increase, I believe, as we package it in a form understood by our clients - that is, our organisation. All this, I hasten to add, does not detract from our maintenance of strict archival theory and practice.

   In conclusion, the question which is going to be asked by those who control the funding for business archives is: Are business archives a cost-effective proposition? We have to be able to reply that, yes, they are. In fact, a business could hardly have a less expensive asset with a higher potential return than archives. It is an information resource like any other but it is acquired at relatively little cost because the information is already owned by the company and paid for through operational costs. In addition, huge savings can result from archives, not just from use of the information contained in them but also from the associated records management practices such as retention schedules, which ensure the preservation of important records and eliminate the huge volume of dead and duplicate records.
In writing a history of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand, Gary Hawke entitled one of the chapters 'Notes and Where to Put Them'. It has always been a cause of some wonder to me whether or not this was a play on words intended to express not only the content of the chapter, but also a degree of frustration on the author's part with a topic of less than scintillating interest. Given the incredulity exhibited by many of my relatives and friends towards my known perverted habits of spending as much of my time as possible delving into archives and secondary material on ancient matters, I was tempted to try and restore their faith in my sanity by giving this paper a similar title. Fortunately wiser counsel prevailed. The vulgar and callous meaning of a statement like 'archives and where to put them', is used in this paper only as representative of an attitude which has led to a less than full use of this source of historical material by some practitioners of recent forms of business history.

This paper describes some of the uses of business history archives and some of the reasons for the apparent neglect of these important resources. It also gives an outline of what may be required of archives by the practitioners of different types of business history, as well as some thoughts as to the direction business history might take in New Zealand and the consequences for archival requirements. Finally, in drawing some conclusions and putting suggestions for the future, it suggests what could, if not should, be done with archival material.

In the recent past there have been many books and articles published on aspects of business history by authors from a variety of backgrounds and interests. Different approaches to business history bring different requirements for documentary sources and in the extent to which they refer to archival material. The most academic and technical of recent business history works have often made only minimal use of archival material, especially where they are concerned principally with an industry-wide approach rather than one which relates specifically to a particular firm or business. Such works tend to appear in article rather than book form, and even when written by professional archivists there can be a tendency to rely principally upon secondary material and utilise only a minimal input from the more general of the available primary sources, such as government reports.
Such thoughts were enhanced by my recent reading of a work by Canadian archivist, Peter Gillis, on forestry issues at the turn of the last century. Royal Commission and annual Forestry reports are as close to archival material as one gets in this case. To single out one author in this fashion and place collective guilt squarely on his shoulders alone is unfair. It brought into stark relief, though, the fact that archivists could themselves go the way that many historians have gone in their neglect of the more detailed archival material in favour of the more accessible or more generally applicable information sources.

Part of the reason for business historians following this trend can be found in the tendency for those trained in subjects like economics rather than history to place more emphasis on their search for a structure of analysis than on detailed archival enquiry. The academic journal article forms the basic source for the more technical as well as the often wider or comparative approach to business history, and it is the outlet in which much of the so-called 'new' business history finds its expression. From the local viewpoint, with history being a somewhat parochial discipline in the sense that overseas journals look initially at least to examples from their own area, it is unfortunate that Australia and New Zealand have provided relatively limited scope for publishing articles on business history. The 1967 change in name from Business Archives and History to the Australian Economic History Review is symptomatic of this and of the global divergence of economic and business history from relatively common origins. In America Explorations in Entrepreneurial History also changed its title at the end of the 1960s to Explorations in Economic History, the change 'intended to express a shift in focus of the journal'. The greater breadth of scope of such journals was good news for economic historians, but represented reduced publication opportunities for the business historian.

One of the consequences of limited journal opportunities has been for business history in this part of the world to produce what might be termed a disproportionate amount of commissioned single firm studies. The predominant mode of practice in business history in Australia and New Zealand takes the form of a book considering a specific firm or organisation. Such studies relate only to one part of the discipline, usually concentrating on one firm in relative isolation, or even on the role or career of a particular individual within the firm. In its more technical guise the discipline takes a broader scope than just one firm and considers the industry or the overall economic and business environment within which particular firms are operating, or makes comparative assessments, using the single firm studies as the equivalent of a semi-manufactured product. While some of the studies may represent good history in their own right they merely provide the raw material for comparative study or analysis rather than doing the job themselves. Ken Tucker raised some relevant points in his review of Russell Stone's 1973 work on the New Zealand colonial business community, by calling for a different and far more technical approach to business history in this
country. To the extent that this trend is followed, a very particular set of archival needs are likely. The structured academic studies are likely to concentrate upon the use of secondary and general material at the expense of the detailed case studies of individual firms.

Clearly it is possible for books on particular firms to adopt at least some of the features of this approach. It is therefore relevant to ask: What are the consequences of this from the archivist's point of view? Amongst recent books on business history to attract considerable praise and attention, Alfred Chandler said of one: 'In its comprehensive scope and skill in illuminating the nature of choice and change in a large bank, Citibank, 1812-1970, sets a standard for all future works on this vital industry.' Given Chandler's pioneering role in many of the moves towards a structured approach in the discipline his comments are doubly significant.

The sources referred to in the Citibank study do include minute books, personal reminiscences along with other and detailed archival material. There is no bibliographical list of such sources, however, to balance the lists of directors past and present or other minutiae of a hagiographical nature. This study is typical of its genre in emphasising the place of the firm within the industry and the economy through the use of copious quantities of secondary source material. It is a more particular study of the Chandler type such as The Visible Hand.

The thrust of the structured approach is to suggest there is an approved or best method of approach. I have previously characterised this for studies of particular firms or corporations in terms of four functions which business history could perform.

The first was a general public relations function, with only limited and non-specific goals, often the result of a poorly thought out initial brief produced from the original discussions between the client and the writer. The corporation concerned responded more to the idea of the image it must present, than to any carefully considered process. Considerable use of archival material may result, but from the academic point of view the value is strictly limited.

The second function came to be described as the 'make the pompous feel good' function, an approach somewhat akin to the need for local newspapers to include as many names as possible on the sports pages in order to maximise sales. Its circulation numbers are liable to be determined in much the same way as those of the local newspaper. The rewards for both the writer and the corporation are, as in the first case, likely to be limited and a major opportunity for something more worthwhile lost. Video archives might be useful in this case, but again academic bodies such as the Business History Centre would be unlikely to want to get heavily involved.

Where the Centre is likely to want to involve itself is in relation to the third function, which was titled grandly as the 'contribute to the store of academic knowledge' function. How far firms would wish to contribute to this will vary, but hopefully it is possible to combine a satisfactory, or
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better than satisfactory, product from both points of view. From the commissioning client's viewpoint the choice of author is crucial, whether to go for an academic, and if so of what background and training, or whether to go for a journalist or professional author. Neil Rennie's study of the electricity supply industry is an excellent recent local example of the latter choice. Archival material from a range of sources is used to good effect. Another common alternative is to entrust the task to an employee or ex-employee, who has had a long association with the firm. This was done in the Citibank case, but it usually means that most of the archive material employed will be confined to the firm's own holdings rather than making use of outside sources or putting events in their broader context. All of these choices have their advantages and disadvantages, but they are certainly not exclusive. A collaborative project has much to commend it, providing the participants can work together effectively. A choice is best determined after considering the needs of the particular case.

The fourth function was given as the need to provide a base for staff training. This is a rather more complex function and at its best probably involves members of the firm engaging in the production process of the history, as part of a long term review of the policies and strategies which are currently being adopted. It is the sort of role which relies heavily on good corporate archives and perhaps gives a chance to argue for their retention in a period of retrenchment. In this case an outside author is more a facilitator of the process than a lone figure wandering around looking at records and talking to those who have been there longest, followed by beavering away on a manuscript. The subsequent product of the lone figure approach may occupy space on a few shelves or in many cases, as Paul Robertson once described in the Australian Corporate History Bulletin, not be read by anyone 'from cover to cover except by their authors and the legal departments of the companies that have commissioned them'. This is clearly a waste of resources from all points of view.

Truly critical analyses, such as have been produced where the firms studied have permitted a 'warts and all' approach to be adopted, allow for some benefits to the firm in terms of training and strategic planning. Examples of studies which are good in the sense of being critical appraisals by historians are to be found, including the studies on Exxon and its predecessor, Standard Oil of New Jersey. Burns Philp provides a local example of a history which refrains from closeting its skeletons and deals specifically with some of the dubious practices of principal employees, but even this is a study which might have gone further and been more useful to the firm with a different approach involving a wider spread of the firm's staff in its production. If the staff in the firm itself can be involved in the process of investigating and writing, then the project can become the focus of a review and revision of methods employed, rather than being an exercise that is of more limited value both to outside readers and to the firm itself. From
the archivist's point of view it is an opportunity to sell their wares and afford a large number of people in the organisation the chance to see what the archives contain and the uses to which they might be put, a thought which brings into focus the final section of this paper.

In commenting on recent business theses, Ross Thompson remarked that 'Good research is more than an important theme; it must also skilfully choose materials and craft them into the desired product. Each thesis employs - *often after painstaking archival work* [emphasis added] - appropriate sources and infuses them with meaning for the problem addressed.' Structure and an analytical approach are needed, but a clear emphasis is placed on the need for good use of archives and for that material to be made available. Where firms have decided to destroy their archival material (particularly following takeover or merger activity), there is a distinct problem. Perhaps the suggestion that there is much use that the firms themselves can make of the material will help to stem some of the current bleeding.

Few instances of the financial rewards to the virtuous of keeping archives are likely to be as great as Wells Fargo's 1980 recovery of a missing US $15,000,000 trust certificate as the result of setting up an archive and having trained staff sorting through their piles of discarded paper. If Wells Fargo had emulated Henry Ford II's penchant for keeping a shredder happily employed in his office, on the basis that what he did in life was his business, it would have proved costly in this instance. Other less dramatic advantages which can accrue from the use of archives include details of past successful searches for management appointees, and takeover and other negotiations. Bodies such as National Archives could act as repositories for records which firms decide not to keep, and it would be possible for the firm still to utilise these records in return for some payment for the storage and archival service provided. A lower than full commercial cost subsidised from the public purse could be offered in return for more general access than is often the case with business records. Issues of academic self interest as well as those of the University's Business History Centre are clearly raised at this point.

The relationship between business corporations and professional archivists goes back a long way. William D. Overman, later to be president of the Society of American Archivists, was employed at Firestone Tire and Rubber as early as 1937 and did much to boost the availability of business records. The previous lack of records has been seen as partially responsible for the low profile of business history in academia until relatively recently and in consequence partially responsible for some misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the role of business in society. While not everyone would automatically agree that the role of historians or archivists is necessarily to put business in a better light, most accept that a major part of our task is to understand the past better and without good and available records this is a difficult if not impossible undertaking.

The Firestone archives in fact have also fallen victim to the merger and
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acquisition disease. Taken over by a Japanese company and with headquarters moved to Chicago, the archives were deemed surplus to requirements. Fortunately they have passed into University hands and remain in Akron where they are consequently probably more accessible than before rather than lost forever. The implications of this point are not lost on the infant Business History Centre, although the resource requirements it implies present a problem.

It is worth noting that the United States currently exhibits a flourishing industry of in-house training by historical consultants, much more so than is the case in Australia and New Zealand. Incorporated groups, such as the Winthrop Group, offer facilities for in-house training through case studies, seminars and general consultancy on strategic, structural and technological problems. It is clear that the availability of archives, both firm specific and of a more general nature would be central to this process.

From the firm's point of view there are substantial reasons for considering a company history and for considering the establishment of an archive, or at least for the retention of existing archival material. Making use of such archives to provide a research programme which offers the prospect of enhancing staff understanding of their own firm's strategy or performance and which provides the raw material for future training, can be combined with the more common public relations and celebratory functions. The end result should be a more satisfactory product all round.

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Neighbourhood Schooling: Towards a History of Secondary Schools and Their Neighbourhoods in Twentieth-Century Auckland

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The notion of the 'neighbourhood school', defined by the characteristics of the local community, has dominated much of the history of secondary education in the twentieth century, in New Zealand as elsewhere. And yet there has been little New Zealand research into the history of secondary schools in relation to their communities. This paper investigates some of the problems and possibilities of this area of research, and assesses the potential uses of various kinds of archival source material, with particular reference to secondary education in twentieth-century Auckland.

Over the past decade, there has been growing public debate relating to the notion that differences and inequalities between schools are based on the differing character of school neighbourhoods. Indeed, the recent administrative changes in education under Tomorrow's Schools reflected the sensitivity of this issue. Social inequalities in schools in different parts of the same city helped to justify and rationalize the reforms. Thus David Lange as Minister of Education insisted that although he 'would not be surprised to find a school in Mangere looking very different and sounding very different from a school in Remuera', there was 'a failure that should not be tolerated if the school in Mangere offers a lower standard of education than the school in Remuera'. In order to address such inequalities, a new funding formula for the schools was devised, allocating funds to schools partly on the basis of ethnicity and socio-economic rating in local communities. At the same time, critics argued that the reforms would generate even greater differences and inequalities between schools and their communities.

This contemporary debate invites some contribution on the part of historians to a greater understanding of schools in relation to their local neighbourhoods. An historical analysis might be able to reveal the extent to which the social geography of schooling has fostered inequalities. An approach that combines both a temporal and a spatial dimension would be able to raise issues about the ways in which school
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communities have been constructed and reconstituted in response to changing demands over time. Such localized historical research in education has in fact been lacking in New Zealand. Much published work in the history of education, whether liberal-progressive or revisionist, focuses on the growth of the national system of schooling, with an emphasis on central policy and administration.\(^3\) Local variations and peculiarities have been much less well recognized.\(^4\) Clyde Griffen has suggested that this trait has also been evident in New Zealand social history in general: 'National policy in regulating the economy and conducting overseas relations, especially with Britain, has loomed larger than local life and affairs.'\(^5\) Meanwhile, histories of individual schools have tended to dwell on the institution and its leading personalities as if they have been removed from the wider relationships of the local community, even as if that local context is irrelevant to an understanding of the history of the school. It is notable that photographs in school magazines and jubilees generally betray little trace of the world outside the school gates.\(^6\) In addressing this important historical lacuna, the study of how schools have related to local populations and social changes therefore appears attractive in terms of its potential to augment our understanding of the educational past, no less than its relevance to current sensitivities.

Significant clues towards constructing such a history may be found in the research of the British education historian, W.E. Marsden. A trained geographer, Marsden has clearly demonstrated the role of spatial variations in the development of schooling in England and Wales in the nineteenth century. In emphasising a trinity of contexts for the location of modern schooling - time, place, and society - he suggests a need to adapt appropriate apparatus from the urban historian, the historical geographer, and the urban sociologist.\(^7\) In particular, he documents the growing disparities in educational opportunity that arose from the dissolution of towns and cities in the late nineteenth century into distinctive social areas: 'Residential segregation became a potent influence on attitudes towards education and on the nature of the provision of educational facilities.'\(^8\) Thus the major social differences between different regions of the same city, in London for example, help explain the character of educational provision and the development of inequalities. At the same time, geographical mobility between areas suggests reasons for particular kinds of educational and social change. The most respectable and academically successful elementary schools were usually located in the less crowded fringes of the metropolitan area; secondary schools followed their clientele to affluent districts when their own area went into decline; private schools were situated in the most select and respectable social areas.\(^9\) Similar kinds of research have been developed by other educational historians such as Kevin Stannard in England\(^10\) and Reed Ueda in the United States.\(^11\)

Urban social geography such as that discussed in these British and American studies has so far attracted relatively little attention in Australia.
and New Zealand, despite the fact that, as Trevor Lee has pointed out, here too ‘Basic social inequalities are reflected clearly in residential patterns and socio-economic status is an important dimension of antipodean cities.’

David Thorn’s work is, however, a useful starting-point so far as New Zealand is concerned, and there are also a number of unpublished research theses which contain some helpful data. In Auckland, David Pools’s substantial Master’s thesis on the social geography of the city, completed in 1959, indicates the marked differences between social areas: the residential west and south ‘characterised by street after street of lower grade residences’, Freemans Bay ‘a complex area of decaying residences and of non-residential functions and new flats’, Ponsonby ‘a pattern of long narrow streets with closely spaced small houses’. Other theses relating to Auckland such as Dahms’s geographical study of the ‘journey to work’ and the contributions of Cullum and Williams on the changing residential character of the city also provide significant detail. On the other hand, none of these studies focus on the relationships between schools and social geography. There is clearly a continuing need for research in this specific area.

How did differing locations affect the development of schools, and to what extent did differences in their clienteles make each school distinctive? In understanding the changing educational scene in relation to the geography of wider social trends, it is important to ask questions about the social composition of the schools, the attitude of schools towards the surroundings and prospective clients, and the views of local residents about their local school. The relationship between the social geography of schools and such aspects as examination success is a fascinating and crucial issue which needs careful attention in different local situations. The Education Department northern regional office prepared a survey in 1979, and commented that ‘it can be readily seen that the highest Polynesian content and the lowest income brackets occur in the Tamaki College area, while the reverse is true of the grammar schools area’. However, it stressed at the same time that ‘The socio-economic factor as it affects secondary school rolls is a subject which would require a tremendous amount of research before categorical assessments could be achieved’.

The character of school zones, or the officially designated geographical area from which schools are to recruit their pupils, is another promising point of departure in many local contexts. Clifford Simons in Christchurch and William Brown in Auckland have produced interesting research theses on this theme, and the implications of zoning in terms of education policy and urban social geography have begun to attract detailed attention. But consideration of factors such as zoning also serves to introduce aspects of the highly problematic nature of school neighbourhoods. Zones were not based simply on geographical proximity to the school involved; indeed it has not be uncommon for children only a few streets away from a particular school to be zoned for another school further away. The development of the Grammar Zone in
Auckland in the 1960s and 1970s illustrates this point. As Noel Barton, the Mayor of Mt Eden, pointed out in 1979, some pupils living within a quarter-mile of Auckland Grammar were obliged to catch buses into the city and out again to Mt Albert Grammar, while others from Mt Eden had to catch a special bus to school subsidized by ratepayers. In defining the neighbourhood of a school, indeed, local proximity or distance to be travelled is only one and not necessarily the most important factor, whether or not an official zone is imposed. Considerations of transport have also been fundamental, as during the twentieth century changing forms of transport both private and public have enabled pupils to travel increasingly large distances every day to go to school. In Auckland, the introduction of the electric tram at the turn of the century encouraged the spread of residential areas as it became possible to travel further, more cheaply, and more rapidly than before. The suburban railway and the development of the motor bus had similar effects in the interwar years. After the second world war, the private motor car became a key factor in the suburbanisation of Auckland. This suburban spread had major implications for the journey to school and for the notion of school neighbourhoods, no less indeed than it did for adult commuting. Transport facilities have been able to extend the neighbourhood of schools, but not in a uniform or consistent manner. Public transport in particular has tended to encourage extension of the school neighbourhood in a given direction, as for example the railway or the ferry provided a physical link between the school and a relatively distant suburb or district. It was for this reason that it was common for new schools to be created on a convenient transport route or close to a railway station. Local proximity and transport facilities therefore conditioned the catchment area of schools, which Marsden in the context of English schooling has described as the 'school’s sphere of influence', providing ‘a framework within which interaction between the built forms and patterns of the environment, the social structure, people’s attitudes and behaviours, and the educational system, can be investigated’. The social geography of the school was a further major influence in the construction of school communities or neighbourhoods.

Archival sources are potentially crucial in helping to develop our historical understanding of schools and their neighbourhoods, for secondary schools no less than for primary schools. Secondary schools in particular have been at the centre of many public debates in different localities during the twentieth century, and the protagonists have often taken every available opportunity to make known their points of view. It is possible also to identify at least three different types of educational archive that shed light on secondary education, and which may be used to glean detailed information on secondary schools and the character of their local neighbourhoods.

The records of the former Department of Education constitute the first major archival source. The head office files in Wellington and the records of the regional offices hold a great deal of information on the
relationship between the localities and the centre, and on the ways in which particular schools were perceived by different groups and individuals. Of particular interest are the voluminous zoning files, which reveal official attitudes and policies towards the development of school communities, the concerns of school principals and local groups, and the hopes and fears of local parents. In cases of conflict over school zones, or where the zones were to be changed, attitudes and assumptions which usually remain unspoken have often emerged to defend or promote particular interests. Principals complaining about changes in the social characteristics of their neighbourhoods, and parents protesting that their house has been excluded from a favoured school zone, give important insights into schools and their communities. Although in many ways a very fertile source, there are still some problems about the use of such records that need to be borne in mind. One problem is that even in the midst of their complaints and protests, schools and parents have often deluded themselves about the real basis for their problem, and have certainly tended to construct their dilemmas in the most favourable light when presenting them to officials and ministers. In other words, as with all sources, these documents need to be interpreted critically rather than treated at their face value. Another difficulty is that such records give greater emphasis to dissension than to agreement; they document points of conflict and attempts to patch up compromises rather than acquiescence or approval of a given state of affairs. Although they may be problematic and not wholly representative of community attitudes, however, these sources do at least provide us with some access to the realities of the social geography of education which have usually remained hidden and unexplored.

A second type of archival source, representing an intermediate level of administration, is that of groups of schools with a single board or council. Such bodies have been an important forum for debate in particular local and urban contexts, and have commonly put forward specific interests and values with which they associated their schools and the local clientele. A classic example of this kind of body was the Auckland Grammar Schools Board, which represented the interests of all of the central grammar schools in Auckland until the 1980s. The Eastern Secondary Schools Board of Governors, also in Auckland, was another group of neighbouring secondary schools that sought to define and promote the common interests of its members. In Christchurch, the Christchurch Secondary Schools' Council, formed in 1949, provided administrative and planning services for the secondary schools of the city. The records of these and similar bodies should be of value in showing the role of local interest groups in relation to secondary education.

The records of individual secondary schools constitute the third type and lowest tier of archival source in this area. These can be especially significant in illuminating the relationships between the schools and their neighbourhoods, but are highly varied in their character and value.
Archifs

from school to school. Some, such as Seddon High School and Auckland Girls' Grammar School, have maintained major archives. In the case of Seddon, pupil records dating back to the early part of the century (until the 1960s as a technical school in Wellesley Street) should provide the basis of important research locating the changing geographical and social distribution of the clientele. The Auckland Girls' Grammar School archive includes correspondence and curriculum records that should also be relevant to a deeper understanding of the history of the school in relationship to its neighbourhood. However, there are other secondary schools that appear not to have preserved these kinds of primary evidence, and thus this vital avenue of research is likely to prove uneven and unpredictable. There is also in some cases a particular problem of access in relation to individual school records, and the conditions in which school archives are kept are in general less convenient for the researcher and more likely to lead to archival decay, than are those of larger bodies or the central bureaucracy. If such sources are to yield their potential value, there is a clear need to encourage consistent storage, preservation and access conventions among schools, and where there is insufficient storage space in particular schools to ensure that their records are placed in a recognised local archive rather than be destroyed.

From the research that has been undertaken so far, it seems reasonably clear that the construction of school communities or neighbourhoods in Auckland, far from being unproblematic or taken for granted, has been political in its character. It has involved calculating the likely effects of social class and latterly of ethnic differences upon the academic reputation of the school. A more or less direct relationship has often been assumed between the social characteristics of the neighbourhood and the character of the school. In crude terms, middle class residential areas were seen as the proper constituency of academic secondary schools; industrial districts were assumed to provide pupils appropriate for technical education. The effects of such assumptions on particular schools and neighbourhoods, and the ways in which they were mediated by specific local factors, need now to be studied through detailed historical research in a variety of different urban and suburban settings. Only thus will it be possible for us to move closer to an understanding of the history of secondary schools and their neighbourhoods.

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Neighbourhood Schooling


15. ibid., p.103.

16. ibid.


18. Northern Regional Office, Education Department, Planning Division, 'Auckland Central East Survey 1979', p.17.

19. ibid.


24. See McCulloch, 'Neighbourhood Schooling', ibid, for some preliminary suggestions on these aspects.

27

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Auckland

In deciding on what to call this paper I was reminded of Adolf Hitler's preferred title for his autobiography - which became Mein Kampf (My Struggle). This was 'Four and a Half Years' Struggle Against Lies, Stupidity and Cowardice'. However, to crib this title would be to give an altogether misleading impression of my experiences in researching New Zealand's Catholic history - it was more like six years! Indeed, calling this paper 'Research on New Zealand Catholicism' is in itself slightly misleading - the real issue to be discussed is the almost total lack of research on the Catholic chapter in New Zealand history.

Before this audience I cannot help feeling like a poacher among gamekeepers. My doctoral thesis was a study of ecclesiastical politics, which stemmed from a search for the strongest Irish influence in New Zealand history. What might be called the 'Irish phase' of Catholicism in New Zealand dates roughly from 1870 to 1945 and includes the decade 1912-1922, which witnessed an unprecedented outburst of sectarianism fuelled primarily by Irish political events. The search for source material to sustain this study was a long and often difficult one. My intention this afternoon is to sketch out a sort of rough guide for future researchers in the field - something that I would have greatly welcomed in 1984. This will, I hope, explain the 'What? Where? Who? Why?' format of my talk.

What? is, of course, shaped by my own interests and experience. While the various religious orders have records of their foundation and activities in New Zealand, I shall limit my remarks to the archives of the four historic Catholic dioceses (Auckland, Wellington, Dunedin and Christchurch) and to those of the Society of Mary (or Marists). Each diocesan archive comprises the administrative and personal papers of successive bishops and includes everything that came within episcopal jurisdiction: correspondence the bishop had with Rome, Government departments, other bishops, priests, religions and laity. Also account books, news cuttings, photographs etc.

The first thing to be noted is the relative size and richness of the material held in New Zealand Catholic archives. Auckland's holdings, for example, rival anything I have seen in Australia, Ireland or England, and Australian historians have not been slow to exploit this fact. This
said, the quantity and quality of material varies greatly in the five archives under discussion. I can best illustrate the contrast in quantity by allocating each an approximate order of magnitude. Using Auckland’s 500 plus boxes as ten, Wellington archdiocese follows with six as does the Marist archives (also in Wellington), Christchurch scores a four, with Dunedin trailing in at three.

Each archive has its own particular strength: Auckland is dominated by the huge collection of paper left by Henry William Cleary, its sixth bishop. Ruth Ross has described the Auckland archives in some detail in Archifacts, but its very substantial files of parish correspondence deserve a special mention.\(^1\) Also the photographic copies of material relating to Auckland diocese in the Roman archives.\(^2\) Wellington is particularly valuable for the early missionary phase of New Zealand Catholicism, with the papers of Bishops Viard and Redwood complemented by similar holdings at ‘Cerdon’, the Marist Provincial House. Christchurch has splendid material on its first bishop, John Joseph Grimes and also rich data on the West Coast parishes pre-1900. Dunedin is the poorest in quantity and yet the most mysterious. No substantial material seems to have survived from its first two bishops, the Irishman Patrick Moran and Michael Verdon. The archive does contain a valuable run of the *New Zealand Tablet* which, combined with the holdings at the Tablet office and the Catholic seminary nearby at Mosgiel, constitutes an enviable research base for scholars in the south.

All this suggests the importance of personality, of both the creators and custodians of Catholic archives - the ‘Who?’ factor. The most dramatic contrast in the ranks of creators is between the bishops of Auckland and Christchurch, Henry Cleary and Matthew Brodie. An inveterate journalist and an obsessive pamphleteer, Cleary left 160 large boxes of papers as his legacy to historians. He was not above adding the odd reminder - little scribbled notes in the margins of documents to indicate their importance to him. Brodie, by contrast, left almost nothing - perhaps preferring to follow the example of Archbishop Daniel Mannix of Melbourne who is said to have rejected the idea of ‘posterity analysing his soul’. This difference is also reflected in the contrasting access granted by the various archives. There is nothing remotely resembling a joint episcopal policy. Rather, archival control tends to fall to those most interested. This accidental factor has worked well in Auckland’s case, where Fr E.R. Simmons and the late Ruth Ross combined to produce a superbly organised archive, which has generated much of the research interest witnessed over the last ten years. By contrast, the Dunedin diocesan archive, presided over for the last twenty years by a founder member of ARANZ, has (to my knowledge) yet to grant adequate access to a single researcher.

One might imagine that part of the explanation for such a dramatic difference is the sensitivity of the material contained in a religious archive. The general restriction on access to material post-1922 (after the example of the Vatican archives) provides adequate protection on
this score. If the matter was sufficiently important then the parties usually had recourse to Roman adjudication, so it is simply impossible to prevent investigation of the political quarrels of the past by denying access to this or that diocesan archive. Indifference, embarrassment at the poor state of preservation and order in the archives, and suspicion of the motives of those interested in disturbing the dust of the past, have led us to the present position.

Signs of change are not lacking, however, possibly prompted by the recent anniversaries of both Church and State, perhaps also by the need to prove secure title to lands granted to the church early last century. In fact, Canon law now requires that each parish creates its own archive. Whatever the motive, Wellington archdiocese has set aside a generous amount of space for an archive in its new administrative headquarters, and an archive is promised for Dunedin in the near future. Diocesan histories have been written for Auckland and Christchurch, which will surely spark off further research. Catholic archivists, more numerous than ever, are beginning to compare notes and to join organisations like ARANZ in spirit rather than in name only.

My own experiences in studying the decade 1912-22 may indicate a few of the pitfalls and opportunities involved in this field of research. I had the good fortune to benefit from the organization of Auckland diocesan archives, and especially from the opening (in 1984) of the papers of Henry Cleary, Auckland’s bishop from 1910 to 1929. However, I looked in vain amongst Cleary’s voluminous papers for material on the Irish political issue and on the bishop’s support of Prohibition - a startling absence which alerted me to Cleary’s own contribution to the arrangement of his papers. These issues were so divisive and his own personal stand so controversial that Cleary evidently preferred to maintain a discreet silence rather than to enlighten any future biographer. It might have been possible to locate some of the missing documents in other diocesan repositories but access was denied to Wellington and Dunedin.

Fortunately no such problems were encountered when approaching Catholic archives overseas in search of supplementary material. The archives of Propaganda Fide, the Vatican department that looked after the foreign missions, had much New Zealand data. The rector of the Irish College in Rome also acted as the unofficial agent for Irish bishops throughout the world. The papers of rectors Michael O’Riordan and John Hagan contained fascinating evidence on Catholic ecclesiastical politics in New Zealand during and after the first world war. The story that emerged was of a troubled Church whose Irish identity involved it in conflict with the British Protestant majority and caused a deep division in its own ranks. During these years New Zealand witnessed an unprecedented outburst of sectarian warfare on the home front; a Catholic bishop was called up for military service, another was prosecuted on a charge of sedition. In 1920 New Zealand became the first country in the world to pass legislation against the supposed effect of Catholic marriage teaching.
I had to resist the temptation to write Bishop Cleary's own version of his life, to which end his papers had been specifically designed. The most difficult task was to analyse his long-running feud with Dr James Kelly, editor of the *New Zealand Tablet* from 1917-1931. Both were Irishmen, from County Wexford, whose careers had moved along almost parallel lines; nevertheless, they differed strongly on the correct response to the Church's difficulties in New Zealand and especially on the issue of advanced Irish nationalism. Cleary compiled a 'smoking gun' file on Kelly's *Tablet*, which is practically an indictment of his rival. As a bishop he could be fairly confident that his version of events would shape the historical record. When Kelly died in 1939 his papers were destroyed, leaving only his fierce *Tablet* editorials to balance Cleary's account. However, it was clear to me that these were deliberately provocative, written to court attack from those he perceived as enemies of Ireland (and, therefore, he argued, also enemies of Catholicism) and to rally New Zealand Catholics to a sense of their duty to faith and fatherland.

Fortunately, Kelly saw the need for an insurance policy in case his enemies appealed against him to Rome. He kept his former classmate at the Irish College Rome, John Hagan, well informed of the dire necessity for his fighting policy given New Zealand conditions. Hagan, rector of the Irish College from 1919, was able to speak in Kelly's defence in the right quarters; also, more important for my purpose, he kept all of Kelly's explanatory letters. Together with the memories of several nonagenarian clerics who knew the Reverend editor, this evidence helped to put Cleary's version into proper context. Without it I would almost certainly have produced a caricature of true events.

To balance the popular belief in sectarianism as strictly an Australian pursuit there are numerous examples of Australian commentators throwing their hands up in horror at the bitter religious conflict raging across the Tasman in these years. In one vital respect, the double rejection of military conscription in 1916-17, the New Zealand example had a marked effect on Australian politics. The New Zealand Catholic archives contain all this and much more. The life of Francis Redwood, New Zealand's first Catholic Archbishop, which spanned the period from our colonial infancy to the year of Labour's first electoral victory, is surely worth investigation. Likewise the fascinating relationship between the Catholic Church and the emergent Labour Party.

Historians cannot escape some of the blame for neglecting the Catholic chapter in our history. They have knocked neither long enough nor loudly enough on the doors of the various archives. The Australian obsession with sectarian and ethnic issues has inspired no imitators here; much energy has been expended on analysing the Maori-Pakeha relationship, but very little in examining the ethnic and religious cleavages in Pakeha society. The need for a detailed knowledge of the history of two countries is a real barrier. But, of course, one cannot make bricks without straw - or should that be books without archives?
Archifacts

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Where are we? It is all too seldom that one gets the opportunity to ponder
the present. My immediate response to this question, following some
confusion, was to ask another: Where should I begin and what areas
should I examine? I decided that to appreciate fully National Archives’
present situation, some awareness of the past was required. On the
question of what areas to examine I decided to glance back at past
volumes of *Archifacts* to see what issues had generated the most discus-
sion. Five major concerns emerged and it is these that I will discuss. They
are:

- The need for appropriate accommodation to house the archives.
- The need for a new Archives Act.
- The low position of the Chief Archivist within the structure of
government, and the low public image of National Archives.
- The need for regional archives repositories.
- The poor resource base of National Archives.

National Archives Accommodation:

Pamela Hall, a staff member from 1950 to 1969 (then Pamela Cocks),
concluded a personal reminiscence about National Archives by saying
‘there still remains the great question: when will a National Archives
building be erected?’

The Williams Report completed in 1984 considered the present
quarters occupied by National Archives, the Air New Zealand Building,
from a long-term point of view: ‘It failed to measure up. The whole
building, even if available provided only some 7100 square metres, when
the estimate for a 20 year term was 11,000 to 12,000 square metres. As well
the seismic design of the building does not meet the code. Level III (now
in use) could not be economically strengthened for archive stack, there
are plumbing problems, environmental problems and security is below
what is required.’ The report concluded that a central site in Wellington
was best on the grounds that more records are generated in Wellington
than elsewhere, that head offices of government organisations would be
more likely to require quick access for administrative reasons, and that
such a site would best meet the requirements of visiting researchers.
There were also considerations of convenience, economy and prestige.

Other reports were to follow before Pamela Hall’s question could
finally be answered. Archives House will be the first permanent home for
Archifacts

the headquarters of National Archives in Wellington. The premises which National Archives will occupy are the refurbished and renamed Government Print building in Mulgrave Street. The building is within the Government Centre, close to Parliament and most of the major government clients. It is also close to other research institutions such as the Parliamentary, National and Alexander Turnbull Libraries. The 15,000 square metre building will greatly add to National Archives' public visibility. The heightened profile can only contribute to perceptions of National Archives as an organisation of importance, and of the value of archives generally in the context of New Zealand culture and history.3

The development of National Archives' buildings is not however restricted to Wellington. A new purpose-built building has been constructed and opened in Christchurch. The two-storey office, reading room and repository complex is located at 90 Peterborough Street. The 2,000 square metre building is expected to meet the region's storage needs for the next 15 years. It is currently housing 3,000 linear metres of records.

The construction of two further purpose-built archives facilities has been approved. These will be located in Dunedin and Auckland. The 1350 square metre single-storey Dunedin building is due for completion in July 1991 and will be sited at 530 to 568 George Street. The 4,500 square metre Auckland building will be located at 147 Hobson Street and will occupy four-storeys and a basement. It is due to be completed in March 1992. The construction of these buildings will solve National Archives' immediate space problems, but staff and management must avoid being lulled into thinking that it will be the remedy for all National Archives' problems. Once the buildings are constructed users are likely to expect a better service. While better facilities may help ease some of the current reference problems it needs to be remembered that ultimately good service depends on the people providing it.

Archives Act:

When he opened the Archives Seminar in September 1975, Sir Patrick O'Dea, the then Secretary for Internal Affairs, announced that the Archives Act was being revised. Fifteen years later nothing has happened, except for a minor amendment in 1988.

What is lacking in the existing Act and what can we expect to see in the new Act? The Archives Act 1957 makes no provision for an advisory council, usually a combination of scholars and administrators to advise and assist both the Chief Archivist and Minister, and, most importantly, to speak up for National Archives as necessary.

The coverage of the Archives Act is now qualified. State-Owned Enterprises lie outside its scope, and a policy decision is needed on their inclusion. The Chief Archivist's view is that as they conduct government business their records should be controlled in the same way as those of other government agencies. Based on this premise the new Bill is intended to cover SOEs.
Provision for the management of local government archives is currently contained within the Local Government Act. The role of National Archives in setting standards and monitoring them as a way of assisting local government to upgrade its archives programmes is one which the Chief Archivist is keen to promote, along with the integration of such provisions in a new Archives Bill.

The provisions concerning access need to complement those of the Official Information Act. Currently it is ambiguous whether the responsibility for granting access lies with the Chief Archivist or the government agency transferring the archives. It is therefore intended that public access to information is to be determined with reference to the Official Information Act 1982. All restrictions on access to any public archive are to be limited to 30 years except in matters of security, maintenance of law and personal privacy, where the limit is to be up to 100 years or the duration of the life of the person to whom the information relates.

A new Act will do much, but like all legislation it is only as good as the resources made available to implement it; what has happened to National Archives since the 1957 Act is clear evidence of that. Furthermore, threats of legal action are unlikely to encourage the co-operation of administrators. It is always preferable for the Chief Archivist (and archivists) to persuade rather than bludgeon. The co-operation of administrators is vital as a danger to archives is 'the public servant or politician who out of ignorance or deliberate act destroys public archives. The only real defence against this is [not the threat of legal action but] to raise the level of archives awareness in the public generally so that an outcry will occur when such actions are discovered. It is this raising of public awareness, both inside and outside the government which must be made the high priority by New Zealand's National Archives. In 1975 Stuart Strachan said: 'For those who are pondering what a new government will bring it is worth remembering that the first Archives Act was passed by a National Government'. Hopefully the present government will introduce a revised Act.

The Low Position of the Chief Archivist within the Structure of Government and the Low Public Image of National Archives:

'Cardinal point in the 1978 Smith Report was that, as part of a general programme for the upgrading of National Archives, the status of its head should be substantially raised within the Public Service with direct access to the Minister of Internal Affairs. The creation of the new position of Director of National Archives, in 1981, did go some way to meeting this stipulation. Its grading placed the Director on a level with an Assistant Secretaryship within the Department, an improvement on the old situation which merely equated the Chief Archivist with an executive officer in line of reporting'.

Following the recommendations of a Cabinet Review Committee in late 1989, National Archives gained a new status within the Department
of Internal Affairs by becoming an 'autonomous stand-alone agency' as from 1 July 1990. The practical implications of this are that the government now provides net funding for National Archives, and that the Director of National Archives is appointed on a performance-based contract and reports directly to the Secretary of the Department.

Despite these changes the administrative position of National Archives is still of concern as 'effectiveness of any National Archives depends on the authority, actual as well as statutory, it can bring to bear on Government Departments'. The functions carried out by the Department of Internal Affairs have changed considerably over the past five years, and some functions with which National Archives had particular affinity have been transferred to new agencies such as the Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Arts and Culture. How appropriate it remains for National Archives to continue to operate under the Internal Affairs umbrella is a question which will probably engender more discussion in the future.

It has been contended that National Archives' lack of status has been an outcome of a failure to use statutory powers. Such a view does not recognize adequately the crucial importance of informing government departments of the requirements of the Act. National Archives is no different from other archival repositories in recognizing the necessity of willing and informed donors. However, the information flow needs to be two-way, and the need to have government agencies document systematically their records for National Archives is a matter provided for in the proposed new Bill.

From time to time there is considerable focus on the position of the head of the Department of Internal Affairs as defined in the present Archives Act. To suggest that it is the Secretary rather than the Chief Archivist who has the power to make the real decisions is simply untrue - both in legal terms and in practice. The issue here is the potentially negative impact the Department could have on National Archives by assigning low priorities to its needs. But this is not a legislative issue and, in any case, there can be little doubt that National Archives' needs have been better understood and met during the past decade. Again, this is largely the product of an improved flow of information. New legislation is likely to emphasize the specific responsibilities of the head of National Archives.

Status and recognition can only be achieved through raising awareness of archives. Promoting archives means co-operation between administrators, academics, genealogists, archivists, and others involved in their use. It also means our holdings and research aids need to be brought to a wider audience. Exhibitions such as 'A Loss of Innocence' held at the Auckland Institute and Museum, and the 'Constitutional Exhibition’ in Wellington help raise public awareness and attract new users to National Archives. However, unless we can improve our finding aids and make them more readily available, the chances of users maintaining an active interest are low. There is also a real need for
greater involvement by interested groups and organisations in the policies adopted by National Archives. Outside involvement through joint ventures such as the volunteer projects presently being performed at the Auckland Office are mutually beneficial and to be encouraged.

The Need for Regional Archives Repositories:

The need to provide for effective regional repositories was foreshadowed in the notion of approved libraries and museums being able to receive archives of local origin (see section 19 of the Archives Act 1957).

A grave defect of the Archives Act, so far as the ‘approved institutions’ were concerned, was their weakness vis-a-vis government departments. They were completely without official status within the departmental district offices, and had no authority with respect to their records. Transfer of archives into the custody of such institutions often occurred without prior consultation with National Archives, so that National Archives often had no knowledge of those archives. More recently the increased volume of public archives overwhelmed these approved institutions and resulted in the establishment of the Auckland Regional Office in 1984 and the Christchurch Regional Office in 1985.

The need for a regional structure was highlighted in Judith Hornabrook’s comments made in 1977: ‘I do not believe one can impose centralism on local areas, especially when this disturbs the status quo. Even within provincial boundaries there is local pride which balks any suggestion of outside control or loss of local holdings. In some cases indeed it is a case of Wellington rather than a neighbouring town. Centralism of archival work may well mean a stifling of local enterprise - and delay the development of professional archivists outside Wellington.’

I would also like to suggest that a detailed knowledge of the local history is beneficial when it comes to arrangement and description. Stuart Strachan’s criteria that ‘Archives should be held physically in locations, most easily accessible to the majority of people with a potential interest in using them consistent with their good care’ seems a sensible one. As early as 1975 Stuart spoke of the need for regional offices in seven regions as follows:

- Auckland (responsible for Northland)
- Waikato (for Bay of Plenty)
- Hawkes Bay (for East Cape)
- Taranaki (for Wanganui)
- Wellington (for Wairarapa, Nelson and Marlborough)
- North Canterbury (for the West Coast & South Canterbury)
- Otago (for Southland)

As previously mentioned, there are archives offices now in Wellington, Auckland and Christchurch; an office in Dunedin will be opened in 1991. Such offices ‘increase the accessibility of locally generated records, reduce the chances that records within the region will be destroyed, provide a career structure for archivists at a local level, help ensure the
adoption of proper standards of archive keeping throughout the country and generally raise the profile of archives within the region'. Splits in holdings with approved repositories and agreement on collecting policies with other institutions in the region will require resolution. However, co-operation through local organisations, such as the Northern Archives and Records Trust, should ensure that regional structures are not only beneficial to National Archives but mutually beneficial to all archival institutions within the regions.

National Archives Resource Base:

The Smith and Ward reports stressed the need for additional resources to ensure the adequate performance of the tasks that National Archives are to carry out.

In 1985 Cheryl Campbell wrote an article which highlighted the demands on National Archives' resources, in particular on its staff. Using the Auckland Office as a case study, I will illustrate the increased demands on staff since 1985.

In 1985 National Archives Auckland had a total establishment of three archivists; by 1989 the establishment had increased to 4 archivists. The workload had increased as follows:


What these figures fail to illustrate is the increasing complexity of the inquiries arising from, for example, the claims to the Waitangi Tribunal, and the greater diversity of material with which staff have had to become familiar. The figures also ignore other reference related work such as group visits and exhibitions.

Appraisal work: 35 appraisal jobs in 1985 amounting to 390 linear metres of records being accessioned, to 79 appraisal jobs in 1989 amounting to 1300 linear metres being accessioned.

These figures ignore the wide geographical area covered by our services; work is carried out in Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Taupo, Rotorua and Gisborne. They also ignore the total number of government offices which reside within the region for which we are expected to make destruction and retention recommendations.

Arrangement and description: Because there was no archivist located in Auckland prior to 1984, little arrangement and description was performed between 1962 and 1984. During this period 3,000 linear metres of records were acquired - the equivalent of the total Christchurch holdings to date. Since 1984 government restructuring, privatisation,
abolition of agencies, and a greater awareness of the costs of retaining information not regularly needed, has resulted in a further 9,000 linear records being transferred. All this material has needed some form of arrangement (a lot still does).

The effects of government restructuring, increased accountability for resources and increased work-loads has had both negative and positive spin-offs.

On the negative side the Department of Internal Affairs Research Unit survey in 1989 revealed that National Archives has one of the highest staff turnovers in the department. This was a situation Smith noted in 1978:

"Staff morale is low as indicated by a rapid turnover of professional staff. The calibre of staff recruited is high but... there is a sense of frustration at the inability to do what needs to be done and the low salary scales and career opportunities [means] the limited staff resources permit only basic tasks to be performed."

Recent changes such as the salary review in 1990 will greatly improve the salary scales for archivists. The creation of the Records Management Branch in 1988 with its 13 positions and wider range of functions has also increased the career opportunities for archivists. The appointment of a Training Officer in 1990 following a Training Need Analysis Survey also reflects National Archives' awareness of the need for experienced and trained staff.

Another negative result of high work-loads has been increased delays between receipt of appraisal jobs and their completion. Similar delays are occurring in the compilation of finding aids, which means that records are not accessible to users.

On the positive side the availability of two computers within the office has meant that some of the mundane and time-consuming work, such as integrating accessions through the process of scissor and paste, has been removed. Access to computers has meant finding aids can now be easily updated and reports can be generated more quickly. The Auckland office has also computerised its location system, item production system, and the commitment, job, accession, and reference inquiry registers. As a consequence of this we are better able to trace and control information and jobs within the office. In sum the computers have provided time savings and greater controls, however, there is a need for more computers so that every staff member has access to one and users should also have access to them so that they can conduct computerised searches. A computer project team in Wellington in conjunction with Azimuth Computer consultants has been looking at the future computer development of National Archives. However, their long-term plans are in jeopardy due to the lack of capital funding. Having raised staff expectations, continued local computer initiatives must be seen as increasingly important from both a staff morale and resource viewpoint.

An element which has relieved high staff work-loads has been the assistance provided by volunteer workers. Their efforts have generated a lot of interest and goodwill within the community and contributed
towards savings in National Archives staff time, particularly in reference, through the creation of finding aids.

Increased work-loads have also resulted in National Archives examining its procedures and work priorities. One important result of this has been the compilation of a manual on arrangement and description with the resultant standardisation and improvement of finding aids. Through this process and through the use of computers it is envisaged that in the near future National Archives will be able to publish finding aids.

In general terms National Archives has shown both the willingness and the ability to respond to changing circumstances. The establishment of a cost recovery Records Management Branch with a total establishment of 13 staff illustrates this point. Since 1985 National Archives total staff establishment has grown from 30 to 59 and in recognition of the increasing complexity and diversity of archives work a number of specialist positions have been created, such as EDP Archivist, Film Archivist, Repository Manager, Training Co-ordinator, Projects and Public Relations Manager and Maori Land Court Project Manager.

To house archives adequately is highly capital intensive, with some $11 million being allocated this year for buildings and shelving alone. It is therefore most important that National Archives continues to be able to justify its existence to the community and to government, particularly to those that control the purse strings. To maintain and increase its funding it is vitally important for the status and image of National Archives that we seek the co-operation and support of all users. To quote Ray Grover: 'The future for archives is the perpetual challenge of exercising knowledge, insight, perception and adaptability in responding to the needs of users'. National Archives' ability to survive and grow depends on its ability to meet users' future needs.

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8. Strachan, p.3.
11. ibid., p.20.
12. ibid.
14. The 1985 government loan figures represent storage and archives loans whereas the 1989 represent archive loans only.
The Use and Experiences of Volunteers in Archive Work

Mark Stoddart
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'Exploitive', 'tremendous boon', 'wasteful', 'a salvation' - these are some of the contrasting attitudes one is likely to encounter towards the use of volunteers in archives.

Negative views towards volunteers seem to stem from the fact that volunteers are free - a dirty word in today's user pays society. Because voluntary work is free there is a tendency to condemn those institutions using them as exploitative, because they limit the work opportunities for paid employees. Occasionally one detects a judgemental attitude towards voluntary work, which results from the misguided belief that because the work done by them is free it must be of a low standard. Justification for these negative attitudes is difficult to find for no survey, to my knowledge, has been made of either the services performed by volunteers in New Zealand archives and manuscript repositories, or of the attitudes of archivists to volunteers and voluntary work.

In the absence of this information, I want to look briefly at the use of volunteers in overseas archival repositories and at their use in National Archives. In doing so I hope to demonstrate some of the benefits that archives and manuscript repositories may gain by using volunteers, as well as some of the potential pitfalls arising from the use of volunteers and ways to avoid them.

It should always be remembered that 'persons willing to freely donate their time and attention to archives are motivated by any number of reasons and expectations. Some have a general interest in history, others are seeking to learn new skills; and yet others are seeking useful ways to spend their leisure time. In most cases they expect interesting, satisfying work and some form of recognition and appreciation from archive staff, whose goal is to channel the interests of volunteers towards the aims and priorities of the archives'. Recognition and appreciation of volunteers can be demonstrated in a myriad of ways such as by invitations to repositories' exhibition openings, donation of publications produced by the institution, inclusion of them in workshops, Christmas parties and photographs. Failure to provide any form of recognition will inevitably result in a loss of support and withdrawal of services.

What interesting and satisfying work can volunteers do? Ann Pederson and Gail Casterline state: 'within the archives they can provide reference
assistance, type letters, proofread, teach classes, guide school tours, or help with a myriad of other tasks. Out in the community, they can stage benefits, prepare and present programs on the archives for local schools and organisations, assist in locating materials for the collections and - above all - provide a vital link between the archives and a public that may know little if anything about its documentary heritage.

The Western Australian State Archives very successfully utilize the services of volunteers to access microfilm holdings and answer genealogical inquiries thereby freeing up permanent staff time for other duties. These overseas experiences indicate that it is important to realise that the range of activities that can be carried out by volunteers is limited only by one's vision, skill and ingenuity.

National Archives has traditionally used volunteers to index reference sources such as the Intentions to Marry, Social Security Passenger Lists, Publicans' Licences, Hospital Admission Registers and Charitable Aid Registers. While these projects have been successful in making information more readily accessible, a less tangible benefit derived from them has been the knowledge that archives' staff and volunteers have exchanged during the course of the projects. This has provided archives' staff with a broader knowledge of outside sources and often a more detailed knowledge of sources within National Archives' holdings. The projects have also assisted staff in the development of management and interpersonal skills.

In recent years the range of activities performed by volunteers for National Archives, Auckland, has extended to include the following projects:

- The re-boxing and item checking of probate files. As a result of this project some 350 linear metres of records have been re-boxed and re-listed, enabling quicker and easier retrieval of the records. It has also resulted in the identification of missing probates (i.e. those not transferred from the High Court).
- The acquisition of school records has been greatly assisted by the efforts of people such as Mr. Hunt who took it upon himself to approach various schools around Auckland and persuade them to transfer their records to National Archives.
- The mounting and supervision of exhibitions on the North Shore and in the Downtown complex was carried out under the auspices of volunteers from the New Zealand Genealogical Society. (National Archives, Wellington, also planned to use volunteers to assist with the Constitutional Exhibition, held from 17 November to 22 December 1990.)

Volunteer workers may form an integral part of many archival programmes, however, volunteer help should be viewed realistically as 'Volunteers are not a substitute for paid staff, and they must not be used by the organisation to avoid its responsibility to provide the archives with reasonable resources. Furthermore, volunteers do not have the same accountability as paid staff and solving problems such as low productivity,
The Use and Experiences of Volunteers in Archive Work

poor quality work and absenteeism must depend almost exclusively on persuasion and tact. The Society of American Archivists' 'Lone Ranger Kit' suggests one develop projects that can be done (and abandoned) by part-time or volunteer labour. This is sound advice based on the basic rule that outside help should always be considered an extra and not form an essential component of any project.

Volunteer labour, though freely given, is not without costs to the archives programme. Firstly the orderly recruitment, training, scheduling and supervision of volunteers should be a significant duty for a responsible staff member. Secondly, to carry out any project the archives often must invest considerable sums of money in terms of supplies such as index cards, card catalogues etc. It is important to ensure that projects performed by volunteers will benefit the archives, otherwise they can be justifiably called wasteful. It should also be made clear from the outset that all resources provided by the archives remain the property of the archives. This is particularly important if the project is being conducted outside the institution itself.

The quality of work by volunteers is directly dependent upon there being clear policies, procedures and standards for each type of work. One volunteer project I have been associated with was less than satisfactory because:

- The institution for whom the project was being carried out failed to provide clear guidelines as to what was expected and did not directly supervise the project.
- The person who assumed responsibility for the project was unfamiliar with the policies, procedures and standards of the institution for whom the archives were ultimately destined, and did not have time to supervise the project closely.

The end result was that the volunteers had to assume a major responsibility for the project, investing a considerable amount of time and effort in organizing the records only to find the work had to be undone when it was given to the institution because it was unacceptable in terms of their requirements.

Close collaboration and supervision are essential in any volunteer programme, regardless of whether specific procedures are spelled out in the guidelines. Some important guidelines for any successful volunteer project include:

- Advanced planning prior to instigating the programme. For example, before carrying out an indexing project ensure that you fully understand the full context of the records to be indexed and their relationship with other records held. Nothing can be more counterproductive than indexing a set of records only to discover on completion of the project that a contemporary index existed.
- Standards of performance and specific procedures for checking work completed are also essential. In the case of indexing projects this may include simple rules such as ensuring all pages are...
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indexed, all references are provided and the references to source documents are accurate. Checking of index entries should not be done by the person who indexed the records. If sending copies of documents to be indexed outside the institution, it is important to ensure the correct references to documents have been provided.

- Procedures for terminating the employment of volunteers, based on failure to meet specified performance standards, such as legible writing, should be laid down and uniformly applied.

- Other factors or guidelines to consider when managing volunteer programmes include the amount of training provided for volunteers, procedures for evaluating suggestions for new projects, amount of staff and volunteer time to be expended on each project and the time to be spent on the project. If the project is too long enthusiasm is likely to wane. It is also important to provide lots of space away from essential services, such as reference, in order that the volunteers, staff and archive users can carry out their respective work unhindered and with minimal disturbance. Such guidelines are not fail-safe but they can go a long way towards overcoming misunderstandings. Managing volunteer support and preparatory project work are demanding tasks. It is therefore important that a capable senior person is designated to handle and manage this important work. National Archives, Auckland, has been fortunate that Narelle Scollay has taken an active interest in the office's volunteer projects and has devoted considerable time liaising with different volunteers operating within and outside the office. We have also been fortunate to have dedicated teams of volunteers from the New Zealand Society of Genealogists who have actively carried out a wide range of projects at a consistently high standard. To them I wish to convey my appreciation.

I would like to draw to the attention of those people considering volunteer projects the following Ten Commandments compiled by Ann Pederson and Gail Casterline:

1. Be selective and screen candidates for volunteers.
2. Do not judge the capabilities and shortcomings of selected candidates before they undergo a training program.
3. Use volunteers creatively to satisfy genuine institutional needs. Do not make work to keep volunteers busy, or give them responsibility for a major project simply because a qualified staff member who should be doing it, isn't.
4. Find jobs for all volunteers accepted into the program, and do not show personal favouritism in making work assignments.
5. Always consider a volunteer as such and do not count on a longer commitment than initially agreed upon.
6. Recognize that most volunteer candidates are interesting, well-informed, and competent people who have important contributions to make.
7. Remember that the volunteer work force will only be as good as the
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program that trains and directs its participants.

8. Establish a fair system of expectation, assignment, accountability, and performance for all volunteer assistants.

9. Let your volunteers know that you appreciate them and their work.

10. Remember that the relationship between the volunteers and the professional staff, no matter how cordial or clearly defined, will never be problem-free.4

REFERENCES


2. ibid., p.53.


4. Pederson and Casterline, p.53.
Reports on Conference Sessions

Women's Archives Session

Kay Morris-Matthews, Convenor
University of Waikato

An objective of the Women's Archives session was to share information about the range of material held in individual repositories around the country. That there are large quantities of Women's Archives soon became apparent as first panel members and then session participants provided overviews of specific collections in the following cities:

Dunedin: Beverley Booth drew attention to the following: Material held at the Hocken Library includes manuscripts, diaries, and letters, as well as papers from a number of Otago women's organizations. Papers relating to women's organizations can also be found at the Dunedin Public Library. The Hewitson Library holds material relating to prominent Presbyterian women and the Knox College Library has material relating to women's organisations and women mission workers. The Otago Early Settlers' Museum holds shipboard diaries. The Otago Women's Sub-committee for the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography has generated much valuable biographical information on both Otago and Southland women.

Christchurch: At National Archives there is much material relating to the Justice Department, for example, probates, divorce, custody, trials and coroners' reports. School registers and some Health Department records are also to be found there.

Wellington: In addition to reminding us about the Herstory diary research and past Turnbull Library and Dowse Gallery exhibitions on New Zealand women, Ellen Ellis announced a forthcoming project. Funding has been received to provide archival training for women working with archives of women's organisations. Also in Wellington, the National Art Gallery has files relating to women artists, while the Turnbull Library has its two booklets which detail its women's archives plus a microfiche entitled 'Women today'.

Auckland: The Museum has an index on women's archival material, and the Anglican Diocese has a women's resource centre with information relating to ordained women, the Women's Refuge Home, Parnell Orphan Home and St Mary's Home. The St John's Library holds material on the Girl Guide Association as well as diaries.

Hamilton: The Rosemary Seymour Collection is housed at the University of Waikato Library and has large newspaper files on women's
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issues from the 1970s as well as a collection of newsletters from women’s organizations nation-wide.

Kay Morris-Matthews put forward the idea of a directory of New Zealand Women’s Archives. With the co-operation of individual archives and libraries a computer listing could be compiled and then revised at regular intervals. Kay would like to hear from anyone interested in joining a working party to pursue this idea. Currently three people (all from the upper North Island) are working on the idea; contributors from Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin would be very welcome.

The Trade Union History Project

Bert Roth

Auckland

In May 1987 the Federation of Labour held its fiftieth, and final, annual conference in Wellington. Among the invited guests were veterans of the trade union movement whose contributions - living history - made a great impression. People who attended this session agreed that these valuable reminiscences of past struggles must not be lost. Jock Barnes, the leader of the 1951 waterfront dispute, had by all accounts been the outstanding speaker, and plans were put forward for a documentary on Barnes and 1951. It was from these early discussions that a proposal emerged to set up a Trade Union History Project. The moving spirit was Francis Wevers, then Wellington Secretary of the Public Service Association, who had earlier worked in television.

Wevers convened the initial meeting which took place in Wellington on 2 September 1987. Twenty-three people attended, among them FOL secretary Ken Douglas, Labour MP Graham Kelly, trade unionists and university staff. They adopted rules and elected a committee, with Wevers as chairperson. The main objects of the project were to foster and encourage the recording of the history of the union movement, to promote a greater and wider understanding of that history, and (which probably distinguishes the TUHP from similar societies elsewhere) ‘to participate in the creation of that history’.

The TUHP was fortunate in the high calibre of the people it was able to attract as active members in Wellington, in the fact that Mike Bassett, himself a trade union historian, was Minister of Internal Affairs and able to make funds available, and in the approach of the 1990 celebrations, which meant heightened interest in, and funding for, historical projects. The TUHP did of course receive money from subscriptions by individual and corporate members (about 200 at present), but its major source of income was grants from various organizations for its projects.
What were these projects?

1. The Barnes Documentary: Originally conceived as a film focussed on the life and times of Jock Barnes, it changed direction somewhat and became a documentary on New Zealand labour in the 'cold war' period of 1946-51, based on interviews with participants and the use of archival films, with a script by Dean Parker. The 46-minute video, entitled 'Shattered Dreams', constitutes an important historical record.

2. The Guide to the FOL Archives: Over its fifty years' history, 1937-1987, the Federation of Labour accumulated a huge mass of records, some predating its formation, which were transferred to the Alexander Turnbull Library in July 1988. The TUHP commissioned a trained archivist, Cathy Marr, to put these records in order and it published the resulting inventory, which has become an invaluable aid to researchers.

3. Other Publications: The TUHP commissioned Stevan Eldred-Grigg to write a history of work in New Zealand and commissioned Cathy Marr to visit photo repositories throughout the country for suitable illustrations. Their book, *New Zealand Working People, 1890-1990* was launched last October. Another major work subsidised by the TUHP was *The Forgotten Worker* by John Martin, a history of rural labour in nineteenth-century New Zealand, also lavishly illustrated and launched last October.

   Earlier TUHP-assisted publications were *The Lucifer* by Dave Welch (a history of the 1932 Christchurch tram strike), *Strike: Trouble at t'Mill* by Barbara Fill (an account of the 1890 Petone woollen mill strike) and *Days of Action* by Bert Roth (a booklet on the history of May Day and Labour Day). The TUHP has also published a quarterly bulletin since 1987, and has produced posters and historical postcards.

4. Oral History: The TUHP bought a cassette recorder and paid expenses to members prepared to record interviews with union stalwarts. These interviews have been conducted mainly in Wellington and in the South Island, and the tapes are available for research.

5. Labour History Festival: In October 1990 the THP sponsored a three-day festival in Wellington, which comprised an exhibition 'Art and Organised Labour' at the Wellington City Art Gallery, a two-day Labour History Conference with invited British and Australian speakers, a recreation of the 1890 Labour Day parade in Wellington, as well as a dinner, concert and film sessions.

   The TUHP remains centred in Wellington, but branches were set up in Hamilton (November 1989) and Auckland (April 1990). The Hamilton branch produced an issue of an oral history newspaper *Soiled Hands*, while Auckland compiled a 'Workers' History Calendar' for 1991, based on the 40th anniversary of the 1951 waterfront lockout.

   In little more than three years therefore the TUHP has been able to create an important corpus of publications, in print, on tape and on film, documenting the history of New Zealand trade union movement, but the scope of course is endless. Among future activities planned are the
erection of a memorial on the Petone foreshore where Sam Parnell made his stand for an eight-hour working day in 1840, the archiving of equal pay material in the Dan Long Library in Wellington, and the compilation of a Dictionary of New Zealand Labour Biography.
Most New Zealanders are aware that the Alexander Turnbull Library is different from most other libraries. But they find it difficult to define the difference with any degree of precision. In my experience that differentness presents problems to them; they are uncomfortable with it, some find it alien. Groping around for concepts, words, they often alight, with a sigh of relief, on elitist.

I believe that their problem arises from our history. The New Zealand tradition is a public library tradition. Our first libraries were public lending libraries in the New Zealand Company settlements, and in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin; the public library tradition which had evolved slowly in Britain and the United States came fully formed to New Zealand in the intellectual baggage of the settlers. We had public lending libraries before university libraries or learned libraries or legislative libraries or law libraries or special libraries or school libraries or archives. In older countries archives came first, then came the scholars' libraries (the research libraries serving a tiny proportion of the population) and public libraries, the mass libraries, came very late on the scene in the nineteenth century.

It is inevitable in New Zealand that people will see research libraries, and even archives, from within a public library framework of reference. They fit imperfectly, and are seen as aberrant public libraries rather than for what they are. Visitors who come from older societies with a well-established research library tradition recognize the Turnbull for what it is; the clues are obvious. Comprehensiveness, closed access, non-lending, multi-format, emphasis on conservation; these are the accepted characteristics of a library that belongs to that other tradition, the tradition of the scholar's library.

The research library is in the tradition of the universal source, that belief that it was possible to comprehend all that was known, or worth knowing, within a collection of documents and that a scholar, one involved in the creation of new knowledge, must have access to all that was known. When books were few an individual scholar could aspire to

The revised text of two lectures to the staff of the Alexander Turnbull Library given in 1987 immediately before the Library moved into the new National Library Building on Molesworth Street in Wellington.
such a universal library. As the books multiplied, especially after the
invention of printing from movable type, no scholar could amass such a
collection, so institutions began to maintain libraries on behalf of
scholars. Communities of scholars banded together in universities to
meet their needs for knowledge in books.

By the twentieth century it was recognized that the universal library
was an impossible dream, but the idea of a library which held books,
manuscripts, archives and other materials essentially as evidence for
scholars, which kept them together in one place by not lending them,
and kept them indefinitely because of their evidential value, persisted in
the humanities. New knowledge in the humanities is created by seeing
new meanings in old documents, seeing relationships not perceived
before, seeing connections that are relevant to current needs, and the
most effective way of creating such new knowledge is total immersion in
a research library. To be effective a research library has to have a
sufficient number of documents, a critical mass. Once that critical mass
is achieved the collection becomes greater than the sum of its parts
because of the richness of the relationships that it reveals, and those
relationships are a major source of stimulation to the mind of the
scholar.

In young societies, such as New Zealand, the coverage of the know-
ledge about the society in printed books was insufficient, and research
libraries accumulated large collections of primary sources - archives,
manuscripts, paintings and drawings, photographs, sound recordings,
and so on, and archives institutions themselves played a larger role in
meeting popular demand for information.

Research libraries, then, are designed to meet the needs of the
scholar, or if one prefers, the researcher; the person who needs access
to a critical mass of evidence gathered in one place for the creation of
new knowledge. The systems, the methods, the staffing, the cataloguing,
the reference services, the conservation programmes, all flow logically
from those needs. The function of the research library as the gatherer
and preserver of historical evidence determines the organization of the
collections, its bibliographical control, the staffing, and practically
everything else.

The modern public lending library represents another tradition, one
arising from the fragmentation of knowledge and a perception of the
actual needs of the vast majority of literate but non-scholarly users. In the
modern world of high levels of literacy most users of information in
documents are not scholarly users, and scholars can and do have a need,
as citizens, for public lending collections. We need to remember that
until the eighteenth century a high proportion of literate people were
scholarly users of library collections, and that it is a relatively modern
phenomenon for the scholarly user to be in the minority. Today, in our
kind of societies, with high literacy and good library provision at all
levels, less than one per cent of the population are users of libraries for
the purpose of research. For every thousand people who borrow books
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from lending libraries there is likely to be one who uses a research library or an archive to create more books.

The theory of the modern public library is that the proper place for books is not in the library but elsewhere, in the office or home. The book is a fragment of knowledge temporarily stored in a book warehouse called a library, an open access barn for books not being used. The book is passive in the public library, active outside its walls in the hands of a user. People choose from open shelves from a collection carefully tailored to meet average needs. By browsing each person can find a book to meet his or her needs and abilities. The object chosen is the one likely to have the highest potential for the transfer of knowledge from the text to the mind of the reader. Every borrower has a household, or office, circulating library of his or her choice. It was a stunningly simple and revolutionary idea in its time and it worked because it met the actual needs of most people. The form follows from the function; storage, bibliographical control, staffing, all should reflect the view that the real home of a document is not the library but somewhere else.

In both cases, the lending library and the research library, the function determines the form. At a superficial level the forms may seem very similar but there are significant differences arising from the different functions.

The argument is that the lending library by its nature is a mass library geared to meet the needs of literates who have a need for the information and knowledge in documents. It aims to meet the needs of a high proportion of the population and measures its success by the percentage of the population it serves directly through lending. Or in my formulation, by the books not on its shelves but elsewhere. The research library by its nature is a minority library geared to serving the needs of those who need access to a mass of evidence.

Any economist worth his salt would start twitching at this point and reach for his calculator. How can you justify spending money on a research library which confesses that its function is to serve less than one per cent of the population, as against a public lending library with a 35 per cent coverage of its population or a school library with a 70 to 80 per cent coverage of its user group? At this stage we need to look at a definition of the purpose of libraries. That of Jesse Shera is a good starting point: the function of a library is to maximize the social utility of graphic records. Graphic records are documents in all their forms; signs, symbols, images on paper, canvas, film; messages imposed on some base material. Social utility is the usefulness to society. My formulation of Shera is that the function of a library is to maximize the knowledge transfer from graphic records to society for the benefit of society.

How then can a research library, serving such a small minority, maximize knowledge transfer from graphic records to society for the benefit of society, and how can it compete with the lending library with its mass market?

I have brought you, quite deliberately, to the edge of the cliff where
our heroine, the research library, is hanging by her fingers while the economist, using his cost/benefit analysis and measures of the greatest good for the greatest number, tries to compare her with a lending library in maximizing the transfer of knowledge from graphic records for the benefit of society. In the best traditions of the suspense movie I propose to keep you dangling while we explore the library fish-tank.

Try to think of libraries as fish-tanks, and their contents as marine life. In the school library fish-tank is a selected group of fish chosen because they can be managed by the young. They are wholesome, small, easily caught and cooked, and they are without the sharp bones that would be dangerous to the young. The public library fish-tank is again stored with edible species appropriate to the user group. There are few poisonous or inedible fish or Portuguese Men-of-War. A poisonous book such as the Protocols of the Elders of Zion, a nasty anti-Semitic fabrication, will not be in the school library and would be unlikely to appear in the public library or university undergraduate library. A research library fish-tank on the other hand aims to capture the whole of the marine environment; the inedible, the nasty, the poisonous are essential to the research library in its quest for total documentation. The research library does not confine itself to the best bits, the most up-to-date, the most relevant to today’s needs, the items which will satisfy 90 per cent of today’s requests; it collects the total squirming mess that is documented knowledge. And in so doing it provides something else, a something more than the sum of its parts; it provides the ecology of knowledge.

But now back to our heroine. What arguments can save her? The traditional defence of the research library that is proffered to economists and administrators is what I call the ‘multiplier theory’, and it is the one I have been offering for the past fourteen years. This theory holds that the research library and its community - the staff, bibliographers, researchers, publishers, editors, illustrations editors, writers, communications workers, advertising workers - all interact with the research collections to produce new knowledge, to repackage old knowledge in new ways, to re-present neglected knowledge, to select old knowledge and present it in a more appropriate way. The librarians working in a research library, from their privileged access to the ecology of knowledge and their privileged knowledge gained from working with the collections, share their knowledge through bibliographies, through the catalogues they create (which are research tools in their own right), through the indexes, whether internal or published, that they create. Research workers (who can be members of the library’s staff) create new knowledge in products; books, periodical articles, films, videos, audiovisuals, or whatever. Research workers also select and edit existing materials such as manuscripts and pictorial images, and illustrations editors select and present existing images to the public.

Thus the research library, through the medium of publication in its many forms, using the talents of its research communities, translates its collections into new objects which are then available to other libraries.
and directly to the public. On this theory the items in a research library's collections are intermediaries which need to be fertilized by the research communities to produce new life forms.

Items in lending library collections, as you will recall, are dormant and passive in their book warehouses and come alive when they are taken away for use elsewhere. All that they need is the kiss of life that a borrower provides. The items in a lending collection are complete, finished pieces of knowledge which require only that kiss of life of the borrower, the person who opens the cover and begins to read.

The research communities have a much more intimate relationship with the items in a research collection, and this is why increasingly the research library is in the business of planned parenthood - of encouraging the high performers (those who publish prolifically), of matchmaking (matching up a researcher with a collection) and providing dowries to encourage appropriate consummations which are in the public interest. Linnaeus, the Swedish scientist, shocked many people in the eighteenth century with his classification system for plants based on their sexual characteristics; I offer this sexual model of research library behaviour with due modesty.

In the multiplier theory of the research library we attempt to maximize knowledge transfer by maximizing the transfer from the collections to the public by way of publication, using publication in its widest sense to include all artifacts created from the use of the collections. To do that we attempt to increase the number of productive users and to increase the productivity of each user and to direct their energies to the more important areas of society's needs. We concentrate not on gross numbers of users or items used but on the social value of the end products of that interaction of user and collections.

Our collections and their organization, our services, everything we do, should have as its objective the maximization of the interaction of users and collections to produce socially valuable end products.

The purest expression of this theory is at the Herzog August Bibliothek at Wolfenbuttel in Germany where a resident community of scholars has been created on a research campus alongside the library, a community outnumbering the staff of the library, and these scholars are paid to come to Wolfenbuttel. The Library has an international conference programme to attract scholars to demonstrate to them the resources available and the kinds of research products that are possible, and a major publication programme to provide outlets for the work of its scholars. The same theory, in limited versions, is applied at the Huntington Library, the Folger, the American Antiquarian Society, and the Newberry in the United States; the Australian National Library has recently created a number of research fellowships to attract scholars to its collections and Maurice West has endowed a fund to support scholarly publication by the Library.

To recapitulate: first, a research library builds collections for their value as documentary evidence. This is a function different from that of

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non-research libraries. Second, a research library attempts to maximize the creations of socially valuable products by its user communities. Again, a function different from that of other libraries. Research libraries have books, periodicals, visual materials, just like other libraries, and people called librarians; they have acquisition, cataloguing and reference sections, just like other libraries, but they are different and their procedures vary because they serve different functions. Bibliographic control in a research library serves different ends and a research library's catalogue is a research tool in itself.

So that is the theory, the justification for a library serving by its very nature less than one per cent of the population. Will it satisfy our economist? The answer is, I am afraid, not quite. If you take the research library and evaluate it against the lending library with its mass audience, it doesn't quite measure up. I suspect that a research library needs a further justification in the area of cultural values, the national heritage, the public good. Research libraries belong partly in the same slot as museums and art galleries and organisations caring for historic places. From what I observed in 1980 in the United States and Europe the closer a research library attaches itself to the values and performance of a lending library the weaker its position will be. The research libraries that stood alone and proclaimed their differences - first on the cultural heritage argument, and second on their role in the creation of new knowledge, were very successful, while those who were tied to a public library system and values - New York Public Library, Boston Public Library, the Free Library of Philadelphia - were in dire straits.

My judgement is that the public lending library, that creation of the nineteenth century, one of the major instruments for the socialization of the newly-literate for a print-based economy, will proceed at ever-increasing speed down the track of justification by purely economic criteria - the world of user-pay, of cost-recovery, of measured satisfaction rates (90 per cent of user requests satisfied, whatever the means), of the provision of currently useful information at market rates.

The research library, on the other hand, should proceed down a different path, emphasizing its cultural and national heritage roles, its place in the creation of new knowledge, and it will have to depend increasingly on subsidies, bequests, donations, and gifts from individuals and organisations who value what a research library stands for. The user group is too small to apply user-pay, and cost-recovery is not feasible because of the high cost of the research library's infrastructure. Research libraries will survive, and may even flourish, because they are a response to a cultural imperative, the need to store the knowledge of humankind and to make it speak to future generations.
In late 1988 Auckland Public Library’s specially constituted 1990 Committee proposed to the Auckland City Council that two major programmes be funded by the city as part of the 1990 commemorations. One of these, a photographic project, is described in the October 1990 issue of *Archifacts* (see ‘Pictures from the Big A’ by Jane Wild). The other, an oral history project, was selected by the Committee because it was felt that 1990 provided a good opportunity for developing the library’s resources ‘to further reflect the cultural inheritance of the city’. Prior to this time an oral history archive did not exist at Auckland Public Library although there was a small and diverse collection of recordings that had been acquired over the years. Normal staffing levels were such that no major initiatives could be taken in this direction.

It was decided that the management structure of the Project would consist of a Project Co-ordinator (Megan Hutching) and two Field Workers, one of whom was to work exclusively with the tangata whenua. Planning and management support was to be given for the duration of the Project by the Curator of Manuscripts (Theresa Graham). Judith Fyfe and Hugo Manson of the Oral History Archive in Wellington suggested the establishment of a Project Advisory Committee which consisted of professional historians and subject specialists.

The brief of the Oral History Project had two elements: to record the oral history of the tangata whenua of Auckland, their language, kawa and traditional knowledge of the area, and to record the oral history of more recent migrants to Auckland - Pakeha, Maori, Pacific Island and other ethnic groups. The Project’s objectives were to preserve the native language of the tangata whenua and to increase Auckland Public Library’s oral collection on Auckland’s history.

As both brief and objectives were very broad it was necessary to define them further once the Co-ordinator was appointed in October 1989. As the Project ran only until March 1991 it was essential that the topics of possible interviews were finalised before the two Field Workers began in January 1990. The feeling was that collecting centres should not exist solely for research as their function is often broadly educational. We were therefore concerned that the Oral History Project should relate widely to the variety of interests that the library exists to serve, that is, it should both *reflect* and *uncover* the past. Eventually it was decided that interviews would be conducted in five areas:

- the oral history of the tangata whenua
- entertainment and recreation in Auckland after 1945
- Auckland in the 1930s
The first person interviewed in the Auckland Public Library’s 1990 Oral History Project was 92 year-old Nellie Hodges. On the tape of this interview Nellie can be heard talking about her childhood in the South Island and Wellington, and about her first marriage to Jim Edwards and their life in Auckland during the thirties. Jim Edwards figured prominently in the Queen Street riots in 1932 and was imprisoned for his part in them. Nellie talks of her difficulties in looking after the children while he was in prison, and recalls how she and a friend would go up onto the slopes of Mt. Eden to play gramophone records in the hope that he could hear them from the prison.
Having made that choice we decided that the interviews would be topic-based rather than life histories of the interviewees. Another decision that had to be made was about the type of equipment to be used. It was decided to purchase Sony recorders, microphones and tapes. We have two Sony Walkman D6C recorders and a larger TCM 5000EV, two ECM 144 clip-on and one ECM 908 freestanding microphones, and we use Sony HF 60 cassettes.

Where to find interviewees was another issue that had to be addressed early in the Project. We used a variety of methods to search out potential subjects. Senior citizens' clubs were visited, particularly in the areas studied in the suburban profiles, and extensive use was made of Auckland Public Library's Infobank file of clubs and organizations. A poster was issued to community centres and Citizen's Advice Bureaux inviting suggestions of informants and we issued press releases to local and suburban newspapers. Rest homes were also contacted. We were interviewed on radio and took note of recommendations received from interviewees. (The latter method was particularly useful when interviewing for the suburban studies.)

As it was essential that the team had a clear idea of what oral history was, why the Project was being undertaken and what use the interviews would be put to, much of the first month or two was spent telling groups and individuals about the Project. It was especially necessary to explain clearly to potential interviewees how their tapes would be used particularly with Maori who might not want public access to traditional knowledge. It gave them the opportunity to refuse to be interviewed, to place restrictions on the use of their tapes or to employ some form of self-censorship when being interviewed. (We do not edit our tapes and that too was explained carefully to each potential interviewee.)

The question of confidentiality was of key importance. NOHANZ (the National Oral History Association of New Zealand) has published a code of ethics which was adopted. On completion of an interview the informant was asked to sign an agreement form. Ours are based very closely on that of the Alexander Turnbull Library's Oral History Archive. There are two types - one which allows general access to the information, the other allowing the interviewee to place restrictions on the use of the material. People were encouraged to set a fixed number of years for the restriction rather than, for example, 'until my death'. This is for the obvious reason that staff time does not allow constant checking to see if interviewees are still alive. Sometimes the restriction is that permission must be sought before information is published or broadcast, others have a blanket restriction on their use. Fortunately most of our informants were happy to place no restrictions on the use of their interviews once it was explained to them why they were being collected.

The next area that had to be considered was how potential users could be made aware of which tapes were available and which had restrictions.
Shorter Articles

Housekeeping procedures were developed so that we knew what stage had been reached in the processing of the tapes, liaison with potential interviewees and making the tapes available to the public.

Public access to the tapes is gained by way of an oral history database devised using Inmagic, version 7.1. A printout of the database is kept at the New Zealand & Pacific Department desk for the public to consult. It contains a very brief abstract of the interview and gives the interviewee’s name and accession number. As well as the printout, staff are able to undertake keyword subject searches using the database. Copies of the interviewee files are arranged numerically by accession number in the Manuscript Room. It is our policy to encourage patrons to make appointments for the use of the material.

The tapes are stored in the temperature-controlled and dust-free Rare Books Room manuscript storage area. It is unfortunate that this room is on another level of the building.

Ways in which to publicize the existence of the material at the Library are still being considered. One of the major tasks of the Co-ordinator in the final few months of the Project will be to encourage use of the Archive.

As for the future of the Oral History Archive, little is certain. It is possible that a separate scheme to continue tangata whenua recordings will be proposed as difficulties with that programme have meant that this aspect of the Project has had disappointing results. A review of the Project and recommendations for the future will be made. However, the current financial difficulties facing the Auckland City Council mean that it is unlikely there will be a staff position or funding for future projects.

Education for Information Work in New Zealand in the 1990s

Alan D. Richardson
Victoria University

We are told that we are entering, or have already entered the ‘information age’. We need these days to be informed, and we are entitled to the best and most accurate information available. We also need to educate and to train those people who store, catalogue, retrieve and use information so that we can base our society’s decisions on sound foundations. Although traditionally libraries have been regarded as the prime repositories of information, they are not by any means alone. An archive, a marae, or a home each may have a role to play in the preservation and use of information in a community. We acknowledge freely today that citizens who have a need to know have a right to access to information.
At the Department of Library and Information Studies we acknowledge our role in the education of the providers of information.

The 1990s are beginning to look like a decade of change for the education of information professionals and I have been invited to indicate through this journal some of the new directions we are looking at in this Department for our development over the next few years. I hope that as I do so, those who are involved with work with archives and records will realise that I simply include these areas as an integral part of the provision of information - a specialized part, of course, but not a remote nor less important part.

In order to understand why we are looking at certain developments in the 1990s, it is necessary to go back to 1980, to the time when the Department of Librarianship was set up within Victoria University of Wellington. The Diploma is the normal base qualification for a professional career in library work in New Zealand. It was a development from the Diploma of the New Zealand Library School which was offered by the National Library of New Zealand from 1946 to 1989. It has always been a post-graduate Diploma and I am convinced that this insistence by librarians in New Zealand that a degree is a part of the preparation for professional work has been of real benefit to the library profession in general.

The Diploma in Librarianship was reviewed by Professor Wilf Saunders in 1987 and his report was enthusiastically received by all the bodies concerned - the New Zealand Library Association, Victoria University, and the Wellington College of Education. Implementation of the recommendations in the Saunders' report is now well under way and has resulted, in the last twelve months, in some quite important changes of emphasis which will be reflected in the orientation and development of the course over the next few years.

It can be argued that implicit in many of Saunders' recommendations was a recognition of an underlying necessity for the Department to grow. He rightly pointed to the small number of teaching staff (five at the time) as a major factor preventing the course from developing in ways which would cater for the needs of the emerging information market. He pointed to the traditional orientation of the course, and emphasised the wider needs of the information community. To support his views he suggested a new curriculum with some changed emphases, and recommended very strongly that the Diploma should be offered through distance education.

The Department of Librarianship has now responded in a number of ways which are showing signs of changing the face of education for information work in New Zealand, and I want to indicate what has been done already, what is currently underway, and what we are looking at for some possible lines for future development later in the 1990s.

Growth has already begun. When Saunders was here we had fifty students and five staff. Following his visit, the university responded quite quickly and provided for a sixth staff member, which enabled us to raise
the student numbers to sixty. Further growth is planned. In 1991 the intake will be seventy-five, and that enabled us to make a case for a seventh staff member. Funding of universities at the moment (December 1990) is very uncertain, but I have been given to understand that the seventh position will not be available for us in 1991. We do have the National Library Teaching Fellow with us until June 1992, and some extra money will probably be made available to employ part-time and casual staff, which will all be a help for the immediate future. Saunders spoke of a desirable minimum of ten staff, and that is the goal towards which we are continuing to work. We plan to move to 'open' entry to the Diploma course in the medium term.

This growth is of basic importance to the Department because it is only by increasing the number of staff and the diversity of their skills that we can diversify our courses to cater for the information age. Our focus is determinedly moving away from catering only for libraries and towards other areas of the information world. Recent staff appointments at the Department have assisted this move to new areas, but there are still some gaps to be filled, for example, in the area of children's literature and the provision of information for children. In the meantime we have someone on a contract basis who deals with the option on children's literature and librarianship extremely well. We need however to move into other specialized information areas such as the health sciences, legal information, and archives and records. We need also to keep remembering our commitment to biculturalism as a goal that should pervade all the courses.

We also changed the name of the Department of Librarianship to the Department of Library and Information Studies. This is not just a cosmetic change. It is intended to indicate a real change in direction and emphasis - a change in resolve. Not only that, but it brings us into line with similar institutions overseas and will assist us to compete with others as we attempt to attract overseas students to New Zealand. Although the name of the Department has changed, the Diploma retains its original name (Diploma of Librarianship) until we put through changes to the syllabus to take effect from 1992.

The next two changes are interrelated. They fall under the broad headings of curriculum review and distance education. We need to review the curriculum because the structure and contents of the course, which had served us well in our formative years, needed updating and increasing in flexibility. The Diploma course from 1980 consisted of five courses of which three were compulsory and two were options. Each of the five courses was taught for the whole year. As well as updating the contents of the offerings, Saunders recommended moving from year long courses into shorter modules, and then teaching these modules at a distance. The first of these processes (creating the modules) is now well under way. Our current proposal is to commence with a Foundation course and then to divide the remainder into semester long modules, of which there will be ten, eight core and two options, five of which will be
taken each semester. Although it looks as if all we have done is cut the current courses into halves, in fact there is more to it than that.

The course content reflects an increasing emphasis on management and aspects of automation and information technology. The core will be emphasised at the expense of the options. The argument here is that this is a beginning course, and in one academic year we need to concentrate our efforts on those matters central to information work. However, options will be offered, and one of those options will be an introduction to archives and records management.

We have offered such an option previously but it lapsed when the staff member who taught it left us. This particular gap was identified by Saunders as one which we should fill, and that is why I took an archives course at the University of Western Ontario during my leave recently. The context of this option is that it lies within a Diploma in Librarianship, and its emphasis is on management. It is not, and is not intended to be, a qualification for professional work with archives, but more an awareness raising exercise for those with an interest in them. It will not in any way cut across the Certificate in Archives Management which is to be offered in 1991 by the Wairarapa Polytechnic. As the teacher of our proposed archives option, I am very conscious indeed that I have little practical experience in dealing with archives (we did do a little as part of the course at Western), and this personal lack of mine has been drawn to my attention by some people. I have, of course, no particular answer to make apart from the fact that for practical matters in the option practitioners will be invited to share their knowledge and expertise. I believe I can put together a perfectly satisfactory introductory course for a few of our students. I do not expect the option to be amongst the more popular offerings (indeed I would wonder why if many students wished to do this course). My approach will be to compare the work of a librarian with that of an archivist and see where the similarities and differences lie. In this way we will cover such matters as acquisitions, cataloguing, arrangement, reference work, etc. and then look at some of the special features of archives, for example, provenance, conservation. The course will be supplemented with some visits to archives in Wellington. Records management will be a secondary part of the option, but I do expect to have a look at the work of records managers and to visit a good sample records setup.

The question remains whether someone can enrol just for the option and not for the whole diploma. At the moment it is possible to do any of our option courses for a Certificate of Proficiency, and I would not anticipate any change in that policy.

I hope that ARANZ will support us in these endeavours. We know that such an option does nothing more than scratch the surface, but it is a scratch, and it is, I hope, only a beginning. Given our current resources, it is the most we can do. If pressed, I suppose I would admit to looking forward to a time when we could do something much more, even perhaps a course something like the one that is offered by the University
of New South Wales, but I guess that is still far off. I have, however, on a recent trip to Sydney, spoken to the co-ordinator of the course and he gave me much encouragement to attempt to develop something similar in Wellington.

A move for distance education has also begun. Following my return from leave I wrote a report\(^2\) on the topic, and I have subsequently been to Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, where a diploma similar to ours is offered at a distance, and to Dunedin to speak to the Department of University Extension which operates a national teleconferencing network through which courses are offered at a distance. We have stated our objective to attempt to begin offering our diploma by distance education in 1992. By then the new modular structure will be in place, and we believe we could offer some of those modules then. However, we will not know until about February 1991 whether Victoria University will be able to finance us to begin distance education. I am very conscious that there could scarcely be a worse time to ask for money from the tertiary education sector. Yet we are convinced this is an important development in New Zealand, so we will ask anyway. If the decision goes against us this time we will ask again at the next available opportunity. We believe we have a good case and a great deal of support.

I have tried to convey a feeling that professional education for information work in New Zealand is on the move. It cannot be expected that all will be achieved in a short time scale. However, it is not unreasonable to expect that by the end of the 1990s we will have a greater diversity of programmes, a more flexible structure to cope with more rapid change, and a Department which comes closer to Saunders' view of what is appropriate for this country as we approach the 21st century.

**REFERENCES**

2. Alan D. Richardson, *Distance Education in Library and Information: a Background Paper*, Wellington, Victoria University, Department of Librarianship, 1990.

**Certificate in Archives Management**

Ellen Ellis
Wairarapa Community Polytechnic

The Certificate in Archives Management 1991 course officially opened on 18 February at the Wairarapa Community Polytechnic in Masterton. The emphasis in the course is on acquiring skills and knowledge that participants can apply on the job. It can be completed in one year or part-
time over three years. Fees of about $190 are payable for the full year course and proportionately for part-timers. The usual government student allowances are available depending on circumstances.

To answer the need for continuing training for those already employed in archives, the course has been designed in modules of one, two and four weeks, most with practical components that can be completed at the participant's workplace. Depending on their circumstances, part-time and casual participants may be able to commute daily or weekly.

All modules can also be taken on a casual basis, and a record of attainment will be issued on completion at the required standard. There may be provision for advanced students to carry on with further training in 1992.

The course is not available on an extramural basis, but there is some provision for exemptions from attendance if proof of equivalent qualifications, training courses, and work experience can be offered. In most cases there will be a requirement to complete assignments and an assessment paper before a credit will be made, and there will be an administration charge.

As well as technical and practical archival knowledge and skills, to be awarded the Certificate students must complete basic modules on Communications, Tikanga and Te Reo Maori, Computer Studies, and Management Planning. This is to ensure that graduating students can operate successfully in a working environment and in New Zealand's bicultural context.

Extensive use is being made of guest tutors and speakers. For most advanced and specialist modules, experienced and practising archivists will be the primary tutors. It is expected that the major four week project scheduled in the last term will be an opportunity for students to gain experience in major archival institutions and work alongside experts in their field.

Each module includes lectures and seminars, practical case work and assignments, readings from the archival literature, visits to relevant archives or other institutions, guest tutors or speakers, and assessment and evaluation.

The Polytechnic is appointing an Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives of local and national interest groups and professional bodies (including ARANZ), to work with them towards achieving 'National Certificate' status for the course from the New Zealand Qualifications Authority by the end of 1991.
CERTIFICATE IN ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT

Part-time and casual enrolments still open for Term 2 and Term 3

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* Arrangement and Description
* Access and Reference Services
* Repository Management
* Public Programmes and Issues
* Preservation and Conservation
* Automation and New Technology

Term 3 - Special Options
* Oral Archives
* Film and Video Archives
* Genealogy
* Maori Archives

For further information contact:
Kathryn Smith
Wairarapa Community Polytechnic
P.O.Box 698
Masterton.

Access to Archives: a Background to the ARANZ Policy Statement

Peter Hughes, Auckland Museum Library

At its 1988 AGM ARANZ adopted as basic policy:

A. That access to archives and manuscripts in publicly funded institutions, whether local or national, should be without financial charge to members of the public.

B. That this policy be sustained on the grounds that:
1. Archives and manuscripts should be available on the same basis as collections of other cultural material in archives, art galleries, libraries and museums.
2. Only by the provision of free access will the full value of these collections to the nation be realised.
3. A commercial approach will inhibit the gift of important collections to public institutions.
4. Charging for access would be inequitable to economically disadvantaged members of the public.
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C. That access without financial charge be interpreted to include:
1. The provision of basic but comfortable reading facilities.
2. The making available of finding aids, including computerized ones, to archives and manuscripts held in the institution.
3. The provision of search advice by institutional staff.
4. The production to users of requested archives and manuscripts held in the institution.
5. Responding to written enquiries on simple matters of fact where these can be easily ascertained or with guidance of appropriate sources.

An amendment to this policy was also adopted: “that the incoming Council act upon” the policy.

In “acting upon it”, Council at its December 1988 meeting decided “to set up a subcommittee to review the free access policy. The committee to consist of Jan Gow, Penny Feltham and Peter Hughes (Convenor)”. In December 1989 Penny Feltham withdrew and Peter Hughes co-opted Dr David Thomson and Mr Michael Hodder. The Subcommittee was determined to seek opinions from “as many people as possible who are interested in or involved in the use or administration of archives and records”. We felt that we would receive a better response from people if we provided draft guidelines, rather than soliciting submissions without such guidelines.

Current literature relating to the issue was collated, circulated and discussed among Subcommittee members; as were the policies of the Society of American Archivists, Australian Society of Archivists, Society of Archivists, Association of Canadian Archivists, New Zealand Library Association, and Library Association (UK).

From these, in April 1990, the Subcommittee drew up its draft guidelines. 350 copies were sent to members with the April 1990 issue of Archifacts; and a further 139 sent to individuals and institutions (the latter largely extracted from Frank Rogers’ Archives New Zealand, and the NZLA Interloans Symbols List).

At our meeting in July we considered all submissions and redrafted the guidelines where we thought this appropriate. The redrafted guidelines were adopted by Council at its September meeting and adopted by ARANZ members at the AGM in Auckland in November.

The policy statement is reproduced for Members’ information.
ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND
POLICY ON ACCESS TO ARCHIVES

1. Introduction
1.1 ARANZ has a vital interest in formulating a policy on access.
1.2 ARANZ acknowledges that a policy on access will take into account the divergent views of its members who comprise both users and custodians of archives.
1.3 ARANZ understands archives to be those records of an individual or a corporate body which, having ceased to be required for the purposes of ordinary business, are retained for reference and research work by a wider community.
1.4 ARANZ notes that many archives are housed in repositories whose primary functions are other than providing access to such material.
1.5 ARANZ seeks an access policy that embraces all repositories.

2. Fundamentals of access.
2.1 ARANZ believes that the prime purpose for maintaining archives is to enable their use. In general terms therefore, access is the paramount concern of the custodian of archives.
2.2 ARANZ upholds the ideal of equitable access to information.
2.3 Equally, ARANZ upholds the tradition of the right to privacy of donors and of individuals mentioned in records.
2.4 ARANZ encourages local material to be held locally where possible.
2.5 ARANZ affirms the value of well-conceived and administered copying programmes as a means of improving wide public access to archives.
2.6 The custodian is responsible for the integrity and physical safekeeping of archives and for honouring conditions of access.
2.7 The custodian is responsible for informing researchers of archives in the repository. This may be accomplished by producing finding aids such as indexes, guides, databases and publications.
2.8 The custodian should have adequate resources to ensure that users have reasonable access to material.

3. Conditions of access.
3.1 The custodian should publish and provide for potential users information governing access to and use of archives.
3.2 This information should include:
the hours of opening
the type/s and level/s of service offered
conditions on access
required conduct when using materials
the policy regarding copying
the policy regarding publishing
the preferred citation style for materials used
4. **Promoting access.**
   4.1 Repositories should be committed to making archives, or copies of archives, available for research as soon as possible.
   4.2 The custodian should discourage donors from imposing unreasonable restrictions, and whenever possible, require a specific time limit on restrictions.
   4.3 The custodian should periodically re-evaluate restricted material and work toward opening access.

5. **Restrictions on access**
   5.1 The custodian may impose restrictions on access.
   5.2 The reasons for these restrictions may be:
      - to process or preserve material
      - to protect fragile material
      - to meet the obligations of public agencies with regard to confidentiality
      - to respect conditions on access imposed by donors
      - to protect the privacy of living persons
   5.3 A repository may require its users to produce identification and to sign a statement indicating their understanding of the procedures governing access and use.
   5.4 It is the responsibility of the custodian to inform researchers of the restrictions which apply to archives.

6. **Access without charge**
   6.1 There are certain services which facilitate access that should always be provided without charge.
   6.2 The basic service includes:
      - Accurate classification of records
      - Accurate guides to holdings
      - Access to the research area
      - Readers' seats and tables
      - Document delivery within the repository
      - Inspection of documents
      - Assistance by staff members, including the provision of search advice
      - Mail and telephone enquiries about services and holdings

7. **Charging**
   7.1 Beyond these free basic services, the custodian should have the responsibility to determine the range and level of services, and any charging policy.
   7.2 This policy should be logical, easy to effect and should define which services will be provided;
      - without charge
      - with partial cost recovery (subsidization)
      - with full cost recovery
      - at a profit
Members of ARANZ have shown considerable interest in the future of the National Register of Archives and Manuscripts. This short article aims to give an update, and some background for those not familiar with the history of NRAM.

To begin I can say that provided New Zealand's archivists, curators and manuscript librarians are willing to contribute, the Alexander Turnbull Library will continue to coordinate and produce a national register of archives and manuscripts. The hosting of such a network fits the National Library goal of supporting bibliographic networks, and providing some professional leadership.

However, NRAM has not proved as successful as had been hoped and we have been looking very closely at its format to see if the purpose of providing a guide to manuscript and archive collections in New Zealand can be achieved more effectively. We indicated last year that future editions would be in a new format. We do not now envisage any major changes, apart from some in appearance. Automation in the manuscript and archives section at the Turnbull will allow new flexibility but we are not going to stop producing hard copy instalments in the short term, and without more consultation with users.

In the following paragraphs I would like to outline briefly some of NRAM's problems and future possibilities.

NRAM began in the late 1970s as an attempt to provide a guide which was more useful than the old union list, which comprised bound copies of catalogue cards with no index or standard format. It came about because of a lot of hard work by a small group of enthusiastic archivists and librarians led by Tom Wilsted, then Manuscript Librarian at the Turnbull. Its formation reflected a new sense of professional identity among New Zealand's small band of archivists and manuscripts librarians.
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It was part of the same enthusiasm that saw the formation of ARANZ.

What evolved was NRAM as we have known it. It was designed to be as simple as possible for contributing institutions, with basic entries to a standard format, and with a simple indexing system identifying regions and broad subject areas for contributors to fill in. As most will know it comes out in hard copy instalments of 250 entries, with a cumulative index. It was also designed to be useful as a collection management tool for institutions, to provide a simple in-house catalogue for under-resourced and untrained archivists to provide some control over their collections.

NRAM has always been based at and run from the Turnbull. National Archives were initially co-sponsors but eventually withdrew because of other priorities and because the register was less suited to the scale and complexity of government archives. In 1982 a position of NRAM editor was created at the Turnbull, although editorial work has never taken more than half of that person's time.

NRAM had a very encouraging beginning, and a lot of the credit for that goes to the hard work and enthusiasm of Wilsted, and the first editors, especially Jane Wild. Institutions did their best to contribute, one high point being the 555 entries supplied by Peter Hughes, then of Auckland University Library. That remains the only time a major institution has contributed entries for all its holdings.

Apart from the Turnbull, 50 other institutions have contributed at various times, including university libraries, public libraries, regional archives and museums, art galleries, historical societies, and institutional archives. As might be expected the main contributors are those libraries and museums with strong manuscript and archive collections and active collecting policies.

But NRAM never grew as planned and the initial momentum slowed considerably through the 1980s. There are several reasons for that which I would like to outline, and in doing so I am relying very much on the work of Penny Feltham, now on study leave at Liverpool University. One of her tasks as editor was to investigate NRAM, identify its problems and suggest possible improvements.

One approach was to look at overseas examples of national registers. We found there were different approaches, ranging from the British National Register of Archives, a non-published central register of finding aids, to examples more like our own. Some were or were being automated and others were not. Some appeared to be very successful, such as the American National Union Catalogue of Manuscript Collections. Others were less so, such as the Australian guide, which was the one that most closely resembled NRAM.

There is no space here for further comparative discussion of national registers. It is an interesting subject which Penny may do further work on when she returns. What was obvious, and to be expected, was that, whatever the format used, national registers are most healthy when there
are ample funds for field work and system development. Without that they struggle.

Another line of investigation was to send out a questionnaire asking the keepers of archives and manuscripts about their use of NRAM and its value to them.

Again the responses were partly predictable, and very varied. Many mentioned the inability to find the staff time to complete NRAM entries. Very few use NRAM as part of their collection management procedures, meaning that the NRAM entry is extra work. Some major institutions, notably the Hocken, have been unable to provide any entries although the Hocken hopes to in the future.

Other responses identified such factors as the general lack of knowledge about NRAM. Some specialist libraries did not find it the best way to promote their collections, preferring to advertise in their own specialist literature. Others were just not willing to promote any further research use. Those small institutional archives looking after one collection are probably as well served by a directory of archives institutions. Suggested improvements included the encouragement of shorter entries. Contributors are sometimes daunted by the enormous space provided for description of the collection.

From the point of view of the researcher it appears the register was not heavily used, although some institutions had more than 50 users annually. There were several comments that the index is clumsy and difficult to use. A fundamental problem of course is that the register gives such limited coverage. Only a very small percentage of collections held in New Zealand institutions are recorded.

Some of these problems can be solved, such as a revised manual, the encouragement of shorter entries, and better indexing terms. We are now willing to receive copies of an institution’s finding aids on hard copy or disc, if they are suitable for editing into NRAM entries. More publicity will give the register a higher profile. Other problems, however, will not go away. The main one, of course, is the lack of staff resources to do the necessary work, both at the Turnbull and within contributing institutions.

There is a strong support for the continuation of NRAM. There was a general feeling that despite the problems the register was worthwhile, and a lot better than having no such guide at all. It just has to be accepted that in the immediate future at least the register will not be able to reach the level of contribution envisaged when it was first set up. There was more money then for archives development, and the pressures of acquisition and reference work were perhaps less.

Automation will provide one way to eventually increase the effectiveness of NRAM. We are automating records within the manuscript and archives section at the Turnbull and NRAM will be part of that process.

NRAM entries are at the moment being put on a PC database called Clarion with a powerful searching capability and reporting formats. It
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has proved effective and easy to use, and will be a great time saver for the editor. It also has the potential for greater flexibility in the way we provide information: With retrospective inputting it would allow us, for example, to provide printouts on request for all entries under requested subject headings. We could provide and receive information on disc rather than hard copy.

The way of the longer term future would seem to be online access. The options for that are to transfer the database to BRS software and use the National Library Kiwinet network, or to network the database directly from the Turnbull’s automated system. That leads in turn to the possibility of decentralised inputting. There are cost implications, and many institutions would not have access to terminals. It does not seem a short term possibility.

Because of the way NRAM is currently used and the nature of many contributing institutions, we remain committed to ensuring that the main access will continue to be through the provision of regular instalments in hard copy of the latest entries.

Before concluding I would like to mention the related idea of surveys of manuscript and archives collections held in private hands. As part of the 1990 celebrations funding was sought for an Historic Records Search based on an Australian bi-centenary example. Despite a successful pilot in the Wairarapa the 1990 Commission could not find the funds for the full project. The results of the pilot, however, will soon be made available in an NRAM-style format. The initiators of the project always intended that NRAM could include such collections and there is interest in other regions for similar surveys. NRAM could be the means of disseminating such information although the coordination and updating would best be the responsibility of a local repository.

In conclusion the following points are made:

- The Alexander Turnbull Library is committed to maintaining its present level of support for coordinating a reporting system for non-government manuscript and archives holdings. However, continued commitment will depend on the willingness and ability of institutions in New Zealand to support the system. The level of our commitment may also be affected by any major cut in the National Library budget.

- Although there is a need for a revised manual, in the short term we will be continuing to use the current instruction manual as the basis for entries. The revised manual will encourage briefer location guide entries, and will have updated indexing terms.

- To encourage contributions we are happy to receive copies of finding aids (photocopied or on disc) if these have sufficient information to be edited into NRAM entries. We hope some institutions will continue to find the NRAM format useful as part of their collection management procedures.

- Until decisions are made about how and when online access will be available NRAM will be maintained on an inhouse PC database.
Shorter Articles

It will be searchable at the Alexander Turnbull Library but the primary access for researchers will be the regular instalments of hard copy printouts. We are now actively soliciting entries and we are looking to provide more publicity for NRAM. We have a very limited travel budget and most contact with the editor will be by letter or phone. We can sometimes arrange for some field work outside Wellington. Our immediate priority is for the NRAM editor to visit institutions in the Wellington region, and we hope to see the results of that in a new instalment in late 1991.

To return to the first point, we are keen to see NRAM continue, but it can only do so if archives and manuscripts institutions support it. That means submitting entries, providing feedback on how the register can be improved, providing appropriate training and publicity where possible, and above all encouraging researchers to use it.

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS IN NEW ZEALAND

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Wellington
NEW ZEALAND
The need for a manual for clubs and societies, small and amateur bodies for the most part, has been evident to the Association for some time. New Zealand, as we know, is riddled with organizations, and practically all of the population must either be on a committee or know someone who is.

Nowadays someone always seems to be able to come up with something that began before 1840, but among the earliest associations must have been the Pickwick Club and the Agricultural and Commercial Club in Barrett’s Hotel in Wellington in October 1840. They were followed by the Athenaeum and Mechanics Institute in the same venue in December. In 1841 the Horticultural and Botanical Society were established, and the Freemasons set up the Pacific Lodge in 1842.

And so it went on, and continues to this day with a countless number of organizations making and holding records from their beginnings. But why keep these records? This is a question that will be addressed in the Manual, with full details of legal, administrative and historical reasons, the latter reason being the main one for the Association’s initiative in providing assistance.

It was the publication of the Presbyterian Church’s guide *Presbyterian Church Archives: care and conservation*, produced by the Church’s Historical Records Committee in Dunedin in 1988, that goaded the Otago/Southland Branch of ARANZ to proceed with plans for an ARANZ version. It was about the right size and cost for the project we had in mind.

In thinking about a market, it is obvious that the plethora of organizations in this country provides a ready-made one. However, publicity will still have to be carefully planned and the right sort of appeals made to those organizations so that they will be aware of what the publication promises them, and that these promises are actually in line with their needs. We have to take a somewhat different approach from the presumably ‘captive market’ approach that the Presbyterian Church may have needed. We have to be all things to all clubs and societies.

Our original schema laid out a wide range of proposed chapters on: why keep records; what is a record, requirements of an incorporation; what to keep; responsibilities of officers in relations to records; storage and security; filing and classification; records management consultation; what to do with old records; some hints on producing a club history. We also considered a range of appendices including repositories, contacts for advice, and availability of conservation supplies.

The Council of ARANZ has provided an interim grant of $2000 to back the project, and further grant funds are being sought from elsewhere. It will be an ARANZ publication.
Shorter Articles

We are using the term records in these notes not so much in its normal sense of records as opposed to archives, but as a convenient description of all the material that clubs and societies amass, some of which they will be using as current records, and much of which may actually have already been archived or should be archived. The tendency will, however, be likely to be towards material still held by organizations and which they are unsure what to do with.

Stuart Strachan, Hocken Librarian, University of Otago, has been appointed general editor, and approaches to authors are now in progress. A few have already been commissioned. It is possible that some modification to the actual contents may be made according to the final list of authors and their areas of expertise.

Publication date is currently being scheduled for the beginning of December at the latest. We would have liked very much to have published it in time for the 1991 conference in Dunedin, but allowing sufficient time for all the stages we have to go through, the longest being the time the authors need to actually write their chapters, extended our date to December.

Obituary

George Gilmour Carter.

Rev. George Carter died on 3 October 1990. Born in Invercargill, George moved with his family to spend his teenage years in Northcote. He attended Teachers’ Training College before being called up for military service. Opting for the Medical Corps he made his first contact with the Solomon Islands in 1943. After the war he completed his studies with an MA in 1948. He married Nancy in 1949 and having responded to a missionary call from the Methodist Church of New Zealand, they were on their way to Papua New Guinea a month after their marriage. Their family life was spent in the Pacific Islands after which he spent a ten year term as General Secretary of the Methodist Overseas Mission Board.

It was this knowledge of the Missionary records which was the prime reason for the Church seeking him out as Archivist for Auckland when the repository was set up at 1 Turner Street. The collection of overseas correspondence and records were the first major holding, then the Auckland parish records were added with, more recently, documents from the Home and Maori Mission Department. His trained skills in historical research and his remarkable memory were the gifts which throughout the 1980s George offered to the Methodist Church and to the world of archives.

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Through the Archives and Records Association he made contacts which he valued very highly, with others working in archives and records keeping and particularly with those in church record keeping. These of course included his training college class-mate, Father Ernest Simmons.

George was also a valued and prominent member of the Wesley Historical Society (WHS) which he joined in 1947. He was chairman of the Auckland executive 1982-1986. For WHS he was author of one of the four volumes published as the New Zealand Methodism 150th anniversary set. A Family Affair told the story of Methodism’s New Zealand Maori Mission and the Pacific initiatives directed from Australia and New Zealand between 1822-1972. His other writing sought to record the services in mission of Rev. John. A. Crump, Misikaram, and Sister Lina Jones, Valuable Beyond Price. Not so well known Tie Varane (Courageous Men) records contributions of a number of Solomon Island leaders. During his last illness he awaited the publication of Yours in His Service: A Reflection on the Life and Times of Revd. Belshazzar Gina of the Solomon Islands, written at the request of the Gina family. For almost all of these George used sources from the Auckland Archive of the Methodist Church - missionary diaries, correspondence and photographs.

George Carter was Christian minister, missionary, historian, and an archivist who understood the uses of the holdings for both academic and family history projects.

Verna Mossong
Tomorrow’s History

For this issue we invited comments on the article by James McNeish reprinted below, and we received a few responses. Readers are encouraged to continue discussion of this article in the next issues of Archifacts.

Paper Exodus Sends Our Literary Heritage Abroad

James McNeish
Wellington

Reprinted with some revision and the permission of the author from the Dominion Sunday Times, 12 August, 1990.

I first became alerted in 1987 when I heard rumours that the papers of Dan Davin, our most celebrated expatriate literary figure, were destined on his death not for a New Zealand but a foreign archive. The rumours proved false although Davin’s library is destined to stay in England and his papers are promised to New Zealand.

The next stage was an approach by an American university inviting me to deposit my private and professional papers there. My interest aroused, my surprise when I subsequently visited this institution, Boston University, and discovered that it already held a substantial collection of papers by New Zealand writers - Sylvia Ashton-Warner, Joy Cowley, Janet Frame, Ngaio Marsh, which was almost complete.

Almost, because I had momentarily forgotten how much mint material by Katherine Mansfield there already was in the United States (two big collections, in Chicago and Texas). And I had yet to learn of John Weir’s find at Austin.

In 1977 Father Weir, priest, poet and editor, doing bibliographical research in the Humanities Research Centre, University of Texas at Austin, stumbled on a choice hoard of letters, poems, drafts, papers of all kind, representing 17 New Zealand poets and writers, Frank Sargeson, R.A.K. Mason, the young James K. Baxter, Denis Glover, A.R.D. Fairburn, Allen Curnow, John Mulgan among them. ‘I was astonished,’ Father Weir says.

I asked him why he had not publicised the matter in New Zealand before now. He said, ‘I thought everyone knew.’

All this material has been slipping away from New Zealand quietly, in some cases surreptitiously, for more than 30 years.

I am talking not of a brain drain but a paper take, of an exodus of
material that is significant, that involves many, if not most of our prestigious writers, that for want of funding and other reasons is likely to continue and that, if one takes the view that a country’s writers are among its more precious assets, is alarming. At least it is in the view of senior librarians, academics and writers I have spoken to.

‘All the more alarming,’ says Professor Terry Sturm, chairman of the Arts Council Literature committee, ‘since in the case of the University of Texas at Austin, there is a lot of unidentified material, including it seems unidentified New Zealand material that we don’t know about. Recently a colleague of mine from the University of Queensland went there. He was staggered to discover “a vast archive” of Australian manuscript material, previously undreamed of.’

How much New Zealand material might be at Austin altogether? ‘Nobody knows. Nobody has been there and had a good hard look.’

The same apparently applies to Pennsylvania State University, a public institution the extent of whose original papers - in its Pacific collection - relating to New Zealand figures continues to surprise researchers from this country.

The value and extent of New Zealand papers in the USA appears unfathomable.

In 1975 only a last-minute pooling of resources by the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington and the Hocken Library in Dunedin prevented the papers of James Courage from ending up in the States. £2,000 was paid to acquire the papers from London; Turnbull lent Hocken the cash, or some of it; the Courage papers, frequently consulted, are now safe in the Hocken.

Government observers point with alarm to other American institutions with spending power, like the Smithsonian in Washington DC, which are moving into the field of or expanding existing ‘Pacific collections’. This means that the number of begging letters and hence the pressure on New Zealand artists, not just writers and scholars, to surrender material ‘will increase’.

Katherine Mansfield apart, the most valuable collection of New Zealand literary papers in the USA is the Ashton-Warner material at the Mugar Memorial Library, Boston University. In the 1960s, after her international successes, first with Spinster, then Teacher, Sylvia Ashton-Warner began, on request, sending her literary, educational and private papers to Boston, and she went on sending them for 15 years. Many Ashton-Warner papers, chiefly as a result of her son Elliot Henderson gathering up whatever he could locate after his mother’s death in 1984, remain in New Zealand, but they are the lesser part.

In a book just published, Who Is Sylvia?, Ashton-Warner’s biographer Lynley Hood claims that in 1984 an attempt was made to divide up the Ashton-Warner archive remaining in New Zealand and auction it off piecemeal on the international market, a claim repeated in a letter to me. The claim, while it makes good copy, appears exaggerated. However it draws attention to Sylvia Ashton-Warner’s voluntary division of her
own collection and this in itself is a useful talking point.

For the record, the New Zealand component of the collection remains in limbo and the more valuable part sits in Boston. An attempt by James Traue, who visited Boston University when Turnbull Librarian, to have the papers repatriated, was unsuccessful.

So far I have presented a case for 'the concerned citizen (librarian/curator/writer)', one who, in the words of Peter Miller, believes 'New Zealand has lost the papers of too many of its literary figures over the past 20 years' and 'feels very strongly that the papers of New Zealanders should as part of our cultural heritage remain here where they are in context and will receive most use by researchers'.

There is everything to be said for this view. Yet, while I can identify closely with it, I can also take issue with the New Zealander who writes to me saying, 'Don't for God's sake send your papers to Boston. Keep them here where they will be cared for.'

There is another side to the story. The paradox is that the group which protests most strongly at the 'scandal' of the dispersal of New Zealand papers abroad, librarians, is precisely the group which through indifference has allowed the situation to develop.

Let me not be misunderstood - New Zealand libraries are first-class, in most respects without peer. But they are also, to borrow Philip Larkin's expression, feminine: they receive, they do not initiate.

Since returning from Boston, I have spoken or written to 20 writers and librarians in New Zealand asking for their views. Some reactions:

If there were more appreciation of New Zealand scholarship and New Zealand letters, these things would have stayed in the country.

New Zealand writers have been reluctant to consign their work to local archives for fear it won't be looked after. In 1974 I gave the research papers for a social history I had published to a leading archive. Ten years on, when I wanted to look up something, I was told the material was inaccessible - I could not get to the papers I had myself donated.

A poet writes from London:

I once asked [Turnbull] when I was hard up what they would pay for the manuscript of one of my books, were I to offer it, and they said £100; which seemed ludicrous ... so I retracted and said they might as well wait until I'm dead and get it all for nothing.

A common argument here is 'New Zealand libraries aren't made of money' and 'American universities can buy anything they want'. But the
reason a man like Howard Gotlieb, founder-director of Boston’s Mugar Memorial Library, has scooped libraries in New Zealand has little to do with money - Dr Gotlieb has acquired his New Zealand collections without paying a cent - only with attitude. Simply put, Dr Gotlieb was the first to ask.

‘Howard Gotlieb wrote and asked for Ngaio’s manuscripts long before the Turnbull showed any interest. When eventually the Turnbull did ask for them, she stopped sending them to Boston...’ writes Dame Ngaio Marsh’s long-time secretary, Rosemary Greene.

The Alexander Turnbull Library, a resource archive of international repute, made its first significant acquisition of modern literary material in the early 1950s when ‘for the price of a tractor’ Clyde Taylor the librarian brought back from Middleton Murry in England the first Mansfield papers; after Mansfield, the next major acquisition was the Denis Glover papers in 1969, an initial bulk purchase of $1300.

The collections at the Mugar Library in Boston, the creation of Howard Gotlieb and Boston University’s maverick President John R Silber, did not begin till 1963 when Dr Gotlieb embarked on a deliberate policy of soliciting manuscripts and other material from around the world.

Dr Gotlieb, scholar and impressario, was the curator at Yale when Silber invited him to Boston. Silber hired a persuader - ‘I’ve been known,’ Gotlieb likes to tell visitors, ‘to send empty boxes to authors, saying, “Here, don’t use a waste-paper basket, use this, and send it to me.”’

Howard Gotlieb realised that today’s literary mediocrities may be tomorrow’s darlings, and vice-versa; he also understood that a relatively minor figure may illuminate a major research project.

In 1968 he approached the New Zealand writer Joy Cowley whose first novel had appeared in the States:

I knew nothing about collections and asked my American editor what I should do. She suggested I might like to keep my manuscripts closer to home. Naively I offered them to my nearest university - then Massey - and was told to try some larger establishment, for example Victoria. I wrote to the English Department at Victoria and was referred to the Alexander Turnbull Library. I was told there were no facilities for storing manuscripts at Turnbull - a brief and unhelpful letter.

In 1969 Howard Gotlieb wrote again and Joy Cowley sent him a bundle of manuscripts, the beginning of what is now the Joy Cowley collection. There is a footnote to the story:

A few years ago the [Turnbull] librarian wrote asking for manuscripts. When I replied that mine were in Boston, I got
a somewhat grumpy letter which touched on my lack of patriotic spirit. I wrote back, pointing out that the Turnbull Library had turned down my offer some years before. There was no answer to that.

Writers can store only so much paper and, as Joy Cowley says, if Boston hadn't taken her manuscripts 'I would have burned them'.

A list of the individual New Zealand collections at Boston details 'manuscripts in various states and drafts, notes, notebooks, galley sheets, printed materials, documents, correspondence, journals, engagement books, research materials, juvenalia, clippings etc'. Among the material are Janet Frame manuscripts but Janet Frame herself has sent nothing and has no clear ideas she says how her manuscripts might have got there.

Some of the New Zealand material at Austin appears to have arrived equally circuitously.

In the 1950s and 1960s when the University of Texas was buying 'in bulk' and English authors reportedly were emptying their waste-paper baskets and shipping paper across the Atlantic by the crate-load, New Zealand and Australian poets were also approached.

There is the story, now of folkloric proportion, of Denis Glover recreating the draft of a poem long since published, crumpling it, revising it, spilling beer and jumping on it for added authenticity, and selling it to the University of Texas (to Smith's Bookshop, to the Turnbull library - there are several versions of the story) at a handsome figure.

'Texas certainly had feelers out in New Zealand,' according to James Traue, 'but I doubt that it actually employed spies or scouts.'

John Weir cites two New Zealand poets, one resident in Canada, as 'significant contacts' for the University of Texas going back to the 1950s. Another go-between operated from Tasmania, as Professor Sturm discovered.

In the 1960s Terry Sturm recalls, Smith's Bookshop in Wellington advertised by circular a choice set of R.A.K. Mason items at six guineas a time - 'I cabled immediately for the lot, only to discover that they had already gone to a Tasmanian bookseller, James Dally. I wrote to Dally, too late. He had sold them on to Texas at £100 an item.'

One dealer in this country points out that the University of Texas 'was always on Smith's mailing list'.

What can be done in future? Turnbull, following a more determined policy adopted by James Traue, is now much more active; it has acquired several collections by contemporary writers; it is soliciting material and paying for it, specially from women writers.

But though in some ways the situation is very much better, in others it is very much worse.

The idea of acquiring modern manuscripts during an author's lifetime - and of paying for them - is still foreign to the average New Zealand
Archifacts

librarian, and when it comes to 'access', a key question to anyone depositing material, our prestige institutions are in an impossible situation.

Simply to put the Sargeson papers, occupying seven metres of shelf space, in shape for a current biographical project at Turnbull, for example, has cost in staff time $15,000.

Sixty to 70 percent of the contemporary material at Turnbull remains unprocessed and thus not available to the public; the average scholar arriving with a research project has to give six month’s notice to a year’s before even an inventory may be available; 80 per cent of New Zealand’s fiction has been written in the last 20 years; women’s and Maori writing have burgeoned; new manuscripts come into existence every day; the paper multiplies; the staff cannot cope; and every day the problem worsens.

Hocken in Dunedin fares a little better - but 'but not much'.

I asked James Traue, shortly before he left the Turnbull in June, what would happen if I donated my papers to Turnbull and there were no immediate public interest in them. He admitted that unless a user was ‘panting on the doorstep’ they would probably lie unindexed and uncatalogued in a disorganised or only partly organised state ‘for years and years’.

Obviously no author wants his or her papers to leave the country. There is every advantage in their staying at home where they can be readily consulted and added to after death. But sometimes when fellow-New Zealanders talk of ‘saving’ things (for the nation, understood), I wince. By ‘save’ what is usually meant is ‘retain in New Zealand’. Nothing in my view is saved unless it is cared for and used.

An author wants two things for his papers - that they be secure and accessible. There is little point it seems to me in storing them in an archive, however secure the environment, if it is merely a dumping ground.

One reason for Sargeson and Glover, among other material turning up in Texas, is that it forms part of the Lehmann collection there. (John Lehmann, English editor, who first corresponded with and published most of our key writers of the thirties and forties.)

‘Apart from special cases,’ Lehmann once wrote, ‘I cannot see what injury is done by the export of British literary archives to institutions in the USA: institutions which share a common heritage and language and which have the resources to care for them in the most devoted way.

‘It is quite true that the collecting zeal of the Humanities Research Centre at Austin has awoken British institutions to the need for finding funds to keep our archives on this side of the ocean, but they were fast asleep until Texas awoke them.’

Anybody who has visited any of the great American collections cannot fail but be impressed by the care taken to house and sift the material. Access?

‘I could see anything I wanted,’ John Weir says, in tones echoed by
more recent visitors to Texas. 'There are bonuses, unexpected advant-
gages from visiting overseas archives. I did some teaching at Texas. I was 
invited to stay on and write a book.'

It is usually forgotten that the pioneer biographies of several New 
Zealand writers including Jane Mander, Frank Sargeson, John Mulgan, 
James K. Baxter, Janet Frame - in the Twayne World Author series - 
emanated from Texas. And that without the enthusiasm of Harry 
Ransom who began this incomparable resource at Austin, which duly 
sent a commissioning editor to New Zealand so the biographies could 
be undertaken, none of these books would have appeared when they did.

One advantage enjoyed by American collections is tax concession - 
American law provides that gifts of valuable material, books, pictures, 
documents, can count against income tax. In this way Texas, for example, 
has acquired the archives and original manuscripts of celebrated play-
wrights like Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller and Lillian Hellman at no 
cost at all.

A word about Boston's 20th century archives. The story of the Hu-
manities Research Centre at Austin housing the archives of many of 
the great literary figures of this century is well known. Boston University's 
collections cover public figures in politics, journalism and the stage, 
besides literature. They house the correspondence and private and 
professional papers of figures as diverse as Theodore Roosevelt, Robert 
Frost and Martin Luther King.

Boston's Mugar Memorial Library with some 1500 individual collec-
tions is now probably the biggest 20th century manuscript repository in 
existence. Practically all the collections have come as gifts.

Among its curiosities and treasures are the original Lil' Abner cartoons, 
Dr Johnson's own copy of Johnson's Dictionary, all Fred Astaire's 
dancing shoes (Astaire refused to donate his papers unless his pumps 
went too), Alistair Cooke's notes taken at Bobby Kennedy's side as he lay 
shot and dying, the original manuscript of Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass, 
an extensive Bernard Shaw correspondence, Dickens 'in Parts', and 
every single book (424 titles at the time of my visit) published by a 
modern Canadian writer-phenomenon called Scott.

One crumb of solace for New Zealand. We are not alone in being 
uncaring collectors. Our lethargy is matched by that of West Germany, 
the papers of whose Nobel prize-winning novelist Heinrich Boll also 
grew to Boston. Gotlieb began collecting Boll and other German writers 
in the sixties, 'when no German library was interested'. Boll's papers 
have been returned to Hamburg. 'In his will Heinrich Boll expressed the 
wish that a Boll library be established in his hometown of Hamburg. We 
acceded to this request since the Boll archive had been a deposit rather 
than a gift and returned the papers to the city of Hamburg, where the 
Boll building now stands.'

I asked Dr Godieb if he was open to negotiation on the return of the 
Sylvia Ashton-Warner papers. He said, 'There is no precedent.'

Some years ago a British MP, David Marquand, concerned at the
history of Britain being ‘sold off in job lots to foreign buyers’, attempted to introduce a Bill in the House of Commons making it unlawful to export historical manuscripts from Britain without a licence. The attempt failed.

However, a similar bill relating to cultural property like artefacts, but covering archives and manuscripts, including literary manuscripts, is now being drafted for New Zealand.

Under the present 1975 Antiquities Act, the only restriction in New Zealand applies to documents more than 60 years old. As in Britain which applies a 50-year clause, most papers can leave the country quite legally. Under a proposed new act for New Zealand, styled the Protection of Movable Cultural Property Bill, the 60-year clause would not necessarily apply and any contemporary document considered ‘unique’ or of ‘national significance’ would be caught. Documents would come under a Heritage Control List.

Under this category, it would require a permit to export any document, with a definition so wide that on the face of it one would hesitate to leave the country on holiday with a copy of R.A.K. Mason’s The Beggar in one’s luggage, unless it happened to be a forgery.

The bill is expected to be introduced this year or next. It is loosely modelled on Australian and Canadian examples and the manuscript category said to have been first formulated ‘to protect contemporary literary material from export’. However, the original plan has undergone a change; the result is now a reprieve, the opposite of protection, for the manuscripts of living authors according to a saving clause lately inserted are to be excluded.

In the words of the draft legislation as it now stands, ‘This category does not include any manuscript of a living artist or a manuscript which is less than 30 years old’.

The reprieve will cause surprise and possibly dismay, to judge from letters I have received from a number of people rejoicing at the thought that a legislative curb on the export of literary material was under way at last. Reprieve or curse? The clause lends itself to wide interpretation.

It strikes me as sensible. ‘How on earth,’ in the words of one university librarian, ‘can you stop an author - a musician, a film-maker - putting his private property in the mail?’

One reason the Marquand bill failed was because it was based on a misconception. This was, as Lord Kerr of Sotheby’s pointed out, that if you make it very difficult to export material like manuscripts, you will save them for the country. The truth is they are more likely not to be saved for anyone.

Obviously there is a need to legislate for precious documents - the Captain Cook letter retrieved recently for National Archives, is a case in point. But it is worth repeating that nothing is saved unless it has a value and, as every dealer and auctioneer knows, the fact that manuscripts have a value on the international market has resulted in a great many being rescued at the last minute.
In a letter to me, Internal Affairs Minister Margaret Austin spells out that New Zealand writers and artists' access to the international marketplace should be restricted as little as possible.

The bill can be challenged on points of detail; its effect will be far-reaching and, certainly in literary terms, controversial, for it shifts the onus. It sends a strong signal to New Zealand libraries many of which may find themselves forced into a new and mysterious role as collectors.

Marquand's bill may be dead but the issue seems about to spring to life. What is the answer?

The reality is our libraries are almost entirely dependent on public funds, with no budget for collecting. Richard Hlavac, Canterbury University Librarian, has suggested a scheme whereby institutions 'could with more imagination... earn the right to ask for literary papers as gifts'. The scheme should be explored, as indeed a recent suggestion by National's arts spokesman, Simon Upton: 'Why not tax incentives on the American model?' he asked.

The problem - a need to formalise things - is acute. To collect writers' papers in their lifetime is a major project. It needs funding and by now it is, I believe, beyond the scope of any single archive in this country. This presupposes of course that our universities see collecting as part of their future role. Do they?

James Traue: 'The present level of funding is totally inadequate. Writers are no longer prepared simply to donate their material, nor should they.'

Three things it seems to me are needed:
- Immediate and widespread public debate.
- The creation of a location register of New Zealand literary and historical material held in public and private archives, both here and overseas. One result of this, since there are almost certainly small collections of material in unexpected places, would be increased cooperation among libraries based on wider knowledge.
- Proposals for a system of national funding to encourage libraries to conserve and process manuscripts for research. James Traue, citing the British ministerial initiative for a special fund to conserve manuscripts, speaks of 'the need for an independent panel in New Zealand able to channel resources and provide grants-in-aid and subsidies', if more material is not to be lost.

I would go further and propose a National Heritage Fund along the lines of the Film Commission which takes heed of literary archives. This would encourage universities and institutions to look in the right direction, besides help provide a market value for a writer's work. There is something to be said for going further yet.

The focus of many New Zealand collections, especially New Zealand literary collections, is extremely narrow, as if literature were something to be locked up in a box away from the public gaze for the delectation of the privileged few. Such elitist concepts are out of date and silly. Many British repositories like Oxford’s Bodleian Library which has the papers
of the creator of Star Trek, James Blish, collect the papers of 'non-canonical' writers. I would expand the field and the topic to include public figures besides purely literary ones - I am thinking of the papers of, say, Sir Edmund Hillary, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, or for that matter, Sir Robert Jones or Ken Douglas, none of whom would be given priority I suspect on any current register of higher learning in New Zealand. This would at least be in the national interest.

I rest my case. So far as writers and money go, already one can hear the protests - 'They will hold the libraries to ransom', 'create paper monuments to themselves'. Admittedly the risk of the waste-paper basket forger, the unscrupulous midnight-oil fabricator, is always there. But it is a risk well worth taking.

Short of a survey which to my knowledge has never been made there is no way of knowing what librarians as a whole, or for that matter writers as a whole, think. The question is complicated, and my mini-survey at best inconclusive. Perhaps I am quite wrong and the majority of our universities and libraries are content to abandon everything to Turnbull and Hocken as before, to continue shouldering the burden of a neglected responsibility.

REFERENCES

1. The Library Chronicle of the University of Texas at Austin has a 'complete survey' by Peter Alcock of Palmerston North, of the Humanities Research Centre holdings, according to Dr. Alcock in a letter to the Dominion Sunday Times, 26 August, 1990. But the survey, entitled 'Austin, England and Auckland', appears little known to New Zealand researchers and scholars.

Lynley Hood
Dunedin

Over the past six years I have researched archives in more than two dozen major institutions in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom and North America. In my experience the Mugar Memorial Library in Boston was by far the most user-unfriendly. As indicated in the McNeish article, given sufficient warning, the Turnbull Library will catalogue unprocessed material for the use of researchers. I have found the Hocken Library equally helpful in this respect but at the Mugar Memorial Library, despite having two years warning of my intended visit and despite being advised by my publisher that I was working on a major biography of Sylvia Ashton-Warner, no such effort was made. I spent most of my three weeks in Boston working through 33 boxes of catalogued material and was not told until the last few days of my visit of the existence of a further seven large cartons of uncatalogued Ashton-Warner papers, some of which had lain undisturbed in the library for ten years or more.
Although the Mugar Memorial Library is housed in a grand new building the reading room is pathetically small - little more than a coat cupboard. In fact for two days of my tightly scheduled visit it was unavailable to library users because it was being used as a cloakroom. Repeated experiences of this sort gave me the strong impression that the literary archives of the Mugar Memorial Library had been collected for reasons of status rather than scholarship.

The story of how Sylvia Ashton-Warner's papers came to be housed in Boston is given in my book Sylvia! - A Biography of Sylvia Ashton-Warner (Viking Penguin, 1988). A full account of my own experiences at the library can be found in Who is Sylvia? the Diary of a Biography (McIndoe 1990). Who is Sylvia? also describes a heated exchange over a proposal that the papers in Ashton-Warner's possession at the time of her death be sold off overseas. The person responsible for this proposal has since denied making it but, in the immortal words of Mandy Rice-Davies, 'Well he would say that wouldn't he?' I stand by the account given in Who is Sylvia?

Honeyed appeals from overseas institutions for the papers of New Zealand authors are bound to give the scribes concerned a rush of blood to the head. The profound contribution made by writers to our history, society and culture, often at great personal and economic cost, rarely receives the recognition it deserves. Overseas appeals accompanied by financial offers may well prove irresistible.

From the writer's point of view the primary issues are money and recognition. Measures such as a legislative restriction on overseas sales, an active acquisition policy by major New Zealand libraries and the provision of funding for the local purchase of literary papers will help, but only when the honours, media coverage and financial rewards afforded to our writers begin to approach those enjoyed by our sports people will the enticements of overseas institutions cease to turn writers' heads. It follows that any move to retain literary archives in New Zealand will be more effective if it takes place within a wider programme for the recognition and promotion of New Zealand literature.

Any plans for the collection of New Zealand literary archives will inevitably be limited by both funding and institutional shelf space. It is therefore imperative that institutions make every effort to ensure that the material they collect has genuine scholarly value. Collection programmes need to be drawn up in consultation with the users of literary archives, as well as with writers.

Writers concerned about their contribution to posterity should also be encouraged to weigh the short term flattery of an overseas offer against the prospect of their papers spending long years out of context, unused and forgotten. Storage in a local archive is a far better guarantee of intensive long term scholarly interest in a writer's work, which is surely the whole point of keeping a writer's papers. Sylvia Ashton-Warner's archives are sadly underused and badly catalogued in Boston (e.g. ignorance of the Maori language prevented the library staff from
realising that Ashton-Warner never crossed her 't's. The catalogue includes such unlikely place names as 'Waiomalalini' and 'Rualoria').

The Mugar Memorial Library returned Heinrich Boll's papers to Germany. The Library Director should now accede to the expressed wishes of Sylvia Ashton-Warner's family and return her papers to New Zealand where they will get the scholarly attention they deserve within their proper historical and social context.

David Colquhoun
Alexander Turnbull Library

James McNeish’s article will help draw public attention to the fact that the papers of some of New Zealand’s leading writers are being bought by overseas collectors and institutions. I hope it does. The issue is an important one. My comments are very much from an Alexander Turnbull Library viewpoint, because that is what I know about, and because McNeish bases much of what he says on his perception of past policy and practice at the Turnbull.

I am sure that most manuscript librarians would share McNeish’s view that ‘a country’s writers are among its more precious assets’ and that we should be doing all we possibly can to ensure that the papers they create are preserved here. Literary papers provide important clues to the understanding of a writer’s work, to the history of New Zealand literature, to our understanding of the way we see ourselves, and to many other things.

The problem seems to me to be primarily one of financial resources, or the lack of them. The acquiring of literary manuscripts can become a very expensive business. Our manuscript libraries do not have enough money to buy all the collections with New Zealand connections that appear in the marketplace. Last year, for example, the Turnbull paid $19,500 for seventeen important Katherine Mansfield letters, but we were outbid for a later lot containing two other, unknown, letters. Mansfield is of course at the top end of the literary market, but prices can still be very high for papers of writers who have achieved any international reputation.

The erratic but nevertheless real interest of well-off American institutions and local collectors has also created a more modest market for the papers of writers with local rather than international reputations. There are many leading literary figures who have donated their drafts, correspondence and other papers, for which we are very grateful. Others cannot afford such generous gestures and see their papers as an integral part of their saleable assets.

It is not, of course, only literary papers that cost money. Few institutions have the luxury of collecting only in one area. At the Turnbull, for example, recent purchases from dealers have included a collection of
William Colenso, James Busby and Alan Cunningham letters ($20,000), photographs and diaries of Thomas Cusack Smith, British Consul to Samoa in the 1890s ($20,000), and a series of nineteen early Maori portraits ($106,000).

The Turnbull does have a small acquisition budget, perhaps more than other manuscript libraries. The Friends of the Turnbull and the Alexander Turnbull Library Endowment Trust provide additional help, and we have been successful in obtaining some assistance from the Lottery Board. Forward planning however is difficult when we are continually struggling to find funding to acquire important collections that inevitably appear unexpectedly and at short notice. At the moment we simply do not have the financial resources to enter into agreements with all the people who have expressed a willingness to deposit papers at the Turnbull.

McNeish does not seem to disagree with the above but he does make additional claims which, from a Turnbull point of view at least, seem to distort the situation in New Zealand. Although he would no doubt say he was just playing the devil’s advocate, some brief comments seem appropriate here.

The claim that part of the problem is with the ‘feminine’ or ‘purely receptive’ attitudes of New Zealand manuscript librarians seems an inaccurate description of present practice to me. At the Turnbull, despite the financial constraints, very strong and representative collections of literary papers have been developed. We are continually adding to these holdings, and we have been able to do proactive acquisition work, such as our efforts to build our collections relating to women’s writing in New Zealand.

Similarly McNeish seems to be succumbing to stereotypes in his description of manuscript librarians as ‘uncaring collectors’, looking after mere ‘dumping grounds’ where literary papers are not cared for or used. At the Turnbull it is certainly true that resources are stretched and there are processing backlogs. Very few collections can be arranged and described to the level of the Sargeson papers, which we wrote about in the last issue of Archifacts. The literary collections are however available to researchers, and are being continually consulted. In this area at least we compare very well with several of the overseas institutions McNeish mentions.

I do not wish to comment much more on the anecdotes and details used to colour McNeish’s arguments. His accounts of writers’ unpleasant experiences are from many years ago. Even in the best of worlds, however, it is possible that potential donors and vendors will be offended by unintended but nevertheless genuinely perceived slights from collecting institutions. Writers are often very volatile people. Elsewhere McNeish shows a lack of understanding of the importance of provenance in the keeping of archives. Some of the letters mentioned are a small part of the correspondence of the British publisher John Lehmann, held at the University of Texas. No manuscript librarian could support these
Robert Sullivan
Auckland Public Library

Archfacts

letters being taken out of their archival context.

Other points worth making are that there is already a means for the recording of the whereabouts of literary papers, *The National Register of Archives and Manuscripts*. We are very aware of its imperfections but it is a start. The idea of a record of New Zealand holdings overseas is a good one, although there is more knowledge of what there is than McNeish implies. The concluding statement that librarians and archivists should broaden their collecting policies beyond literary manuscripts shows some ignorance of the collections and collecting policies of New Zealand’s leading manuscript libraries.

Nevertheless the main point McNeish makes stands, that important collections of national significance and great research interest may continue to end up overseas. I have argued that the main reason is the simple one of the lack of money available to collecting institutions. Even with more money, of course, we would not acquire everything, and much of the manuscript record of internationally known New Zealanders will always end up outside New Zealand and, ultimately, ending up in any public institution is better than being destroyed or being held in unknown private collections. At the moment, however, our manuscript acquisition budgets are very small. The Turnbull’s, for example, is about a tenth of that of the National Library of Australia, and there are several other Australian institutions with large acquisition budgets. A more appropriate budget would see stronger national collections.

What can be done about it? It is hard to imagine much improvement in these times of economic depression and cost cutting. Obviously any such increase cannot be at the expense of other already meagre resources for manuscript curation. Speaking personally, I favour working towards the establishment of a national body supervising a trust fund, with representatives of writers and collecting institutions, perhaps coming under the umbrella of the Queen Elizabeth II Arts Council. Articles like McNeish’s may provide some small impetus towards such a solution but the implementation would require the support of ARANZ and like-minded bodies.

James McNeish should be congratulated for the interest his piece on the state of our holdings of literary papers in our national archives has created. At last an article has surfaced in a widely circulated newspaper to highlight the work of archivists and librarians in this country!

But some aspects of the article are disappointing. To chain the word ‘feminine’ to a lack of ‘initiative’ is derogatory and sexist. To attack Turnbull for not having had sufficient facilities or foresight over twenty
years ago - the reason Joy Cowley papers went to Boston - is irrelevant to the present situation and, frankly, anecdotal. One finds these comments interesting, given the size and disorganized state of the recently organized Sargeson collection at the National Library, and given the New Zealand librarians' depth of local knowledge (and at time personal acquaintance) which resulted in the high standard of appraisal and description of the collection (as reported in the last issue of Archifacts.) Needless to say that in the case of Sargeson, information could have been lost if the documents were shipped off, through foreign ignorance of a New Zealand resource. To embed our archival collections far from their origin would greatly dissipate the natural focus they possess, and further distance the New Zealand public from their archival heritage. At least from his article one is aware of James McNeish's 'sympathy' for such a view.

As an adjunct, I do applaud the concept of payment for papers. Mr McNeish's examples of what has happened with other writers' papers also discourages New Zealand writers from investing in their local heritage - a devilish advocacy that cannot be taken lightly. Once obtained by most public institutions a manuscript collection will never be sold. If sent overseas it is unlikely ever to return. If Mr McNeish's reason for rescuing New Zealand manuscripts is their value on international markets, this too grates; it should rather be rescued for its value to our heritage. By and large manuscripts have no resale value for an institution.

Although it takes a long time to index materials, in my mind this weighs favourably against travelling overseas to access documents. On balance we have to ensure that our archivists and librarians maintain a steady programme to arrange collections, and that physical access to unindexed papers is, within reason, not restricted. It would be sensible, as Mr McNeish proposes, to have a location register of New Zealand material, and I believe an annual joint public report on the work of each archival institution would raise public consciousness of programmes of acquisition, and the level of informed criticism.

Some constructive points were raised in this provocative article. Widespread public debate is fine and necessary, but most definitely not on an alarmist scale. The location register is a great idea to pursue, as is a national fund to conserve and process materials, though with the present cost-cutting by the government that is unlikely. I'm sure we'd all like to turn that on its head.

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Archival Studies at the University of Manitoba

The University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, which, with 22,000 students, is one of Canada's largest universities, has awarded funding from its Program Development Fund to the Department of History for the field of archival studies. The department has also recently completed the search for a new faculty member to direct this initiative. Dr. Thomas C. Nesmith has been appointed associate professor responsible for archival studies. Dr. Nesmith obtained degrees in history at Queen's University and Carleton University. Prior to his appointment, he was for twelve years an archivist at the National Archives of Canada. His last position with the National Archives was head, Scientific and Natural Resources Records Unit, Government Archives Division. From 1984 to 1986, he was General Editor of *Archivaria*, the journal of the Association of Canadian Archivists.

Starting in September 1991, the Department of History will offer a two-year curriculum in archival studies which leads to the degree of Master of Arts in History. The curriculum is being developed within guidelines for professional education established by the Association of Canadian Archivists. The curriculum will blend the historical and contemporary aspects of archival studies. Archival theory and administration will be studied in relation to the evolution of human communication and records keeping. Study of aspects of the history of recorded communication, of records keeping, and of archives and of archival theory and practice from antiquity to the present will be the frame of reference for study of contemporary problems in archival theory, administration, and practice. During the summer following the first year of study, students will do an internship in an archive. The second year will largely be taken up with completion of a thesis in archival studies.

For further information, please contact Dr. Thomas C. Nesmith, Association Professor, Department of History, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3T 2N2.

Sister M. Claude Lane Award

Thomas Wilsted, associate director of operations at the University of Wyoming's American Heritage Center, is the recipient of the Society of American Archivists' Sister M. Claude Lane Award for his significant contribution to the field of religious archives. Established in 1974 and conferred annually, the award is sponsored in conjunction with and funded by the Society of Southwest Archivists.

Prior to assuming his position at the American Heritage Center in early 1990, Wilsted served as archivist/administrator of the Salvation Army Archives and Research Center in New York City, where he developed a flourishing national archival program. In 1989, Wilsted successfully placed the archives under the jurisdiction of the National Chief Secretary at the National Headquarters. The archives now looks forward to an increased budget and a new facility. Wilsted also planned and supervised the development of a nationwide records management program for the Salvation Army.

Wilsted has been cited as 'a man of integrity who gives freely and willingly of his time and advice'. He has been involved in many professional activities, including chairing the SAA Religious Archives Section, and serving as a member of the SAA Awards Committee and the SAA Committee on Institutional Evaluation. Most recently he co-authored a volume in the SAA Archival Fundamentals Series entitled *Managing Archival and Manuscript Repositories*.

Among other professional activities, Wilsted served as project director for an NHPRC management fellow. This grant
Archivists

led to a further two-year NHPRC grant to Archivists of Religious Institutions. Co-directed by Wilsted, this grant provided professional consultation for small and mid-sized archives in metropolitan New York.

SAA Newsletter November 1990

Kudos for Police Officer who Cracked Rare Books Theft

J. Stephen Huntsberry, a Washington State University police officer, was honored at SAA’s annual meeting in Seattle with a certificate of appreciation from the Society on behalf of the entire archive profession. Huntsberry was commended for his diligence in pursuing an investigation that led to the March 1990 arrest of Stephen Blumberg, alleged to be the principal in a $10 to $20 million, coast-to-coast theft of rare books, manuscripts, and artifacts. At the time of his arrest, Blumberg, whose career as a rare book and manuscript thief spanned more than 20 years, was found to have over 19 tons of library and archival material from over 140 universities stored in an Ottumwa, Iowa, house. It was the largest such seizure in the FBI’s history.

Huntsberry, a corporal in the WSU police force, entered the case in 1988 when he was assigned to investigate the December 1987 theft of $500,000 in rare books from the WSU’s Holland Library. Huntsberry put in long hours of his own time on the case, sending out teletypes and tracking down leads. Finally, a break came when Blumberg, using an alias, was arrested for trespassing and possession of burglary tools at the University of Riverside-California library. Also in Blumberg’s possession was a schedule of the Holland Library’s business hours. He was released shortly after the arrest, but not before he was photographed and fingerprinted. Huntsberry pursued fingerprint checks in several states, including Minnesota, where a positive identification was made for Stephen Blumberg. The case was turned over to the FBI who arrested Blumberg after the March 1990 raid of his Ottumwa house.

SAA Newsletter November 1990

Taping History but Keeping it Quiet

Top politicians and their spouses have been ‘telling all’ for the sake of history, but it will be more than 20 years before the first of their confidential oral diaries is revealed. ‘This is probably unique,’ says Mr Hugo Manson, one of the interviewers who has been responsible for getting their comments on tape.

The New Zealand Oral History Archive started from a brainstorming session when the 1984 snap election was announced. Mr Manson, Judith Fyfe and Jean Harton decided to try to record the daily diaries of politicians involved. Their main focus, revealed to the politicians at the outset, was to produce a book immediately after the election. The interviews, on their daily engagements and observations, were done late at night before being typeset the next day.

Apart from then Prime Minister, Sir Robert Muldoon, who did only one interview before pulling out, daily interviews were held with the five political leaders of the time, the Rt Hon. David Lange, Sir Robert Jones, Mr Matiu Rata, Bruce Beetham and Jane Roborgh.

The Oral History Archive, closely involved with the Alexander Turnbull Library since its inception 10 years ago, decided to repeat the daily exercise in the 1987 election. However, this time the tape-recorded telephone interviews involved only the leaders of the two main political parties. The tapes went into the archives with strict undertakings that their contents would not be revealed until the interviewees gave their approval. Weekly tape recordings with successive top politicians have continued since, with virtually daily interviews during the last election....

The political interviews were to provide a unique record of political events, through the observations of the people directly involved.

Mr Manson said the project was ‘a remarkable thing’ considering the hectic schedules of the politicians and their spouses - particularly during general elections.
‘Political leaders don’t have time to keep diaries. Often the only other record is what appears in the newspapers, television or the radio, or if a biography is commissioned.
‘It’s seen as a serious, important opera-
tion by them. They would not do it if they did not think it was important,' Mr Manson said.

*New Zealand Herald 22 November 1990*

**British Library Book Preservation**

A chemical process developed by the British Library to deacidify and strengthen paper has been selected as one of the finalists in the 1990 Archimedes awards, which are given for excellence in engineering. The Library's entry was placed in the category for the most innovative advances in product design.

The process, developed for the British Library by chemists at the University of Surrey, allows the mass treatment of acidic paper at a low unit cost and is a major breakthrough for archives and libraries. The estimated price for treating a single book using this process is £5.

The British Library is now seeking a commercial partner to develop the process into a full-scale operation. More information is available from the National Preservation Office at the British Library, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG.

*Society of Archivists Newsletter December 1990*

**Year Goes Into the Boxes**

...1990 has been packed up, neatly labelled in boxes, and is on its way to the National Archives in Wellington. ....the 1990 Commission is officially disbanding, which means its records are getting to Wellington quicker than most.

Documents on 4000 events in the northern region are ready to be sent south, and there are as many again in 1990 Commission offices in Wellington and Christchurch.

Every family reunion and patchwork quilt has been documented for the sake of preserving history. But only the documents are headed for the archives. Quilts, tapestries and other 1990 treasures will stay in the communities where they were made.

Once in the archives, the documents will be used mainly by genealogists and historians. 'But anyone planning a family reunion may want to see what other families have done,' said the 1990 northern region project co-ordinator, Alison Brown, holding up the Hansen family file.

The first non-missionary European settlers in this country, the Hansens celebrated their reunion with a re-enactment of their landing at Oihi in the Bay of Islands.

A member of the Carrington family in Wanganui wrote a computer program to help in piecing together his family tree. That program is available to other genealogists as part of the Carrington family file, now housed in the National Archives.

*New Zealand Herald 9 January 1991*

**Endangered Past**

...Although the late Sir Albert Henry ignominiously lost power after a High Court judgement found him guilty of using government money to fly in supporters for an election, he should also be remembered for his achievements. One of these was the establishment of government archives and a Division of Culture in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Its function was to restore and preserve Cook Islands Maori culture. The ministry promoted three Tumu Korero in 1974, 1984 and 1990. Tumu Korero are the orators, the keepers of the word of the ancestors. They came to assemblies from the outer islands and told their stories, which were recorded on magnetic tape. Unfortunately, none of these valuable records have been transcribed and translated. Sir Albert's dream of having Cook Island stories written and made available for children in schools remains unfulfilled. Since magnetic tapes deteriorate faster in the tropics than elsewhere, there is an urgent need for them to be transcribed before they are irrecoverable.

The government archives are in an even more parlous state than the records of the Tumu Korero. The archives consist mainly of government records from the time of Gudgeon, who was the first Commissioner from New Zealand at the turn of the century. Since the coming of independence in 1964, most of the records consist of the proceedings of the Cook Islands Parliament. The archivist, George Paniani, has also begun a collection of genealogies, family manuscripts, old photographs and karakia used for the investiture of ariki. Some of the material he has actually salvaged from the dump.

The archives are kept in a dilapidated,
mouldy building of four rooms up in a mountain valley. One of the rooms is the director's office. It is so tiny and cluttered with archives waiting to be processed and filed that there is barely space to receive two visitors. Valuable manuscripts stored in cartons are mouldering away for the want of shelves and people to process them. After struggling for 12 years against political indifference about the need for resources, Paniani was given an assistant in 1990. Adjacent to the main building is a garage with a concrete floor. Along one wall are shelves with archives properly indexed and filed. Stacked on the floor are full-sized photographic portraits of four former New Zealand Prime Ministers - Sir Keith Holyoake, Norman Kirk, Sir Jack Marshall and Sir Wallace Rowling. That these portraits of New Zealand leaders sit on a garage floor is symptomatic of the need for a purpose-built building with air-conditioning to house the archives....

Korero, Listener & TVTimes 28 January 1991

Archifacts

Australian Society of Archivists
Conference
Sydney, 11-16 June 1991
Preliminary Programme
More effective use of information is the key to an economically productive and socially satisfying future. The information locked in documents on paper, magnetic tape, laser disc and photographs determines how well our institutions and businesses function in the present and how they will be judged in the future. Professionals responsible for the creation, management, use and preservation of information sources and services face escalating constraints and change in resources, technology, regulation and user demand. These challenges and the tools and strategies needed to confront them are the focus of an exciting week of conference sessions, workshops, seminars and visits.

Distinguished information professionals from the U.S. and Australasia will contribute their insights and expertise. Keynoting the conference are David Bearman, President of Archives and Museum Informatics and his wife Dr Toni Carbo Bearman, Dean of the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Pittsburgh and incoming President of the American Society for Information Science. Both Bearmans are world authorities on information policy, technology and education with particular concern to ensure that our society has a valid information 'heritage' available and accessible now and in the future. Archivists, records managers, librarians, academics, museum/gallery curators, researchers, in fact, everyone, will enjoy and benefit from contact with the galaxy of exciting and dynamic speakers we have assembled for this meeting.

The five days is composed of two days of workshops/seminars followed by a three-day conference. The workshops are $50-$90 each, conference registration is $180.

Enquiries to: ASA Conference '91, Macdonald Hamilton Conventions, GPO Box 7014, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia.

Whether the agricultural labourer of the nineteenth century may justifiably be called 'the forgotten worker' is a moot point: there is a considerable quantity of literature describing the experiences of shearers, musterers, rouseabouts, rabbiters, harvesters, and men on the swag; and passages in books by such writers as Lady Barker and John A. Lee are tolerably well known. Nor have recent researchers entirely ignored rural workers in studies of nineteenth-century New Zealand. Nevertheless, John E. Martin's *The Forgotten Worker* is the first major account of these workers which places them fully in their social, political and economic context. Whether forgotten or not, it will no longer be possible for historians to deal with the period or the people without taking into account Martin's superb characterization of the world of the agricultural labourer.

In a short introduction, Martin deals judiciously with some historiographical red herrings, especially the curious notion that social mobility vitiated, or weakened, the formation of classes. The first chapter sketches an economic and social context for agricultural labourers, and provides some sensibly constructed statistics. Thereafter the book concentrates on the workers, their work, their living circumstances, and their efforts to maintain or improve their pay and conditions against the not always very progressive attitudes of the employing class. The scope and shape of the work, and its detail, is at times reminiscent of some of E.P. Thompson's studies.

Martin justifies the limitation of the study to the nineteenth century by pointing to the growth of prosperity in the new century, the greater emphasis on intensive farming, especially in the North Island, the break-up and sale of some large estates when land values rose, and the influences of mechanization. 'Over time, these changes undercut the role of the rural wage earners and led to their decline as a significant force' (p.197). Political and legislative as well as economic circumstances 'were ... against rural workers maintaining their organisational momentum .... This resulted in rural workers losing their distinctiveness and their central place in the rural economy' (p.199). That there were major changes is not disputed, but whether rural workers lost their 'distinctiveness' is more controversial. This reviewer has the impression that as late as the prosperous 1950s, and even in areas dominated by
‘family farms’, there was a significant and distinctive rural proletariat. Perhaps it depends upon what ‘central place’ can be made to mean.

Much less defensible is Martin’s decision to exclude detailed consideration of women from the study. Women, he says, were often not wage-earners - ‘Payment was pre-eminently the preserve of males’. The greater proportion of the paid work-force was certainly male; but, as he admits; ‘Women and children ... contributed significantly to the rural economy’ (p.1). Though not indexed, women appear in the text (e.g., pp.20, 35, 43, 45, 51, 54, 55, etc.) and in several photographs, including a prominent group in the photograph on the cover of the book. Some discussion of domestic labour and of other unpaid labour by women, and why it was unpaid, would have been appropriate.

Martin has built his study upon a wide variety of sources, as the bibliography and fairly full notes indicate. With the exceptions of union records and occasional individual reminiscences, rural wage-earners themselves left little in the way of documents. However, there is much, both printed and in manuscript, which records their activities in a fitful way, and Martin has made careful use of many of these materials. Local and district histories have been combed for information. He has also drawn material from twentieth-century accounts, such as Peter Newton’s books. An immense amount of detail has been drawn from newspapers and other journals, primarily those which appeared in the 1870s, 1880s and 1890s: more than thirty separate titles are listed in the bibliography. The extent to which the study is built upon such sources is not altogether evident in the end-notes, since for some of the chapters specific annotation is limited to instances of direct quotation. Nevertheless, Martin’s study demonstrates the significance of nineteenth-century newspapers as a valuable source for social history when the researcher leaves the editorials and headlines and sifts the closely-printed paragraphs of local news and columns of advertisements.

Martin has also reviewed a considerable amount of manuscript material, especially station diaries or logbooks, and diaries and reminiscences of people connected with agricultural enterprises, together with examples of account books, stock books, and shearing tally books. The form and content of such material is in some measure displayed through quotations, but it has clearly added much detail to Martin’s account, and allowed him to reconstruct with some authority not only the wages and conditions of the workers but the relationships between workers and employers. The sources listed are held in various repositories (not only the Hocken and Alexander Turnbull libraries, but in addition such places as the South Canterbury Museum and the Waimate Historical Museum); no doubt there are others still in private hands.

Equally impressive is the range and relevance of the illustrations, especially the generous selection of clearly-reproduced photographs. Martin includes not only some well-known images but also a good many which have not been published since their original appearance in (for example) the Christchurch Weekly Press. Where necessary he has used
Reviews

appropriate twentieth-century photographs so that virtually all major aspects of rural work and living conditions are graphically depicted. The very detailed captions, which further demonstrate the author's technological knowledge, help to make the illustrations an extension of the text, and not merely (as is so common) an ornamental supplement.

Martin's writing is crisp. He has the ability to write knowledgeably but clearly about technological matters, and to invest even catalogues of detail with much interest. On the other hand, he eschews the rhetorical colouring of nostalgia which has often been misleadingly applied to depictions of swaggers, shearsers, and other rural folk heroes. As befits a work which is sponsored by the Trade Union History Project, the study is quite accessible to all readers. We need more history like Martin's The Forgotten Worker - thoroughly researched, well written, richly detailed, clearly illustrated, fully annotated, politically committed.

There are a few minor errors which might be noted. The author of New Zealand After Fifty Years, quoted on pages 53, 89, 156, and 158, is not Edward Gibbon Wakefield but Edward Wakefield, nephew of the notorious E.G.; the Dovedale family depicted on page 131 should be Win, not 'Winn'; for 'Vennel' on page 224 and note 28 of page 206 read Vennell; the reference to Scotter, History of Canterbury, in note 4 on page 210 is incomplete; the thesis referred to in note 4 on page 200 was presented for an MA, not a PhD. Gratuitous advice to publishers: if it is not possible to give in the running heads to end-notes the page numbers to which the notes refer, then the title as well as the number of the chapter should preface each series of notes.

P.J. Gibbons
Hamilton


Wellington, city and province, has a history, as yet unwritten, that sets it apart from any other city and province in New Zealand. Even Nelson, its closest parallel for a couple of decades, was removed from the political stringencies created by the acrimony arising from clashes between New Zealand Company Principal Agent and colonial government. Its origins as a Company settlement, its role in the developing relationship with the indigenous Maori tribes, its economic development, its progression to becoming the seat of government, the growth of its satellite town at Wanganui, to say nothing of its seismic qualities, climate and beauty, combine to make a rich field for historical exploration. Thus, although The Making of Wellington rightly disclaims the status of a fully researched history, it merits careful consideration.

In arranging their material the editors have clearly set out what they were able to accumulate rather than what they chose to assemble in
accordance with a thematic design. Absence of pattern makes the book a collection of essays that does not live up to the promise of the title. The uninspired introduction (with mistakes in the titles of three books quoted) does not convince that a strong sense of history has been brought to the task, and the success or failure of the book will depend entirely upon the insights provided by the authors.

Three essays are of primary significance. In her essay ‘Te Whanganui-a-Tara: Phases of Maori Occupation of Wellington Harbour c.1800-1840’, Angela Bailara skilfully sketches a convincing account of the changing scene of Maori occupation. With the reservation that a more critical examination of some of the source material is required, the stage is well set. Some concern may linger that Te Ati Awa willingness to sell to the New Zealand Company because of their fear that Te Rauparaha and Te Rangihaeata, who claimed suzerainty of the harbour and the Hutt valley, would not let them live in peace is submerged in more general issues - particularly that of their fear of the Wairarapa tribes.

Then there is Dr B.R. Patterson’s “A Queer Cantankerous Lot”: The Human Factor in the Conduct of the New Zealand Company’s Wellington Surveys’. This is a well researched account revolving around the personalities and tasks of the New Zealand Company principal agent, Colonel Wakefield, and the three men most responsible for the survey of the Company estate in Wellington, William Mein Smith, Samuel Charles Brees and Robert Park. In reaching the conclusion that there was no alternative to an eventual complete re-survey of the former Company districts, Dr Patterson makes it abundantly clear that in a bureaucracy professional competence, or indeed incompetence, takes second place to the perception, honesty and ambition of the principal bureaucrat. Whatever gifts Smith, Brees and Park may have brought to the settlement were kept under wraps by an egoistical principal agent who wished only to report that under his impetus all was well.

Co-editor David Hamer’s ‘Wellington on the Urban Frontier’ is placed surprisingly late in the series. He takes the innovative approach of fitting Wellington into a range of theories on the place of the ‘urban frontier’ in an expanding European settlement. As with most first-comers, Hamer provides much that requires reflection and, as well, much for which research beyond secondary sources may provide the need for reconsideration. But to whatever degree the theories are modified, Professor Hamer has established a valid pattern.

The essay by Diana Beaglehole, ‘Political Leadership in Wellington: 1839-1853’, falls between the three essays that live up to the title of the collection and those which, however competent, might be found under a less imposing banner. It is a detailed account of the social standing and official status of men who served in the political and local institutions of the period. It is useful in its identifications, but it remains to be assessed what benefits accrued to these individuals through their uncontested leadership roles and, it must be added, what benefit to Wellington. Mrs
Beaglehole is somewhat generous to the New Zealand Company; Company officials were not ignorant of what they were doing and were playing politics - they were looking for bargaining points.

Of the remaining essays, that of Rosemarie Tonk is the only one that editors more secure in their understanding of the period could with advantage have referred back to its author. The exchange between Hobson and Wakefield in September 1841, crucial to the development of the story, does little justice to the evidence, as does the failure to mention Kaparatehau, whose relationship with Te Rauparaha and Te Rangihiaeta is an essential ingredient of the land problem. No attempt is made to assess the degree of European influence on Maori thinking, or to analyse the significance of the same Maori signatures on New Zealand Company deeds, the erection of the Council and copies of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The other six essays will stand the test of time as competent, very readable accounts representing the unrelated interests of their authors. Margaret Alington quite brilliantly summarizes the development of Wellington cemeteries and their continued life as a cemetery park. ‘Styles of Sham and Genuine Simplicity’ is the elegant title chosen by Chris Cochran for his deftly designed account of materials, men, conditions and regulations involved in the provision of public and private buildings. Co-editor Roberta Nicholls gives an ‘outsider’s (no Mitford here) view of ‘Elite Society in Victorian and Edwardian Wellington’, overlooking the fact that some of the ‘elite’ did not emulate any social class in England, but merely carried on the way of life in which they had been brought up. The decline in this life-style, and in that of its imitators, followed what was happening elsewhere. But have social distinctions disappeared? Does it no longer matter if you remove the top of your boiled egg with a knife and not an egg spoon?

Kathleen Coleridge has given a very useful account, with the scrupulous attention to detail that we have come to expect from her, of the pioneer years of Wellington printing. As so much of the early history of Wellington is dependent on newspaper accounts, it is well to have a reliable history of their provenance.

An account of the settlement’s first grog shop that, on an adjacent site, developed into the major social centre, government office and meeting place, is offered by Julie Bremner. Then joint authors Miles Fairburn and Stephen Haslett ask if Wellington province had a distinctive social pattern from the 1850s to 1930. On the evidence submitted, this reviewer is relieved that ‘the view that considerable regional variations in structure as distinct from degree were the central feature in New Zealand’s past is an untenable historiographical convention’ (p.283). The footnotes to this essay contain important information.

The volume is well presented by the Victoria University Press (but was that the only paper available?), is well illustrated, has an index (page numbers only), a prefatory note from the mayor Jim (now Sir James)
Archifacts
Belich and biographical notes on the contributors. Publication was subsidized by the Wellington City Council.

Ian Wards
Wellington


Of the four major publicly funded ‘National’ curatorial institutions (National Archives, National Art Gallery, National Library, and National Museum), the National Archives has been the least known and understood. Under the current Director this lack of public visibility has been steadily remedied, and with the issue of this, in every way, professionally produced publication the process can only be hastened further. Research into family history is the one use of archives which has the capacity to take the benefits of archives keeping into the home of every New Zealander, and National Archives is the institution which, apart from the special case of the Registrar-General’s Office, has the greatest quantity and certainly the most wide-ranging sources of information about our ancestors and ourselves, both Maori and Pakeha. The publication of Family History at National Archives, edited by Nicola Frean and produced under the general direction of Michael Hodder, is unquestionably a major milestone in New Zealand archives history; it opens up vistas and possibilities which will have a significant impact on the use of public archives, and will further fuel the seemingly insatiable popular demand for family information. No longer will it be possible to claim that National Archives is New Zealand’s best kept secret.

The book is divided into two parts. The first, ‘Beginning Family History’, sets the scene with general information on New Zealand sources and hints on searching, and places National Archives in context. By far the larger part of book, and its heart, lungs and brain, is Part Two, ‘Topics for Research’. The title is significant as eschewing the usual group and series approach in favour of a generalized subject treatment, which attempts to draw together all the relevant sources no matter how disparate in provenance they may be. This has produced eight main groupings: Whakapapa/Maori Genealogy (including land, education and military service); Getting Here (immigration of all kinds, emigration, aliens, naturalization, internees and ethnic groups); Women; Life Cycle (births, deaths and marriages, education and child welfare, and estates of deceased persons); Making a Living (land holding, shipping and seamen, civilian government employees, and commercial affairs including goldmining); Soldiering (in all services both in New Zealand and overseas); Troubles (judicial system, firemen and fires, mental health, and friendly societies); and Ideas (copyright and patents, and petitions to Parliament). This necessarily artificial arrangement, while it imposes
Reviews

a working structure on the holdings to be covered, can lead to awkwardness of association and duplication. For instance, Native Schools, Maori military service and Native Succession Orders are substantively described outside the Maori genealogical grouping; the most interesting petition to Parliament, that of 1893 seeking the extension of the franchise to women, is not adverted to in the Women’s section, nor are the archives of the School of Advanced Nursing Studies which are included under Life Cycle; and records relating to the employment of seamen, firemen, and police (Armed Constabulary) are all to be found in quite different parts of the book. But a perfect arrangement will always be a matter of opinion.

As one would expect, the strongest treatment is of those archives which are most closely organized and with which the staff of National Archives are fully familiar. First amongst these are the well-known and justly popular archives of the various immigration schemes from the New Zealand Company onwards, but equally well considered are records of naturalisation, the returns of notices of intention to marry, coroners’ inquest records and those of some forms of military service. Most of these have the inestimable benefit of nominal card indexes compiled by National Archives project workers and genealogical volunteers. Less well known but of almost equal interest are the various estate records (succession, legacy, residuary duty, and testamentary registers) covering the period 1867 to 1963. Even more unfamiliar but holding out interesting prospects for the experienced and patient searcher are the annual returns of friendly societies, or, more arcane still, the lists of proposed members of rifle clubs. The horizons in all but one direction, the appalling and lamentable destruction of census records to 1961, are limitless.

In every case information on access is usefully highlighted by italicized entries in boxes, and a number of search process diagrams are provided, enabling the lone searcher to progress much further without staff assistance than was previously possible. And many entries are visually and intellectually enhanced by the inclusion of photographs of key document examples, though a number suffer from over-reduction.

Some major groups of archives, however, are less firmly treated. Chief amongst these are the extensive and complex district records of the Lands and Survey Department, post New Zealand Company, and Wardens Court records relating to the goldfields; these must merit more expanded and detailed description in a future edition than they receive here. Indeed it is a natural and noticeable characteristic of the descriptions that head office records held in Wellington are given the most thorough consideration, while district office records, particularly if held outside the Wellington office, are much more sketchily treated. For instance, it would be well worth knowing and quite easy to include information on the composition, date range, and place of holding of the archives of the individual Wardens Courts - those from Thames at the Auckland regional office, from Nelson and the West Coast at the Wellington office,
Archifacts

and from Otago at the Hocken Library in Dunedin. And, unaccountably, information on service in the employment of the provincial governments, 1853-76, is omitted altogether, though central government employment gets very good coverage. Some other suggestions for a future edition are: AJHR references, of which there are many, should include the shoulder numbers to facilitate access; the general utility of the work would be enhanced by greater willingness to specify exactly in all cases the particular series referred to, together with its reference code; and finally there must be an index. How else might one expect to find the reference to the register of barmaids in the box at the foot of page 102?

Physically the volume is exceptionally well designed and produced. The print is clear and black, and does not run close to the page margins; the photographs are finely detailed; and the sewn section binding has the double advantage of keeping the pages secure while allowing the book to open easily.

Overall, Family History at National Archives is a tremendous achievement, a work of great service. All criticism is offered for improvement in the hope that Family History will run to many future editions, as it deserves to do. And it is a challenge to other archives and libraries with major New Zealand collections to produce similarly. National Archives has now shown that it, at least, knows which side its bread is buttered on.

S.R. Strachan
Hocken Library


In New Zealand the organized collection of oral history is less than a decade old. The Oral History Archive Trust was established as recently as 1982, while the National Oral History Association of New Zealand (NOHANZ) dates back to 1986. Growth, however, has been rapid, and in the techniques of processing and making available oral history New Zealand is in advance of some older overseas collections. A major repository, the Alexander Turnbull Library, holds more than 4000 unpublished spoken recordings, while other collections are held in a score of libraries and other institutions.

NOHANZ has held conferences, produces a quarterly newsletter, is conducting an ongoing national survey of oral history holdings, and publishes annual collections of conference and other papers, of which this is the second in the series.

The papers are written mainly from a New Zealand viewpoint, but two valuable articles are provided by guest speakers to the 1989 conference, Dr Alferdeen Harrison and Professor Bill Ellis, a visiting fellow at Massey University.
Reviews

Oral history theory and issues are dealt with in depth, usually with examples drawn from large-scale, professionally run oral history projects. The general focus is on the uses and ethics of oral history.

In a culture where, despite technological advances, the written word still occupies pride of place, aural (and visual) history has a need to justify itself as valid historical evidence. While the usefulness of the tape recorder in making available the experiences of those who do not appear in the written record, and those in whose own cultural history the written record does not feature large, is conceded by most historians, there are still criticisms that recording is by its nature unselective, and that partial and inaccurate memories are accepted as the truth.

Despite their commitment to oral history, contributors do recognize that these accusations have some validity. Hirini Moko Mead gives a good example of a case in which written evidence was available to disprove oral evidence concerning Maori land sales. On the other hand, accounts by Marie Burgess and Lynley Hood of their oral history projects on nursing between the wars and early life on the Wanganui River, show how oral history interviews can provide information about the effect of events and society on people which would not have been put down on paper.

The psychological and myth-creating aspects of memory are also considered. Psychologist John McDowall explains how elderly people often recall accurately events remote in time, while Dr Harrison discusses how memory may merge with a Volkgeist in which oppressed groups can find a cultural heritage. The implication of the Volkgeist being able to create rather than recover a heritage, as happened in Germany, however, is not followed through. The memory of the myth may be as informative as written accounts of 'what really happened'.

The consensus of the contributors is that both oral and written sources of information should be used to check or reinforce each other.

The ethics of oral history interviewing have also been a preoccupation of oral historians. The spoken word is more personal than the written document. This is even more the case for an oral society, such as that of the Maori. A code of ethics has been drawn up by the largest collector of spoken and sung Maori, the Archive of Maori and Pacific Island Music at the University of Auckland. A successful balance appears to have been struck between respect for the wishes of the producers of the music and the duty to provide information for research and for the benefit of the culture itself. NOHANZ has produced its own Code of Ethics for oral history collectors, which, however, has yet to be tested.

The assumption by all the authors that the basic techniques of oral history interviewing and recording will be generally known by readers of these papers is possibly wrong. The novice in oral history expecting a 'how to' manual will be disappointed; given that New Zealand has evolved a set of interviewing and processing techniques somewhat different from those of other countries, there is a need for a comprehensive practical manual for local conditions.
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As is inevitable with such collections, the papers vary in quality. However, for the experienced oral history collector, and for those interested in the problems of oral history practice and interpretation, these papers will be both informative and thought-provoking.

Tim Lovell-Smith
Wellington
Letters to the Editor

From Garry J. Tee:

Brian Hooker, in his article on 'Early New Zealand Coastal Views by John Rodolphus Kent' (Archifacts, October 1990, 17-20) lists 16 coastal views of New Zealand, drawn by Kent in 1823 and 1824, which are preserved in the archives at the Hydrographic Department, Taunton, Somerset. He mentions that 'Kent made a number of further voyages to New Zealand before settling at Kawhia'.

In 1826, Kent brought a sealing gang from Sydney to the South Island. That gang included John Boultbee, who was almost certainly the only educated man ever to work in a sealing gang. His remarkable journal has been edited by June Starke, as Journal of a Rambler: The Journal of John Boultbee, OUP, Auckland, 1986. An earlier account of Boultbee was written by A.C. Begg & N.C. Begg: The World of John Boultbee, Whitcoulls, Christchurch, 1979. The Begg brothers published 8 of Kent's coastal views of southern New Zealand as illustrations in their book.

Yours sincerely,
Garry J. Tee
Department of Mathematics & Statistics,
University of Auckland.
30 October 1990
Accessions

Alexander Turnbull Library

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, NEW ZEALAND. Records, c.1978-1988. 2m. 
Restricted.

ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS. Records, c.1865-1873. 3m.


BOYACK, NICHOLAS. Research papers relating to World War I executions. 
7 folders. Restricted.

BRICKELL, DENNIS RICKMAN. War diaries and related papers, 1914-1943. 
2 folders.

BURT, WILLIAM BEVERLAND. Further papers relating to the Chatham 
Islands, 1945-1989. 30cm.

CHRISTCHURCH COOPERATIVE BOOK SOCIETY. Minute books, 1938- 
1971. 4v.

CHUNG, DORIS. Records of the Chee Kung Tong (CKT), c.1920-1950. 4m.

COLENSO, WILLIAM. Correspondence between Colenso, James Busby, Allen 
Cunningham and Phillip Parker King, 1839-1940. 2 folders.

COLENSO FAMILY. Papers, 1840-1899. 6 folders.

COMUNNGAIDHEALACH, WELLINGTON [Wellington Gaelic club]. Minute 
books, 1930-1986. 7v.


4 folders. [Dawe served in the New Zealand Army in Vietnam.]

DOMINION FEDERATION OFTOWNSWOMEN'S GUILDS. Further records, 
1938-1989. 30cm.

DOUGLAS, ROGER. Further papers, 1982-1990. 26m. Restricted.

EDMOND, LAURIS. Letters from Frank Sargeson, 1975. 1 folder.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND. Records, 1951-1990. 0.6m.

EVANS, EYRE FREDERICK FITZGEORGE. Shipboard diary, 1866. 2 folders.

EVANS, MAJOR JAMES. War diaries, 1916-1919. 3v.

FEDERATED FARMERS OF NEW ZEALAND. Records, c.1929-1989. 10m. 
Restricted.

FINDLAY, MARY CATHERINE HOWARD. Papers relating to Tooth and Nail 
and other writings, c.1974-1989. 7 folders.

FLEMING, SIR CHARLES. Further papers: Letters from H. Guthrie Wilson, 
1937-1939. 1 folder.

GAIR, GEORGE. Further papers, 1984-1990. 16.6m. Restricted.

HARSANT, FLORENCE. Papers, c.1919-1979. 30cm.

HENDERSON, JIM. Further papers, c.1945-1990. 3 folders.

HUNT, JONATHAN. Further papers, 1984-1990. 3.6m. Restricted.

INSURANCE COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND. Records, 1869-1982. 5m.

JACKSON, GEORGE. Papers relating to his political activity in the New Zealand 
Communist Party, Socialist Unity Party, and the Spanish Medical Aid 
Committee, 1920-1989. 6.3m. Restricted.
Accessions

KIDMAN, FIONA. Further papers, c.1987-1990. 10cm.
KNIGHT, CHARLES PRENDERGRAST. Farm diaries and papers, mostly for Wairarapa stations, 1892-1934. 10cm.
LINDAUER, GOTTFRIED. Notebook and accompanying notes, 1874-1888. 1 folder.
LOCHORE, R.A. Papers, 1928-1986. 3.1m. [Lochore was a public servant in charge of alien immigration after World War II.]
MCCAULEY, SAMUEL. Shipboard diary, 1879. 1 folder.
MCDONALD, HUGH GEORGE BROWN. War diaries, 1916-1918. 3 folders. Photocopies. [McDonald was in the 19th New Zealand Medical Corps.]
MCLAREN, DUGALD. Shipboard diary, 1864. 1v.
MANAWATU FLAXMILLS EMPLOYEES INDUSTRIAL UNION OF WORKERS. Membership registers, 1915-1937. 2 microfilm reels.
MILLER, SIR HOLMES. Papers, c.1950-1990. 5m. Restricted.
NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF WATERFRONT EMPLOYERS. Further records, c.1952-1989. 20.6m.
NEW ZEALAND CATCHMENT AUTHORITIES ASSOCIATION. Further records, c.1975-1990. 2m. Restricted.
NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN. Further records, 1921-1988. 1m. Restricted.
NEW ZEALAND RAILWAY OFFICERS' INSTITUTE. Records, 1883-1980. 5m. Restricted.
NEW ZEALAND WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION. Records, c.1915-1981. 2m.
O'CONNELL, THERESE. Papers relating to trade union, women's movement and other political activity, c.1975-1988. 3.3m. Restricted.
PEARCE, ARTHUR. Papers relating to jazz career, the Star Boating Club and Wellington businesses, c.1854-1990. 0.6m.
PEARCE, CHARLTON. Shipboard diary, 1894. 1 folder.
PEARSON, BILL. Further papers, c.1950-1990. 1m. Restricted.
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND. WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY AND WAIRARAPA UNION DISTRICT. Records, 1888-1961. 3m. Restricted.
RAINBOW, WILLIAM. Shipboard diary, 1879-1980. 1 folder.
REEVE, FREDERICK ALFRED. Papers relating to his prisoner of war experiences, 1940-1946. 10cm.
RICHARDS, LLEWELLYN. Papers relating to work with the National Consultative Committee on Disarmament, 1976-1990. 0.6cm.
RIDDIFORD FAMILY. Farm diaries and family correspondence, c.1920-1960. 5m. Restricted.
RING, JAMES. Shipboard diary, 1879. 1v.
TAYLOR, ARTHUR TATLOW. Papers relating to the 1951 waterfront strike, c.1921-1966. 30cm. [Taylor was secretary for the National Strike Committee of the Freezing Workers' Union.]
VAUGHAN, DONALD LESLIE. Paper on World War II coast watching radio stations in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, 1990. 1v. [Vaughan was officer-in-charge at Funafuti.]
AGNEW, ANNABEL. Papers relating to the Keeling family, c.1820-c.1989. 5 boxes.

ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS. AUCKLAND DISTRICT. Records, 1921-1980. 2 boxes.

ARTHUR YATES AND COMPANY. Records, 1882-1980. 6m.

AUCKLAND GAS COMPANY. Records, 1863-1987. 11m.

AUCKLAND MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION. Records, 1898-1982. 2.5m.

AUCKLAND SAVAGE CLUB. Records, 1888-1979. 5 boxes.


COLONIAL AMMUNITION COMPANY. Records, 1859-1981. 5m. Restricted.

EADIE, FORBES. Troopships engaged in the Maori Wars, 1840-1865; in the South African War, 1899-1902; in the Great War, 1914-1918. 18p.

FARMER'S TRADING COMPANY. Records, 1909-1987. 6m.

GORDON, COLIN. Papers relating to World War I, 1915-1918. 2v.

HAKUENE, TAMATI. Papers, 1897-1918. 7v. and 1 folder. [Includes transcripts of Maori Land Court Sittings at Kororareka, 1898 and Russell, 1901.]

HAMILTON, HAROLD. Biological diary, season 1912, Macquarie Island. lv.

KAMIRA, HIMIONA, ca.1873-1953. Notebooks, 12v. Restricted. (On deposit.)

LAW, JOSEPH. Papers relating to World War I, 1914-1917. 6 items. [Trooper Law, Auckland Mounted Rifles, INZEF, served at Gallipoli.]

NEW ZEALAND NATIVE LAND SETTLEMENT COMPANY. Minutebook, 1881-1905. lv.

ONEHUNGA PERPETUAL BUILDING SOCIETY. Records, 1874-1975. 2.2m.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND. NORTHLAND UNION DISTRICT. Presbytery and parish records, 1860-1880. 13m. (With those Presbyteries below.) (On deposit.)

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND. PRESBYTERY OF AUCKLAND. Presbytery and parish records, 1849-. (On deposit.)

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND. PRESBYTERY OF NORTH SHORE. Presbytery and parish records, 1857. (On deposit.)

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW ZEALAND. PRESBYTERY OF SOUTH AUCKLAND. Presbytery and parish records, 1913-. (On deposit.)

PURVES, NORMAN. 'Getfellin: a matelot's oddity', by Rankin File. 1950s. 93p. [Reminiscences of career in R.N. spanning 26 years.]


WILSON, HAROLD. Diaries, 1 Dec 1941-28 Mar 1945. 2v. [Diaries as a prisoner of war, Campo Concentramento U.P.G. No. 38, Italy.]

Amended entry.


AMODEO, COLIN. 'A Guide to the List of Early Canterbury Shipowners', research notes. 2 file drawers, 1 box.
Accessions

ANDREWS AND BEAVAN. Further records. 8m. Restricted. [A firm of engineers.]
BAXTER, JAMES MCCULLY. Diary on Roman Emperor, 1859. 1 folder.
BOTTLE, H. Diary on Himalaya, 1879. Typescript. 1 folder.
BUTTON, BENJAMIN. Papers, 1850s-1880s, includes diary on Egmont, 1856. 1 box.
CAMBRIAN SOCIETY. Records, c.1919-1960. 3 boxes.
CANTERBURY MAORI STUDIES ASSOCIATION. Records, 1985-1989. 1m.
CHRISTCHURCH HARMONIC SOCIETY. Records, c.1880-1980. 8m. Access subject to sorting.
CLARIDGE, MRS. Letters written by Joseph Andrews and family to mother in England, from Christchurch, 1860s. 1 folder.
GRESSON FAMILY. Papers including 6 diaries written by Fanny Beatty, 1868-1890. 3 boxes.
HANDISIDES, DAVID. Diary on Northern Monarch, 1878.
HARRIS, REEVES. Papers, including records relating to NZ Broadcasting, Commonwealth Games, 1960-1974. 34 boxes.
HAY FAMILY. Letters written by the Hay family of Pigeon Bay to family in England, 1840s. 1 folder.
HEMPTON, JAMES. Diary on Piako, 1878. 1 folder.
HILLARY AND BAXTER. Records of real estate business, 1903-1970. 3m.
LOYAL PERSEVERANCE AND PHILLIPSTOWN LODGES. Records, 1872-1879. 5m.
MALVERN GLIDING CLUB. Records, 1958-90. 1 box.
MARIST AND XAVIER COLLEGE. Records, 1888-1985. 2m.
MILNE, FRANCIS. Diary on board Dunedin, 1874. 1 folder.
PARA RUBBER LTD. Records. 5m. Access subject to sorting.
PERKINS, WILLIAM. Diary written as crew member on Clontarf, 1859. 1 folder.
WILSON, SIR JOHN CRACROFT. Papers mainly relating to land, some political. 5 boxes. Access subject to sorting.
WOODS, WILLIAM. Diary on board Northampton, 1874. 1 folder.

Eltham and Districts Historical Society

METHODIST CHURCH OF ELTHAM. Christening records, 1902-1983. 4v.

National Archives. Northern Regional Office, Auckland

ALLENDALE GIRLS' HOME, AUCKLAND. Admission and discharge registers, diaries, manuals and reports, 1910-1986. Access subject to sorting.
ARAPOHUE SCHOOL. Admission registers, 1937-1962. 10cm.
BEACH HAVEN SCHOOL. Admission registers, 1960-1982. 0.5m.
BERESFORD STREET SCHOOL. Admission registers, 1895-1964, and other school records. Access subject to sorting.
CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT, ROTORUA. Former New Zealand Forest Service and Lands and Survey Department, Rotorua files, 1934-1967. 33m.
CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, AUCKLAND. Shipping registers, 1842-1875, includes ships register of owners, Russell, and registers of Transactions. 2m.
Archifacts

DEPARTMENT OF SURVEY AND LAND INFORMATION, HAMILTON. Lease and license files, 1903-1989.

EDUCATION BOARD RESIDUAL MANAGEMENT UNIT, AUCKLAND.
Accommodation, site and residence files, c.1880-1985. 210m.

EDUCATION BOARD, HAMILTON. School and Board records relating to some 70 closed schools, c.1875-1980.

FREEMANS BAY SCHOOL. Admission registers, 1888-1977, and other school records and photographs. [Previously known as Napier Street school.]

HELENSVILLE SCHOOL. Admission registers, 1882-1964.

HIGH COURT, GISBORNE. Probates, actions, divorces, and civil record books, 1879-1973. 78m.

IWII TRANSITION AGENCY, AUCKLAND. Ex Maori Affairs, community, welfare, housing, trustee, and administrative files, 1921-1988.

MINISTRYOF TRANSPORT, WHANGAREI. Boiler registers, 1916-1930. 0.5m.


MOEREWA SCHOOL, NORTHLAND. Admission registers, 1913-1970, also includes Waipuna school.

NEWTON CENTRAL SCHOOL. Admission registers, 1878-1977, and other school records (includes records of Newton East and Newton West Schools).


NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS AREA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE. Railways building, bridge, siding and signal files, 1891-1989. 46m.

PHOSPHATE COMMISSION OF NEW ZEALAND. Reports, statistical summaries and photographs relating to Christmas and Ocean Islands and Nauru, 1935-1985. 30cm.

PURIRI SCHOOL, THAMES. Admission registers, 1878-1972.

RAIL NET, AUCKLAND. Former Railways Department plans and plan registers.

SCHOOL OF NURSING, AUCKLAND. Minutebooks, correspondence, photographs, and roll of pupils. 11m.


National Archives. Southern Regional Office, Christchurch

CANTERBURY EDUCATION BOARD, RESIDUAL MANAGEMENT UNIT. Registered files, current administrative files. 6.9m. Westland Education Board material, salary cards, school admission registers. 2m. West Coast Education Board material, closed schools' records. 13.1m

CANTERBURY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT. Archives, 1853-1877.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION, CHRISTCHURCH REGIONAL OFFICE. Files on Geophysical Observatory, Apia, Western Samoa. 1m.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE. Registered files from the Child Welfare Office. 30cm.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL OFFICE, RESIDUAL MANAGEMENT UNIT. Registered files, microfiche, index cards. 65m. Registered files of SRO. 8m.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS, CHRISTCHURCH REGIONAL OFFICE. War graves registers. 1m.
Accessions

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, CHRISTCHURCH LAND REGISTRY. Duplicate certificates of title. 16.6m. Discharged mortgages.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH, CHRISTCHURCH. Technical, production and client files.

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY, CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT OFFICE. Records, including shipping papers of the Canterbury Association.


LAND CORPORATION, CHRISTCHURCH BRANCH. Lease and license files of closed and freehold land, 1890-1980. 22.2m.

MAORI LAND COURT, CHRISTCHURCH. Alienation files, 1955-1970s. 25.4m.

MINISTRY OF CIVIL DEFENCE. Registered files and records. 3.3m.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CHRISTCHURCH. Registered files of Trade and Industry. 15.3m.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, ROYAL NEW ZEALAND ARTILLERY, 3RD FIELD REGIMENT. Registered files, unit histories, photographs. 1.6m.

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND AIR FORCE. Registered correspondence files, 1980s. 1m.

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, CHRISTCHURCH REGIONAL OFFICE. Minute book of the New Zealand Traffic and Transport Officers' Guild (Inc.), Canterbury district. 30cm.

NEW ZEALAND FIRE SERVICE. Records of Service and of Metropolitan Fire Board material. 12.3m.

NEW ZEALAND FORESTRY CORPORATION, NEW ZEALAND TIMBERLANDS LTD, AORANGI DISTRICT. Registered files and diaries. 10m. TIMBERLANDS, CANTERBURY LTD. Registered files of Ashley, Balmoral, Hamner and Eyrewill, the Conservancy and draughting office. 13m.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS CORPORATION, RAILWAYS FREIGHT SYSTEM, REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION, CHRISTCHURCH. Registered files: area administration. 43.3m. Registered files: district mechanical engineer. 9.3m. Registered files: district traffic manager. 8.3m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT, CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. Incident and offence files, 1972-1985. 11.6m.

INVERCARGILL DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. Serious crime files, 1981-1985. 3m. Files, 1979-1982. 1m.

TIMARU DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. Incident and offence files, 1983. Administration and miscellaneous files, 1984. 0.6m.

ST MATTHEW'S PARISH, ST ALBANS, CHRISTCHURCH. School records for St Matthew's Victory Memorial School. 2.5m.

VALUATION DEPARTMENT, DUNEDIN DISTRICT OFFICE. Valuation rolls. 12m.

National Archives, Wellington

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND BANK. Postbank ledgers. 3m.

BIRCH, BILL. Political papers. 27.3m. Restricted.

BOLGER, JIM. Political papers. Restricted.

BURKE, SIR KERRY. Political papers, 1984-1990. 8.3m. Restricted.

BUTCHER, DAVID. Political papers. 26m. Restricted.
Archifacts

CABINET OFFICE. Cabinet meeting files. 200m. Restricted.
CLARKE, HELEN. Political papers. 71.6m. Restricted.
CULLEN, MICHAEL. Political papers, 1983-1989. 5.6m. Restricted.
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CENTRAL REGIONAL OFFICE. Records. 3m. Restricted.
LITERARY FUND. Meeting papers, 1970-1980. 1m.
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LEVIN DISTRICT COURT. Sample criminal/MOT files. 30cm. Restricted.
TRIBUNALS DIVISION. Town and Country Planning Records. 16m. Restricted.
WELLINGTON DISTRICT COURT. Records, registers, assorted volumes. 24m.
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR. HEAD OFFICE. Conscientious objectors files. 19m. Restricted.
DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEY. Lease and licence files, 1862-1990. 20m. Restricted.
DEPARTMENT OF MAORI AFFAIRS. MNS files. 7.9m. Restricted.
DSIR, OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE. NRAC working papers. 1m.
DEPARTMENT OF SURVEY AND LAND INFORMATION, WELLINGTON DISTRICT OFFICE. Plan record sheets, index plans. 101 plans.
DUNNE, PETER. Political papers. 17m. Restricted.
FALLOON, JOHN. Political papers. 9.6m. Restricted.
FERNER GALLERY. Artwork.
FILM CENSOR’S OFFICE. Film posters and assorted records, 1932-1985. 13m.
GOFF, PHIL. Political papers, 1978-1990. 59.6m. Restricted.
GOVERNMENT SUPPLY CORPORATION. Ledgers, 1922-1932. 3m.
GREGORY, BRUCE. Political papers. 15m. Restricted.
HAWKES BAY EDUCATION BOARD. Files.
HAWKES BAY EDUCATION BOARD. RESIDUAL MANAGEMENT UNIT. Assorted records.
JEFFERIES, BILL. Political papers, 1983-1990. 20.6m. Restricted.
KING, ANNETTE. Political papers. 32.3m. Restricted.
LABOUR PARTY. Caucus minute books. Restricted.
LANGE, DAVID. Political papers, 1974-1989. 30.6m. Restricted.
LEE, GRAEME. Political papers, 1983-1990. 17.3m. Restricted.
MCLEAN, IAN. Political papers. 9.6m. Restricted.
MATHEWSON, CLIVE. Political papers, 1990. 12m. Restricted.
Accessions

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, HASTINGS. Films. 3 reels.

MINISTRY OF CIVIL DEFENCE. Films. 12 reels.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE. New Zealand Milk Board files. 15.6m.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. ARMY, HQ NZFORSEA. Singapore registered files. 33m.
28 (MAORI) BATTALION. Personal files. 12.3m. Restricted.
RNZIR Commanders' diaries. 8.6m.
RNZ Signals Corp., unit histories 1975-1986. 3m.
Queen's Guard, Government House. 10cm.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, NELSON DISTRICT OFFICE. Plans; Wellington Education Board. 85 folders.

MINISTRY OF WORKS. Films.
M ASTERTON. Registered files. 1.3m.
WORKSCORP. Plans, documents relating to Beehive, plans for old wooden Government Buildings, 1960-.
NAPIER. MNS files.

MOORE, MIKE. Political papers, 1988-1990. 40.6m. Restricted.
MULDOON, ROBERT. Political papers. 122m. Restricted.

NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL. Meeting papers, publications, reports, correspondence. 1.6m.

NEILSON, PETER. Political papers. 99m. Restricted.
NEW ZEALAND POST LTD. Electoral rolls, 1986-1990. 5m.
NEW ZEALAND RAIL, RAILFREIGHT SYSTEMS. Staff registers.
PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY. Encyclopedia of New Zealand material.
PETERS, WINSTON. Political papers. 10.3m. Restricted.

POLICE DEPARTMENT, HUTT DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS. National Headquarters and MNS files. 4m. Restricted.
PREBBLE, RICHARD. Political papers. SOE unit. 10.3m. Restricted.
RAILWAYS CORPORATION, GROUP ACCOUNTING. North Island Main Trunkline videos, photographs. 3.1m.
PROPERTIES. Plans, files, legal agreements.

SCHOOL OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, 1973-1989 Records. 2.1m.
SHELDS, MARGARET. Political papers, 1984-1990. 7.2m. Restricted.
SHIRLEY, KEN. Political papers, 1984-1990. 2m. Restricted.
STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND. Standards publications, 1989-1990. 6m.

STATE INSURANCE OFFICE. Files.
STATE SERVICES COMMISSION. 30 films. MNS files. 148.6m. Restricted.
SUTTON, JIM. Political papers, 1987-1990. 21m. Restricted.
TAPSELL, PETER. Political papers, 1984-1989. 20m. Restricted.

TE ARO SCHOOL. Records. 3m.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES LTD. Telephone directories and Yellow Pages, 1989-1990. 1m.

TIMBERLANDS, HAWKES BAY. New Zealand Forest Service files.
NELSON DISTRICT. New Zealand Forest Service MNS files and records.

TIZARD, BOB. Political papers. 22.6m. Restricted.

TOURIST AND PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT. MNS files. 10cm.

UPTON, SIMON. Political papers, 1984-1989. 5.6m. Restricted.

VALUATION NEW ZEALAND. Valuation rolls.

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Archifacts

University of Waikato Library

SEYMOUR, ROSEMARY. Personal and academic papers, c.1960-c.1984. 22m. 
Access by appointment.
WHITTLESTONE, WALTER GEORGE (WATTY). Personal and scientific papers, 1912-85. 18.1m. Access by appointment.

Victoria University Library

RICHARDSON, PROFESSOR L.R. Scientific papers. 3.1m. Partial restriction.

Wairarapa Archive

MASTERTON AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL ASSOCIATION. Records, 1885-1986. 3m.
MASTERTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY. Records, 1935-1966. 3m.
WAINGAWA FREEZING WORKS. Records, 1900-1989. 10m.
WAIRARAPA RETURNED SERVICES ASSOCIATION. Records, 1916-1990. 1m.
W. BURRIDGE AND SON (EAGLE BREWERY). Records, 1902-1953. [Chiefly accounts and brewers' books.] 0.5m.
Council notes

Meeting of May 1990

1. A submission for the review of the Antiquities Act is being prepared.
2. Bruce Symondson will attend a meeting of the Joint Advisory Committee on Librarianship to promote the need for archives as well as records management training in the librarianship course.
A group will work and report on education and training needs for information management, archives and records management in New Zealand, and will also consider a comprehensive training review.
3. Meryl Lowrie will relinquish her post of Membership Secretary at the end of May. A replacement is being sought. Our thanks to Meryl for her work.
4. Newsletters will be produced in July and October 1990. The second issue of Archifacts will appear in October. Despatch dates for next year's issues of both publications are being reviewed.
5. An executive committee based in Wellington, and consisting of the two Vice-Presidents and up to three co-optees, will oversee the carrying out of Council decisions, and investigate the functioning and operation of Council business.
6. A letter supporting the establishment of a National Archives regional repository in Dunedin has been sent to the Minister of Internal Affairs.
7. David Thomson, Palmerston North, has agreed to fill the vacancy on Council left by the resignation of Susan Skudder. The first opportunity for people to see the refurbishment taking shape will be in September/October this year when the Constitution Room is to be open for six weeks.

Constitutional Review

Council has appointed a working party convened by Kathryn Patterson to consider the Constitution in the light of the events which gave rise to the Special General Meeting in May 1989 and the concerns expressed at that meeting and at the AGM in November 1989.

The members of the Working Party are Ian Wards (Life Member, ARANZ), Don Jamieson (Council), Stuart Strachan (Hocken Librarian), Peter Miller (Archivist, Hocken Library), Jim Traue (Chief Librarian, Turnbull Library), and Ken Scadden (National Archives). Kay Smith is compiling the terms of reference.

Any member of ARANZ who wishes to make a submission to the Working Party should address it to Constitutional Review P.O. Box 11-553, Manners Street, Wellington to arrive by the end of June 1990. All submissions will be given serious consideration.

Copies of the Constitution are available from Sheryl Morgan, Hon Secretary, ARANZ, Massey University Library, Massey University, Palmerston North or from the Secretary of your local branch of ARANZ. Kathryn Patterson

1990 ARANZ Conference,
Auckland University, Friday 16 November to Sunday 18 November, 1990.
Registration: $50.00
Accommodation: (O'Rorkes Hall) $50 per night including breakfast and GST.
Meals: Approximately $25 per day including morning and afternoon teas.
Note: These will be maximum costs, every endeavour will be made to achieve lower actual costs.

Bruce Symondson, President

Archives House, Wellington

Since the last newsletter there has been substantial progress in the refurbishment of the former Government Printing Office building in Mulgrave Street, Wellington, as the headquarters for National Archives. Layout and architectural design is now finished for the floors to be occupied initially, and full working drawings are just a week or two away from completion. Formal registration has been sought through the press from firms interested in providing the various services required by the refurbishment.

Alan Smith has ended his term of secondment from the National Library but Desmond Brice continues to provide part-time active project management guidance. Together they identified and costed the resource implications of some 35 tasks which are related to the move, and then assisted the in-house Building Project Group to determine priorities.

The first opportunity for people to see the refurbishment taking shape will be in September/October this year when the Constitution Room is to be open for six weeks. On display will be a range of documents on constitutional themes including all the sheets of the Treaty of Waitangi. (The Treaty was last on public display in 1978).

Michael Hodder

Subscriptions

ARANZ subscriptions for the year 1 April 1990 to 31 March 1991 are now due and renewal forms are enclosed with this newsletter. Prompt payment would be very much appreciated.

Did you miss the October 1989 and the recently published April 1990 Archifacts? Could it be that we have not received your sub for 1989-90? Because we feel that some members may have overlooked paying their 1989 subscription, or perhaps did not receive a renewal notice, the mailing list for this newsletter will again include 1988 members who did not renew their membership in 1989. This is ABSOLUTELY the LAST mailing to non-current members. A black cross on your label indicates that your membership is in arrears. PLEASE CHECK YOUR LABEL NOW.
Records Management update

The Records Management Group, formed in November 1986 under the auspices of ARANZ, has flourished and is applying for registration as an incorporated society under the title of Records Management Association of New Zealand, RMANZ. It meets every two months.

Last year's ARANZ conference was preceded by a meeting with Peter Smith, President, International Records Management Council who talked on training available through the TAFE College in Newcastle, Australia. Mr Smith was instrumental in the design of the course and is one of the primary lecturers. It is hoped that something similar might be developed for New Zealand.

November 1988 saw, within four days of each other, the establishment of two chapters of the Association of Records Managers and Administrators - ARMA International. The Auckland chapter meets monthly while the Wellington chapter meets every two months. Membership is increasing and each now has a sister chapter affiliation with specific chapters in the United States which permits a beneficial exchange of ideas, publications and newsletters. The Wellington chapter hosted several overseas guests recently who have talked of their situation, systems and procedures. The Auckland chapter, has already held a number of workshops and has more programmed for later in the year.

The 35th annual ARMA conference is to be held in San Francisco in November with the theme "Get on the right track in records and information management." It is hoped that as many employers as possible will support attendance at this event. - Alison Frazer

National Mutual Archives closed

National Mutual closed their archives in November 1989 because "they were not financially viable", according to the public relations division of the company. At the time the company was spread around 15 locations in Wellington and the building in which the archives were "identified, catalogued and displayed" also due for demolition. The documents remain in company storage pending "more affluent times and a more buoyant economy". Part time archivist Alf Richards has retired.

BNZ Museum closed

The Bank of New Zealand, Wellington closed their museum in May to the public as part of their stringent policy of reducing costs on all non-call or non-banking business activities. It is believed that the items will be maintained on the premises for the moment. The bank's archival programme will continue with enquiries to be directed to Robin Griffin.

Hocken on the move

Over the summer of 1989/90 the Hocken Library shifted about 2000 metres of archives from the medical library into their building at 137 Leith Street. These premises were acquired to relieve problems in the Castle Street building which had resulted in archives being stored at a number of locations including the medical library. The move followed a similar effort the previous summer. However during 1989 the library acquired a further 400 linear metres of accessions and is now again short of space. They are making representations to National Archives and to the Minister of Internal Affairs for assistance to relieve accommodation problems with respect to the public archives, of which they hold some 1500 linear metres.

Architectural Archives Committee changes name

The New Zealand Architectural Archives Committee now has two extra words in its title - "and technological". It now becomes the New Zealand Architectural and Technological Archives Committee. This formally extends their area of interest to non-architectural drawings.

Westpac Banking Corporation News

As a sesquicentennial project, staff at the Westpac Banking Corporation Archives spent several months designing and compiling educational displays for each of its seven regions. The free standing panels depicted local events and bank events which occurred about the same time, from 1861 when the bank opened in New Zealand until the present day. Selected branches throughout New Zealand hosted the displays for a fortnight each, from January until the end of May. Colourful A3 folded leaflets featured information contained on the panels and were distributed from all branches and have since been made available to schools, libraries, and museums. Claire Dawe from Westpac Archives was most appreciative of the generous assistance received from archives and museums' photographic collections from all over New Zealand for this project.

Wairarapa Polytechnic Course

The Wairarapa Community Polytechnic is planning several short courses for 1990 in preparation for a modular course for 1991, at the end of which, participants will be eligible for a certificate. Some of this year's short courses are in cooperation with the Records Management Branch of National Archives and some are independent.

Short courses for 1990 are: An introduction to archives for local bodies; Implementing the schedule; Records management, a block course on any one aspect; An introduction to archives, a weekend interest course to be run by ARANZ. More details will be available shortly from Alison Clark, Short Course Enterprise Unit Manager, Wairarapa Community Polytechnic P Box 698, Masterton Phone (059) 85029.

NZI archives closing

New Zealand Insurance, which is part of NZI Corporation, as is South British Insurance, will not be continuing with their Archive Programme. Advised on April 4, archivist Gail Hamblen is operating in a residual management capacity for five months to organise the transfer of records to an alternative depository. Although the Auckland Regional Archives Trust has a policy to cover such records, space is currently at a premium and temporary storage, with access, is likely to be negotiated.

NZI archives closed

The next newsletter is scheduled for publication on Wednesday, 18 July, 1990. The deadline for copy with a contact name, address and telephone number, is Wednesday 4 July. Items should be posted to P.O. Box 11-553, Manners Street, Wellington or faxed to Wellington (04) 791.185.
Branch news

AUCKLAND

Auckland held their annual general meeting on April 24 at Ewelme House. Former vice-chairperson Norelle Scollay, Archivist at National Archives, has been appointed the new chairperson with Janet Foster as immediate past chairperson. Jeannette Muggeridge stays on as secretary with Gail Hamlyn as treasurer. Jocelyn Hicks, a lecturer at Auckland Diocesan School who is in charge of the archives has also been appointed. Mark Stoddart, Jan Gow, Peter Hughes and Bruce Symondson are all ex officio members of the committee. Kevin McNulty, a genealogist and Sister Veronica de Laney, archivist at St. Mary’s Convent, Sisters of Mercy have resigned. The speaker at the annual general meeting was John Webster, curator at Ewelme, the former home of the Lush family. He spoke on their archival collection.

In February the branch joined with members of the library association to hear Dr Man-Ying Ip, lecturer of the department of Asian Languages and Literature and author of the recently published Home Away from Home, life stories of Chinese women in New Zealand and Megan Hutching, of the oral history programme at the Auckland Public Library. The two day workshop held in February with the schools was fully attended by 20 teachers responsible for archives, various archivists, librarians, and some board members. The first day, co-ordinated by Ray and Pauline Hogg was held at Kings College and the second, co-ordinated by Mark Stoddart and Norelle Scollay, was held at National Archives where a session on conservation was also presented by Roseann Orangue. There is likely to be a further day meeting sometime later in the year probably at St. Cuthberts. It will cover photographic records.

Canterbury/Westland

Canterbury/Westland’s “co-operative committee” report two changes in their membership; Philippa Fogerty from National Archives has replaced Carolyn Etherington who has gone overseas and Jane Davies, who works with Anglican archives and the Lyttelton Borough Archives, has replaced Linda Rimmer from the Drainage Board. Jo-Anne Smith, archivist with the Canterbury Museum is co-ordinating an Oral History Project at the Museum using two restart workers from the New Zealand Employment Service Restart Programme. The first of the two to be appointed is Robyn Mason formerly a Heydon Research interviewer. Former staff from the Museum will be the first target followed by current staff and then people associated with various collections held by the museum. An Oral History Archives Workshop, to be conducted by Hugo Manse and Judith Fyfe, is planned on 14 May. Five staff members from the Museum and 15 others from small museums and historical societies have enrolled in the course and it is hoped that they will initiate their own projects to supplement existing collections. Manuscripts staff at Canterbury Museum hope to publish a catalogue of manuscripts and other documents relating to the Antarctic held by the Museum. Their collection of documents includes log books from SS Morning, an expedition to relieve Scott’s ship Discovery after she was caught in the ice; Shackleton’s 1907-09 expedition to the area which subsequently became known as the Ross Dependency and was transferred by the British to New Zealand in 1921. It also contains papers from L.S. Quartermain, an English master at Wellington College with an interest in Antarctica and some of Sir Robert Falla’s sub-Antarctic papers.

Central Districts

Central Districts held their annual meeting on Tuesday 15 May. The new chairperson is Sheryl Morgan, reference librarian at Massey; Ian Mattheson, archivist at Palmerston North City council is secretary-treasurer. The committee comprise Cindy Liburn, Registrar at the Manawatu Museum, Kaye Noble, archivist at the Wanganui Regional Museum, David Thomson, (ARANZ Council), lecturer in history at Massey, Colin Cochram, member Foxton Historical Society, Mark Patrick, member of the Fielding Branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists, and early August and a meeting in conjunction with the Otago Early Settlers Museum during a display in June to mark the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in the area. Stuart Strachan, Hocken Librarian, will talk on the treaty as a document restoration of the Treaty and Sean Brossnahen, archivist at the Otago early settlers museum on the actual document.

Wellington

The annual general meeting of the Wellington Branch of ARANZ will be held on Thursday, June 7 at the Stout Centre beginning at 7.30 p.m. Nelson Wattie, who has returned to New Zealand from Germany to spend a year studying New Zealand fiction from 1860-1914, will be the guest speaker.

The New Zealand Map Society

The New Zealand Map society held its 14th annual seminar from 7 - 9 February in Hokitika on the theme of Mapping in Westland. Speakers included three from the Department of Conservation; Ray Hooker who spoke on the local maps used in his work as an archaeologist; Jim Staton, who entitled his talk “Tall timber and tall tales, sawmilling in Westland” and Neil Challenger who spoke about landscape architecture and the redesign of the part of the river to where the old customs house had been moved. Assisted by Kris Ericson, he also spoke of landscape architecture in South Westland. The Department of Lands and Survey Information showed historical documents from their “significant collection” which included the original notebooks of the early surveyors. Ken Scadman spoke of the holdings of westland maps at National Archives and Ms Sharon Black, showed a party around the museum to which she has recently been appointed director. Les Wright and Anne Hutchinson
provided a commentary for a field trip to Waiau.
The papers from the seminar will be published in a forthcoming issue of the New Zealand Map Society Journal.

People in the News

Jonathan Dennis, the Founder of the New Zealand Film Archives/Nga Kaitiaki O Ngā Taonga Whaitaha and its director for the last nine years has resigned. His assistant Cheryl Linge is currently acting director pending a permanent appointment.

The New Zealand Film Archive was legally incorporated as a charitable trust on 9 March, 1981 with an operating grant of $5,000 from the Film Commission and Jonathan Dennis as the entire staff. By 1989 it had 15 staff, seven part-time, was funded was the Lottery Board, the Film Commission and Internal Affairs. The preservation programme was making significant progress with five conservators at work; cataloguing progressed and the Archive assembled a retrospective of 74 films in 41 programmes from 1896-1988. The Archive had become an institution bicultural in image and practice.

Peter Hughes, responsible for the New Zealand and Pacific Collection at the Auckland University Library, has now been appointed chief librarian at the Auckland Museum and technical institute.

Jim Traue, chief librarian of the Alexander Turnbull Library for the past 17 years, has announced his retirement. He will take up a two-year teaching fellowship with Victoria University's department of librarianship from July.

Penny Feltham, editor of the National Register of Archives and Manuscripts at the National Library in Wellington has been awarded a Rotary Graduate Scholarship to study for a Master of Archive Administration at Liverpool University. She leaves this September to begin studying in October. It the second such award made to archivists in New Zealand; Rachel Liburn, Appraisal Archivist at National Archives was the first recipient.

Commercial Family History

The Yorkshire Archaeological Society was asked for help by a member who had been sent an advertisement by Halbert's Inc., Family Heritage - based in Bath, Ohio. She was sent a letter in which someone with her own surname claimed "finally after years of effort and considerable expense, we are ready to publish a new book entitled "[Surname] FAMILIES AROUND THE WORLD" and you are listed in it.
The letter then went on to explain the importance of the work involved in producing the book, that there would be only one printing which "may well become a rare and important acquisition for the [surname] family library" and that the copy was being printed "for you alone". This caused some consternation in the family, who could not understand how the author had managed to find out about their own family and because the book is relatively expensive.

I explained the nature of genealogy, but promised I would try to find out more about the firm. If anyone is aware of similar letters sent to searchers, or any other related information, I would be grateful for their advice. Caroline Martin, Yorkshire Archaeological Society.

Society of Archivists Newsletter No. 50, August 1989.

The Love that split the church

When the Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie visited the Vatican last October, officials showed him to the archives which hold original documents relating to the split between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches in the 16th century. They included love letters written by King Henry VIII of England to Anne Boleyn in one of which he wrote "I promise to take you as my only lover, banishing from my mind and heart all others and serving only you". The churches split in 1534 after Pope Clement V11 refused to annul the king's marriage to Catherine of Aragon.

Australian Society of Archivists...

The Society held its last biennial Conference and Biennial General Meeting, in Hobart, in June 1989 at which they welcomed Professor Terry Eastwood, from the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at the University of British Columbia, Joan Schwartz of the National Archives of Canada as two keynote speakers. The conference was also attended by Robin Griffin of the Bank of New Zealand; Mark Stoddart, Chris Adams and Susan Skudder of the National Archives., New Zealand; Peter Miller, Hocken Library, Dunedin; Joseph Molita of the National Archives and Records Service of PNG and Dr Singh, Deputy Archivist of the National Archives of India.

The Society's nex conference is planned for 11-16 June, 1991 in Sydney. The Host Programme Committees are planning pre-conference workshops, tours and receptions. In addition they hope to be able to organise a round table session with members of relevant organisations such as PARBICA, the Records Management Association of Australia and the Australian Library and Information Association.

The Society's Promotion and Information Committee has prepared a new leaflet entitled "What is an Archivist?" and the Committee is now preparing a lealet on archival qualifications. "Keeping Archives" the Society's publication which covers all aspects of the management of an archival programme and which, in 1988, received a special certificate of commendation from the Society of American Archives, continues to sell at a brisk pace.

Various branches of the Society have been busy organising regular meetings in addition to running workshops. The New South Wales Branch is organising a seminar on recorded paper (scheduled for June 1990) and the ACT Branch has organised one to help clubs and Society's to manage their records.

The Society has lodged a submission with the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Security and Intelligence Organisation. The committee was investigating the access to the archives of ASIO being the subject of an application by the National Archives Act. A submission has also been lodged with the Privacy Commissioner about a proposed scheme to withhold information about spent convictions. The purpose of the scheme is to protect individuals who commit and are convicted of minor offences and then maintain an unblemished record. The proposed legislation would make it illegal to release information about these convictions regardless of their date and even if the information is already publicly available.

The Education Standing Committee has prepared a set of policy statements for the Society. They include: Education Statement No. 1 - Education for Archives Administration; No. 2 - Role and Responsibilities of the Education Standing Committee; No. 3. The Role of Archivists; No. 4 Recognition of First Award Courses; Professional Level; No. 5 - Advanced Awards. The sixth statement is on Continuing Education for Archivists. ASA News, March 1990.

For further information about the Society or any news item, write to: Anne-Marie Schurthlich, The Australian Society of Archivists Inc. P.O. Box 83, O'Connor ACT 2601, Australia.
Notice of AGM

The ARANZ constitution requires that all members be advised of the Annual General Meeting, and its agenda, sixty days in advance. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 17 November, 1990 in the University Lecture Hall, Auckland at 3.00 p.m.

1. Apologies
2. Confirmation of minutes of 1989 AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Presentation of Annual Report
5. Presentation of Financial Statement
6. Election of officers and Council (including Hon. Solicitor and auditor).
7. Branch reports
8. Committee reports
9. Constitutional review
10. Any other business.
Sheryl Morgan, Secretary, ARANZ

Nominations are called for the positions of:
- President
- Vice Presidents (2)
- Secretary
- Treasurer, and
- Councillors (7)

Nominations, signed by the nominee, the nominator and the seconder, all of whom must be financial members of ARANZ, should be addressed:

Election Nomination
ARANZ
P.O Box 11-553
Manners Street
WELLINGTON

The closing date for nominations is 6 October, 1990. A brief statement of the background, experience and qualifications of each nominee should be included.

1990 Conference Plans

It is hoped that the keynote speaker will be a senior member of the Australian Society of Archivists. The theme will be covered by a number of sessions giving the good news and the bad news. Good news can be seen, for example, in developments at National Archives with its increases in staff members and new accommodation in Wellington and elsewhere. The Dictionary of National Biography is not only a quite exceptional historical project for New Zealand, but it is likely to result in considerable interest in archival and manuscript collections. The current bad news has to be the state of business archives.

The intention is to canvass the current situation in all forms of archives e.g. business, local government, women's history, Maori, schools and religions. There will also be discussion of the relationship between the various institutes that house material - libraries, museums, etc and how to improve communication between them. There will be a mixture of lead speakers and panel discussion. Where appropriate the session will be extended to include records management issues - this would be particularly appropriate in the case of local government.

Though not their primary purpose these panels will also lead into discussion of archives, directions of the archives profession in the 1990s and the relationship of ARANZ to other organisations. One vital session will involve invited representatives of interested organisations eg. New Zealand Society of Archivists, New Zealand Society of Genealogists, to comment from their perspective on where they see archives going in the next ten years. There will also be at least one major session concerned with records management issues. There will be no more than two sessions at any one time.

"Where we are and where to go" will be held, as previously advised, on Friday 16 November 1990 through to Sunday 18 November at the University of Auckland. Registration will be $50.00; accommodation at O'Rorke Hall will be $50 per night including breakfast and GST. Meals will be approximately $25.00 per day including morning and afternoon tea. Full details and registration will be forwarded separately well in advance of conference.

Bruce Symondson, Conference Committee Convenor.

Membership Secretary

Nicky Ireland has replaced Meryl Lowrie as Membership Secretary. Nicky is an archivist at National Archives, Wellington, where she has been employed for the last two years. Prior to joining National Archives she worked as Registrar at the Museum of Transport and Technology in Auckland and Records Management Limited as a consultant. The Council is very grateful to Nicky for taking over this important post and to Meryl for her past assistance.

Reminder:
Subscriptions are now well overdue. The ARANZ subscription year runs from 1 April 1990 to 31 March 1991. If you have not already paid, please do so promptly.
GPO Purchase

The Government Printing Office has been bought by an Auckland firm, the Rank Group, which is a private company listed on the New Zealand stock exchange. The new organisation, now known as GPO Holdings Ltd., came into effect on 1 July 1990 and has a long term lease with National Archives to remain in the GPO building. Contrary to various confused press reports it will continue to print all parliamentary work.

National Register of Archives

The final instalment of the B Series of the National Register of Archives and Manuscripts has been a long time in the making. For those of you growing impatient at the length of time since the last fascicle was made available in early 1988, the Editor has been busy soliciting entries from various institutions (subtext reads twisting arms/nagging/pleading) and working on an automatic production of NRAM. This, plus the larger than usual edition has caused about a four month delay. But during 1988/89 greater things were afoot.....

In September 1988, I surveyed a number of archival institutions throughout New Zealand. This was done to try and establish whether or not NRAM was working as a "comprehensive guide to the location of archival and manuscript collections in New Zealand". Amongst other things we were trying to find out exactly what the institutions expected from NRAM, and whether we were meeting these expectations? We also wanted to know how NRAM was being used, and who was using it. Was it assisting with arrangement and description, or did the Curators know the meaning of that term. In fact what level of control did they have over their collections? At the same time I was in contact with my colleagues overseas, looking at the means of gathering data and new methods of arranging and presenting it. As you can imagine I was very busy. I still am!

A fuller discussion of this survey, the report, its implications and new directions will be in the next edition of Archifacts. Although we are now some way towards solving the question of format and production, the question of how to make NRAM work is open to discussion. Meanwhile I hope that the contents of the latest edition will keep a large number of you entertained and busy.

Penelope Feltham, Alexander Turnbull Library, June 1990.

Katherine Mansfield Letters

Fourteen Katherine Mansfield letters "lost" since shortly after they were written have been bought at Sotheby’s for $19,440 and were "officially" presented to the Turnbull Library in Wellington during a short ceremony on 29 June.
The letters were written in 1921-22 to William Gerhardie, then a student at Oxford who had just finished writing a novel "Futility". He had written to Katherine Mansfield, whom he did not know, to tell her how much he liked her most recent story. A warm reply was received and he asked if she would read and criticise his novel, which she did, recommending it also to a publisher and watching the reviews.

From the course of the correspondence it is clear that they had become firm friends discussing the craft of writing, her work and his. The last of the letters, the content of which is unique, was written only three months before her death.
The Library had known of the existence of the letters for some years but had been unable to trace them until receiving a Sotheby’s catalogue earlier this year. They are considered so important that up to $40,000 had been made available for the purchase.

In a short ceremony, which is one of the events marking the library’s 70th anniversary, Margaret Austin, Minister of Internal Affairs, presented the letters to Margaret Shields, who is in charge of the library. She in turn presented them to Margaret Caldwell, acting Chief Librarian. They were subsequently passed to Margaret Scott, the Turnbull Library’s 1989 Fellow who is now completing work on a new edition of Mansfield’s Journal and was also co-editor of the Collected Letters of Katherine Mansfield.

Appelbaum Visits

Mr Ralph Appelbaum of Appelbaum Associates in New York visited Wellington in early July. His company are assisting staff of the proposed Museum of New Zealand (Te Papa Tongarewa) in the production of a conceptual plan of the exhibitions and their relationships. The plan, received recently by the Board, will form one chapter of the brief to JASMAX architects of Auckland, designers of the new building. Appelbaum Associates are undertaking similar work for the new museum in Melbourne. Such planning is an important facet of making the museum a living experience.

Antarctic Photographs

A collection of 160 black and white photographs relating to 20 major expeditions to the Antarctic from 1897 to 1957 has been compiled by the Pictorial Department of Canterbury Museum in conjunction with Baden Norris, the Antarctic Curator. Requested by Sir Aldo Audsio, Director of the National Museum of Mountaineering in Turin, the set will be displayed there and possibly at other centres around Italy. It includes material from expeditions mounted by Belgium, Britain, Norway, Japan, Australia and the United States, and covers aspects of New Zealand’s involvement and Operation Deep Freeze activities in the 1950s.
The collection was despatched to Italy with the assistance of the Ministry of External Relations and Trade which provided funding.

Oral History Project

After three years of battling the Canterbury Museum finally has an Oral History Project underway. Its objectives are to interview former and current staff members about their involvement with the Museum and to interview people connected with collections of documents held in the Museum.

A $500 grant from the Jack Iliott Fund helped support a workshop in March conducted by Hugo Manson and Ju-
New Film Archive Director

Kate Fortune has been appointed executive director of the New Zealand Film Archives. She comes to the job from a background in the booktrade, having been director of the Bookseller's Association for eight years. With the Association she was particularly involved in marketing and book production schemes and is interested in pursuing similar activities with the archives. The film archive already has a policy of encouraging public access to materials and a precedent has been established for going beyond research to quite active promotion of films in the community and on marae. Kate Fortune is keen to encourage continuation of these activities and look at further diversification influencing possible video marketing opportunities that may be feasible with some of the material.

NZI Archives

Following the decision to disband NZI Archives it is likely that interim storage will be in the Auckland Office until Peter Durey, Auckland University Librarian, returns from overseas and decides whether the University is a suitable repository with sufficient space. If not the National Archives will act as the repository of last resort.

Land Court Minute Books

Copying of the volumes of the Maori Land Court Minute Books should be complete by December and copies are being made available to the Court as soon as they are bound. Access to the copies, like the originals, is at the discretion of the Registrar.

Local Authority Schedule

The Records Management Branch of National Archives in Wellington have had a pleasing reaction to the new schedule circulated to all local authorities around New Zealand. This schedule is a revised list of records which MUST be retained as local archives. The Branch now plans to hold two day courses in September and October in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch on implementing the schedule. Contact the Branch on (04)856-109 for further information.

Magic Minutes

The sixty second snippets of New Zealand history captured on film and now constituting the Magic Minutes sponsored by the ANZ Banking Group are proving popular with television viewers, according to the series creator Nell Roberts of the production company Communicado. Magic Minutes call quirky, tragic, funny and sentimental moments from New Zealand's visual history from the New Zealand Film Archives, the National Film Unit and Television New Zealand's film library. According to the producers, "What started as a near-gimmick has become prime-time local television, even winning the Fair Go best advertisement for 1990; the distinctive sound track by Dave Dobyn was making viewers literally run to the telly to see what the latest advertisement would contain." Evening Post TV Week, 18 June 1990. One hundred and four Magic Minutes have been produced in all; the company is considering producing a video of the series.

Genealogical Ethics

The Genealogical Research Institute of New Zealand Incorporated was founded in March 1986 to encourage and develop the serious academic study of genealogy and family history. One of its objects is to promote the advancement of professional standards of genealogical research, training and teaching, and in keeping with this the Institute has recently published a four page booklet entitled "A Code of Ethics for Professional Genealogists and Record Agents and A Guide for Clients." The booklet and further information about the Institute is available from: The Secretary, GRINZ, P.O. Box 36-107, Moera, Lower Hutt, NEW ZEALAND 6330.

Error: Peter Hughes has been appointed Head Librarian at the Auckland Institute and Museum and not Chief Librarian at the Auckland Museum and Technical Institute as published on page four of Newsletter No 2. Apologies. Ed.
Branch News

Auckland

On Wednesday 29 August at National Archives in Auckland, representatives of various institutions including the Anglican Church, Fletcher Challenge, the Auckland Public Library and National Archives will bring various examples of early photographs from their collections. Mr John B. Turner, a part-time tutor with the Ilam Art School, will be talking about early Auckland photographers and photography.

Canterbury/Westland

The annual general meeting of the Canterbury Branch of ARANZ was held in the Stringerian Room of Canterbury Public Library on 24 July, 1990. The co-operative committee, comprising Therese Dowman from the RNZAF Museum, Jo-Anne Smith, archivist at the Canterbury Museum, Michael Purdie from Pictorial Archives at the Museum, Philippa Fogarty, archivist from National Archives, and Rosemary O’Neill, archivist at the Canterbury Public Library, were all re-elected. Michael Purdie is the treasurer but beyond that the committee acts on co-operative basis.

Constitutional changes to allow co-operative arrangement of the committee to continue; allow the AGM to be held in August instead of April with the quorum reduced from ten to seven; allow the financial statement to be prepared by 30th June instead of 31 March; and to reduce the time (from ten to seven days) and numbers of members (from ten to seven) required for the executive to call and hold a special general meeting were passed and have been written into the constitution.

A Disaster workshop is being planned for 4 and 5 September in Christchurch by the Canterbury disaster control team, comprising representatives from different archival and other organisations and headed by Lyn Campbell Conservator at the Robert McDougall Art Gallery. Please contact Jo-Anne Smith if you wish to attend.

Central Districts

Central Districts have succeeded in having archives incorporated in the Palmerston North City Corporation Draft Corporation Plan. Their submission emphasised the background, importance and cultural significance of archives and requested that a management plan be written for them outlining goals and objectives. A further illustrated submission was prepared by Ian Mathieson detailing working conditions, staff requirements and other aspects.

Because of the scattered geographical nature of the Central Districts the branch has prepared and despatched a questionnaire to ascertain members’ requirements.

Otago/Southland

The Otago/Southland Branch has recently had a display in the Westpac Bank using archives from various Dunedin institutions dating from 1840 to 1960. For August they are planning a workshop on the interpretation of the environment and examination of the development of Dunedin’s built heritage using photographs. September’s meeting has been entitled “Property occupancy; the social dimension” and will deal with building a profile of occupancy using rate-books and evaluation rolls from the Dunedin city archives. “Archives and Public Life”, a reexamination of a prominent figure using archives held in a public repository in the Hocken Library Archives, has been scheduled for October. In November the meeting has been entitled “Can you hear me?” and will feature a discussion of the oral history programme being undertaken by Presbyterian Support Services.

In between times the branch has begun planning the Archives Manual and the programme for the conference to be held in Dunedin in August, 1991.

Wellington

Wellington Branch held their AGM at the Stout Research Centre on Thursday June 7. Nelson Wattie spoke on 18th Century French writers’ fictionalised accounts of life in the Antipodes. The new committee are Rachel Lilbum, Chair; Alan Smith, Treasurer; Ellen Ellis and Kevin Bourke. Petone Early Settlers’ Museum, Buick Street, the Esplanade, Petone was the venue for the first meeting of the new financial year held on Thursday 9 August. David Mealing, Curator of the Museum, talked about and demonstrated the Computerised Passenger Ship List System and allowed members to tour the building.

Future plans include a meeting with invited representatives of local government, historical groups, regional libraries and museums and other interested parties to talk about the role of archives in the Wellington area. An Introduction to Archives Management course is planned, as well as a tour of the National Archives’ Constitution Room exhibition in the new premises at Mulgrave Street. A day trip to look at archival developments in the Wairarapa and sample local wines with potential for preservation, and a visit to the National Art Gallery Resource Centre/National Museum’s new library facilities are also to be part of the programme.

People News

Ken Scadden left National Archives on 20 July to take up the position of Archivist at the Wellington Maritime Museum. Ken joined National Archives in 1982 as Cartographic Archivist and subsequently held the positions of Reference Archivist, Senior Archivist - Regions and Projects, Senior Archivist Projects and Systems and was Assistant Director. Wellington at the time of his resignation. He has the Diploma of Information Management - Archives Administration (University NSW) and is a Certified Archivist with the Society of American Archivists.

David McGill, who has completed a history of the Customs Department, has been contracted by the Lower Hutt City Corporation to write an official history of the area.

Sarah Mathieson has been appointed Assistant Archivist at National Archives, Auckland as from 16 July, 1990. She replaces Sarah McAlley. Archivist Leigh Duncan has also left but no replacement has as yet been named. Leigh is travelling overseas.

Sarah Bush, previously archives assistant at National Archives Wellington, has joined the Record Management Branch Staff in Auckland as a Records Management Advisory Officer.
Preservation and Conservation
Management in Libraries and Archives

A SEMINAR FOR MANAGERS

15 to 17 May 1991

National Library Auditorium
Aitken Street, Wellington
PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT FOR LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES
A Seminar for Managers

Date
Wednesday 15 May to Friday 17 May 1991

Time
9.00 am each day

Venue
National Library Auditorium, Aitken Street, Wellington

Cost
$150

Closing Date for Enrollments
Monday 19 April 1991
With late fee of $50 Monday 6 May

Limit
60 enrollments

Librarianship and Archives Students
These may attend all open sessions for a fee of $10. Prior enrollment is not required.

Accommodation
Those attending must arrange their own accommodation

Meals
Lunch facilities are available at the National Library. There will be a Seminar dinner on Thursday night

Further Information
Brodie Stubbs, Cultural Conservation Advisory Council, Department of Internal Affairs, P.O. Box 805, Wellington
Telephone (04) 738-699
Facsimile (04) 499-1865
APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT
PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT SEMINAR, 15 TO 17 MAY 1991

TITLE: Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

NAME: ........................................................................................................

ADDRESS: ........................................................................................................

..................................................................................................................

INSTITUTION: ..................................................................................................

POSITION: ......................................................................................................

TELEPHONE: .................................................. FAX  .....................................


PLEASE ENCLOSE PAYMENT AS FOLLOWS:

Seminar fee $150 150

Late fee after 6 May $50 ...............

Seminar dinner (optional) $40 ...............

TOTAL ENCLOSED $_____

Cost is GST inclusive

Please make cheques payable to the Cultural Conservation Advisory Council GST no. 14-427-309

SEND APPLICATION AND PAYMENT TO: Brodie Stubbs,
Cultural Conservation Advisory Council, Department of Internal Affairs, P.O. Box 805, Wellington
MAJOR TOPICS covered by the Seminar will include:

The place of preservation management within libraries and archives
Preservation and the Maori perspective
Determining conservation priorities in libraries and archives
The New Zealand experience in libraries and archives both with and without conservation facilities
Education for preservation
Preservation copying
Environmental modelling
The use of standards
Philosophy and economics of intervention
Professional conservators - when and how to employ them
Writing and implementing a preservation policy

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Directors of community services
Heads of institutions responsible for archives and book collections of permanent value
Keepers of archives and special collections
Librarianship and archives educators
Managers responsible for preservation programmes in libraries and archives
THE LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES of New Zealand are amongst this country’s most valuable assets. Not only do they contain many unique and irreplaceable items of great cultural importance, they also represent a huge investment of financial resources. Both the National Archives and the National Library have recently had their collections valued at over $500,000,000 each. Other libraries and archives are similarly valuable in proportion to the size of their collections. This Seminar, the first of its kind to be held in New Zealand, is about the prudent protection of these cultural resources and our investment in them so that their value to this and future generations is maintained and not diminished.

In the preservation of the contents of libraries and archives the old adage ‘prevention is better than cure’ is demonstrably true and not just in terms of cost effectiveness. Sometimes there is no cure for the problems which can result from poor storage, careless handling, unprotected display, or the use of inappropriate techniques or materials. And of course once silverfish have devoured a piece of a document there is just no way of retrieving it. The huge quantities of books and papers in our libraries and archives determine the need for effective preventative conservation programmes as the high cost of remedial conservation makes it an increasingly remote option on any substantial scale.

Preservation programmes, if they are to succeed, must be designed and implemented correctly; and it is only by incorporating them into the overall management plans of libraries and archives that real progress can be made. The purpose of this Seminar is to introduce managers to the causes of physical deterioration in books and archives, and to show them how these processes may be delayed or even halted altogether through managed programmes.

Because of the management focus of this Seminar and the limited number of places available the Cultural Conservation Advisory Council reserves the right to select the successful applicants.
OVERSEAS SPEAKERS confirmed for the Seminar include:

**Jeavons Baillie**

**Jan Lyall**

**Guy Petherbridge**
Formerly Associate Professor of Library Service and Director, Conservation Education Programs, School of Library Service, Columbia University. Recently undertook UNESCO conservation advisory and training mission to the National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago. Now Senior Preservation Adviser to the Australian Archives based in Sydney

**Peter Waters**
Conservation Officer at the Library of Congress. Assisted with the salvage of books after the Florence Floods. Author of the pioneer text *Procedures for Salvage of Water-Damaged Library Materials.* Recently introduced a points system for determining conservation priorities at the Library of Congress.
MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Association is open to any individual or institution interested in fostering the objects of the Association. Subscription rates are:

Within New Zealand $30.00 (individuals)
$42.00 (institutions)

Overseas $NZ 36.00 (individuals)
$NZ 47.00 (institutions)

(For two individuals living at the same address a joint membership is available at $34.00 which entitles both to full voting rights at meetings, but provides only one copy of Archifacts.)

Applications to join the Association, membership renewals and correspondence on related matters should be addressed to:

The Membership Secretary,
ARANZ,
P.O. Box 11-553,
Manners St.,
Wellington,
New Zealand.

BRANCH CHAIRPERSONS

Auckland
Narelle Scollay,
c/- Auckland Regional Office,
National Archives,
Private Bag,
Auckland.

Canterbury/Westland
Thérèse Dowman,
Royal NZ Airforce Museum,
RNZAF Base Wigram,
Private Bag,
Christchurch.

Central Districts
Sheryl Morgan,
Reference Department,
Massey University Library,
Palmerston North.

Otago/Southland
John Timmins,
Otago Early Settlers' Museum,
220 Cumberland Street,
Dunedin.

Wellington
Rachel Lilburn,
59 Hankey St.,
Mt Cook,
Wellington.