

JC Beaglehole Room Collections

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Introduction

It is important that J.C. Beaglehole Room (JCBR) collections and services remain relevant and align with and contribute to the strategic priorities of the University. With the retirement of the current Special Collections Librarian, Sue Hirst, it is timely to revisit the purpose and scope of the JCBR collections to ensure that they are sustainable, appropriately focused and meet the needs of the University community.

The purpose of JCBR is to collect, curate, preserve and make accessible the cultural and social heritage of the University. This includes unpublished papers of scholars that have a lasting affiliation with the University and who have made significant contributions in the creation of knowledge in their areas of research.

JCBR is considered the key University repository for its published and unpublished papers that are not official institutional documents which belong in the University Archives. In many ways it acts as the enduring memory of the University for future generations and researchers.

This paper provides background to the formation of JCBR, information and details about its collections, and examples of their use. Consideration is also given to its future focus. For the purpose of this report, the various collections are referred to as the JCBR collections.

Years in the making ... How did the JCBR collections get to where they are today?

Beginnings

Rare books and serials, maps, posters, photographs, and archives have been collected by the Library since the University was founded. Up until the creation of a separate room, the “special collection” was locked securely in the basement of the Hunter building and in the office of the University Librarian, Harold Miller. The collection then moved from Hunter to the “cage” on Level 0 of the Library in Rankine Brown. The creation of the JCBR occurred when it was supported at the University Council in 1970 in honor of Emeritus Professor of History, John Cawte Beaglehole OM (1901-1971), who is best known for his work on Captain Cook and the exploration of the Pacific.

The council meeting minutes noted that the “Committee of Vice-Chancellor and Deans had recommended that a New Zealand and Pacific Library be established within the University Library and called “The Beaglehole Room”: The Dr Robert Stout and Fildes Collections would be placed in it.”¹ It was also moved at the meeting that the portrait of JC Beaglehole be commissioned to hang in the room.

Who has been responsible for “special” collections?

In 1968, one of the senior cataloguers (Miss Moriarty) was given responsibility for closed stack collections. The first Special Collections Librarian (Kathleen Coleridge) was appointed in 1974. She retired in 2002. There have been only two Special Collections Librarians appointed since 2002, Nicola Frean and then Sue Hirst in 2011. Sue retires in August 2021 leaving this position vacant.

¹ Victoria University of Wellington – Minutes of Meeting of Council, 24 August 1970

In 1974 the J.C. Beaglehole Room was opened on the northwestern corner of level 5 of Rankine Brown and in 2011 moved to its current location on Level 4.

As noted above, housing the Fildes Collection was part of the rationale for the creation of the room. Horace Fildes bequeathed his private library of 1800+ volumes to the University and it arrived in the Library in 1937. The collection focused on the early post-contact history of New Zealand and the Pacific.

The Dr Robert Stout (1882-1959) Collection (Stout Collection) was gifted to the Library by the Stout family in 1969. This collection is comparable with Fildes with a principal emphasis on historical accounts of New Zealand. The collection has a selection of pre-1840 works on New Zealand and accounts of Cook's voyages, as well as nearly all the major 20th century historical works published from the mid-1930s to the late 1950s, including works published for the 1940 centennial and subsequent provincial centennials. While some of the collections are duplicates of material on the open shelves, it was decided that one copy of every work would be in the JCBR.

Note: The Dr Robert Stout Collection is not to be confused with the Sir Robert Stout KCMG, 28 Sept 1844 – 19 July 1930 (13th Premier of New Zealand) collection of over 1,000 pamphlets which was presented to the Library in 1928 and was indexed by Kathleen Coleridge in 1987. The Catalogue with notes is published online at: <http://nzetc.victoria.ac.nz/tm/scholarly/tei-ColStou.html>. The individual pamphlets in the collection have also been digitised.

Since the JCBR's formation, the scope and size of its collections have expanded substantially and it is currently considered the "home of the library's unique and heritage collections, preserved for current and future research."² The current collections housed in JCBR are predominantly printed material and can be described as having two distinct areas: published works and unpublished material.

The current valuation for insurance purposes of the JCBR collections is NZD\$5million. This is primarily for published works within JCBR. The high value print books are valued at \$277,200 with the oldest imprint being 1572. However, it could be argued that the real value in relation to the University and its heritage is in the unique unpublished collections.

The strategy in building the collections has been organic and dependent on the Special Collections Librarians' interests as well as by donations, bequests, purchases, bidding at auction, through contestable processes and through deposit (e.g. VUP). To provide a flavour of the JCBR, the following sections describe some of the "flagship" collections: how they came to be accepted by the Library, their significance, and how the collections are used.

Brancepeth Station Library Collection

In 1966, the Library was presented with the Brancepeth Station Library Collection, comprising about 1900 books consisting of mainly popular fiction of the time, plus minute books, financial records, diaries and a number of 1895 library catalogues related to the Station, c1884-1929. The books are shelved at the entry and within JCBR in the original rimu and glass cases which was part of the terms of the donation.

It provides a unique history of what station workers were reading at the end of the nineteenth century and offers insights to historians of life in country New Zealand during that period.

² See: <https://www.wgtn.ac.nz/library/about-us/collections/jc-beaglehole-room>



c.1966 photograph of a man (thought to be University Librarian Harold Miller) reading in a library showing glass-fronted bookcases known as the Brancepeth collection: https://archives.victoria.ac.nz/repositories/2/archival_objects/11301

The historical and research value of heritage collections can take decades to be recognised

Heritage / special collections can remain unused for many years however this does not mean they are not of historical or research value in the future and the Brancepeth Station Collection is an example of this.

While received in 1968 it wasn't until 1999 that it was used for in-depth research purposes – by MLIS student Judy Ann Klaus for her project: *Shearers read Shakespeare: how unique was Brancepeth Station Library in the late 1800s?*

Lydia Wevers book *Reading on the farm: Victorian fiction and the colonial world (2010)* is based entirely on the Brancepeth Station Library. Her talks about the collection and its insights into country life in New Zealand in late nineteenth century have drawn many favourable comments both locally and overseas. If the 'intact' collection was in a climate-controlled area, we might be able to register it for UNESCO Heritage status.

Labour Trust Archives

In 1973 the University established the Labour Archives Trust and the Library received a bound set of the *Maoriland Worker* on permanent loan from the Federation of Labour, and the papers of labour leader (and father of a University professor) 'Big Jim' Roberts. The university librarian at the time, 'had to

commandeer the men's staff cloak room' to house the collection. Although how much material could be expected and where he was going to put it was unclear, he was 'prepared to take drastic action to take custody' of it. Subsequent significant donations include the records of the Federation of Labour and the Wellington Trades Council. These collections are part of the formation of the University's Industrial Relations Centre (now Centre for Labour, Employment and Work).

Adding to the Labour Trust Archives has been a collecting focus of the JCBR over the years. Notable additions include material from the Dan Long Union Library which as well as print, had approx. 400 posters which were used in training courses around New Zealand by the Trade Union Education Authority and the Ken Douglas personal Library. Ken is a former president of the NZ Council of Trade Unions and was awarded an honorary LLD from Victoria University in 1999.

The Archive has been used by various people over the years in the writing of histories of individual unions, and by the Labour History Project.

[New Zealand Literary Archive](#)

In 1992 the New Zealand Literary Archive (NZLA) was established by the Victoria University of Wellington Foundation and Mike Robson of Independent Newspapers Ltd, following a proposal from Vic Elliott, the then university librarian. Independent Newspapers paid \$10,000 per annum sponsorship, divided between the authors, for them to deposit their papers with the JCBR, until 1998. After this date the Library incorporated the funding into its budgets.

The first contributing authors were:

- o Alistair Te Ariki Campbell (25 June 1925 – 16 August 2009)
- o Patricia Grace
- o Witi Ihimaera
- o Jenny Bornholdt

In 2016, four more participants were added to the NZLA, after being identified by academics with an active interest in JCBR and Library staff. These were:

- o Elizabeth Knox
- o Damien Wilkes
- o Vincent O'Sullivan
- o Harry Ricketts

Snippets of how the Literary Archive has been used

- Patricia Grace – A PhD student in Leeds is writing a thesis: Postcolonial Representation of Age and Aging in Caribbean and Aotearoa New Zealand Fiction and Film
- Witi Ihimaera's Māori Boy was drawn from his early notebooks in the NZ Literary Archive and Witi regularly visited JCBR to access them.
- Scholar and author Simone Oettli has travelled annually from Switzerland since 2016, staying for six months at a time to access Witi Ihimaera's papers for a biography she is writing on him. Her visits have been affected by the Kaikoura earthquake when the papers were not accessible, as well as travel restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Scan of Witi Ihimaera letter provided to Te Papa for Rongowhakaata exhibition (2017)
- Currently assisting student at University of French Polynesia with Witi Ihimaera material on Bulibasha (2021).

The NZLA is almost certainly our most important and unique collection. The intention is to increase the number of authors represented in the NZLA.

Pamphlets

The Library's collection of pamphlets is strong. In addition to approximately 20 linear metres of general NZ pamphlets dating from pre 1840 to current, besides the Fildes and Stout collections of pamphlets, JCBR has a range of named pamphlet collections such as:

- o J. T. Paul, 1874-1974. President of the NZ Labour Party, 1918-1920 & member of the NZ Legislative Council.
- o Sir Thomas Hunter, 1876-1953. Experimental psychologist, university professor and administrator. Hunter Building named after him.
- o Bert Roth, 1917-1944. Socialist, laborer, librarian, historian. Alumnus of Victoria University.
- o Henry Valder, 1862-1950. A businessman and social reformer.

These collections are consulted by researchers and historians. For example, each trimester that HIST216/316 New Zealand Social History course is offered, students have sessions in the JCBR reading room using the pamphlet collection as a primary source.

Personal papers & libraries

The following list is not comprehensive and is intended to provide examples of personal papers or libraries that have been added to the JCBR collections. These are predominantly from pre-eminent scholars who have a long association with the University.

- The Seddon collection: The personal library of Richard John Seddon (Premier and Prime Minister of New Zealand from 1893-1906). This collection is rich in early colonial and military history.
- Bruce Mason's papers – anticipated extensive use when the family find a biographer. Bruce Mason (28 September 1921 – 31 December 1982) was an alumnus of Victoria and a significant New Zealand playwright
- Frank McKay's papers on James K Baxter, NZ Poet – these were used by John Weir editor of *James K Baxter: complete prose* (4 vols. 2015)

- Papers of Emeritus Professor of Psychology Tony Taylor (1926-) - 20-25 linear metres
- Hugh Price, 1929-2009. Alumnus of Victoria and Publisher. Donated his papers on the activities of the SIS in New Zealand.
- Richard S Hill. Professor of New Zealand Studies at the Stout Research Centre, 2006-2020. His research was on the history of policing and social control in colonial New Zealand, international comparative policing history within and across empires, the history of Crown-Maori relations in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, Treaty of Waitangi issues, and the history of security intelligence in New Zealand.
- Papers of distinguished past academics e.g. Peter Munz, Les Cleveland, Jeremy Commons, Rev. Professor Lloyd Geering, Paul Callaghan, Harry Orsman, David Hamer, Laurie Bauer

Case study: Emeritus Professor Peter Munz (12 May 1921 – 14 October 2006)



"In 1949, Peter Munz, who has died aged 85, became a senior lecturer at New Zealand's Victoria University College (later the Victoria University of Wellington). Thus, began a career at Victoria for the one-time teenage German Jewish refugee. He held the history chair from 1968 to 1986, after which he became emeritus professor." from Obituary in *The Guardian*

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/2007/mar/12/obituaries.mainsection>

Munz was one of two students to study under both Karl Popper and Ludwig Wittgenstein and author of twelve major books covering the history of modern political thought, medieval history, the nature of religious belief, myth, the philosophy of history and evolutionary epistemology and this is represented in his archive.

The subject coverage in the archive is a very broad sweep of history and philosophy. With Medieval European history particularly strongly represented. - Charlemagne, Barbarossa and Marsilius of Padua are some of the more prominent names covered - but a good deal of early modern European history is here. Comparisons of eastern and western philosophies and philosophers are also represented, as are the history of thought and the history of history itself, along with social commentary.

The papers of Peter Munz were received in instalments over several years, but largely in 2007 and 2008 following his death. They include research notes spanning 70 years, offprints (both his own and those given to him), some books from his collection, some correspondence, typescripts of conference papers, lectures, articles, and books by him. Also included are non-print materials in the form of cassette tapes, diskettes, and CD-ROM containing files and e-mails from his PC.

Papers are in English, German, Italian and occasionally Latin or Greek

Case Study: Les Cleveland Papers

Les Cleveland (1921-2014) was a Senior Lecturer in Politics at Victoria. His papers include a collection of manifestoes and election ephemera (some dating back to 1899). He also had strong research interests in the experiences of soldiers (for which his collection holds a good deal of primary material), and in journalism (his background prior to Victoria). An oral history of Les was completed in 2013.

From November 2016 to February 2017, a Summer Scholar, Lydia Whiting assisted with the work of arranging and describing the papers. Here is her poster in relation to this work:

Lydia Whiting
lydia_212_22@hotmail.com
Sue Hirst, J.C.
Beaglehole Room
FHSS

To have a sincere love for New Zealand culture to appreciate both the depths of the bush and the subcultures of the urban areas. Les Cleveland is best known for his publications such as 'Dark Laughter', his work as a journalist for *NZ Truth* and his photography. But it is impossible to categorise his knowledge by the work that made it to publication. The purpose of the programme was to catalogue Cleveland's collection and ultimately to unveil a brilliant mind that has too long been isolated from the canon of New Zealand intellectuals.

Method
The process required an archivist's sense of priority, the ability to see a document in the larger scheme and constant evaluation;

- How would a researcher use this if they were researching the topic of the content?
- How would a researcher use this if Cleveland's use of the material was the topic of interest?

In the process of creating descriptions, the aim was to find the connecting themes that strung the collection together and highlight its relevance to his work.

Sources

- Background Image: Mary Cleveland, 'Self-Portrait at Lake Teinayon', c. 1960.
- Material included below is part of the Les Cleveland Collection, J.C. Beaglehole Room, Victoria University Library, Wellington.
- "Les Cleveland: a genuinely good bloke, and a historian too", *The Spinoff*, <http://blog.mta.gov.au/2014/05/10/les-cleveland-a-genuinely-good-bloke-and-a-historian-too/>, accessed 24 February 2017.

Results

- A substantial amount of Cleveland's collection is now catalogued and almost ready for public use.
- A finding aid has been created with searchable topics and phrases for accessibility.
- Potentially publishable material is now noted in the system, increasing the chances of a posthumous publication.

Contextualising the Collection
Often discussed is how necessary the study of Humanities is to social development. The historical methods of indigenous groups and other civilisations have long been dismissed from the discipline of history for taking 'mythological liberties'. To continue to assert this is to undermine movements towards a society where everyone's heritage is validated. Les Cleveland may not have intended to contribute to this conversation, but his ability to spot the transposition of an event into narrative demonstrates that western history too, constantly blurs the line between history and mythology.

"In a small society we need talented people who can fill many roles, and Les did so with aplomb."
- Jock Phillips*

What Lies Behind 'Dark Laughter'?
Exploring the mind of polymath, Les Cleveland

These papers have informed a number of publications and formed part of Jim McAloon's research for his book, *Labour: The New Zealand Labour Party, 1916-2016* and Claire Robinson's *Promises promises: 80 years of wooing New Zealand voters*

Case study: Sir Lloyd Geering, (26 February 1918-)

The collection donated by Sir Lloyd Geering ONZ, GNZM, CBE was made in May 2017. He was made the Foundation Professor of Religious Studies at the University in 1971, a position he held until his retirement in 1984 when he was appointed Professor Emeritus. He is considered one of New Zealand's most eminent and influential thinkers on religion. The dates covered by the papers held in JCBR are from 1938 to 2017 and include sermons, scrapbooks, correspondence, typescripts, recordings, and digital files from his long and distinguished career as a Presbyterian minister and theologian and includes correspondence, addresses and recordings related to his trial before the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1967.

JCBR hosted an event in 2020 to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of the Religious Studies programme at the University and the Development Office launch of the Sir Lloyd Geering Scholarship in Religion. Sir Lloyd attended the event which was complemented with a display of his works and sermons from his papers.

These are still on display outside of JCBR.

Sir Lloyd Geering is now 102 years old and is still writing. He frequently wants to consult his papers and it is anticipated that his personal papers collection will grow.



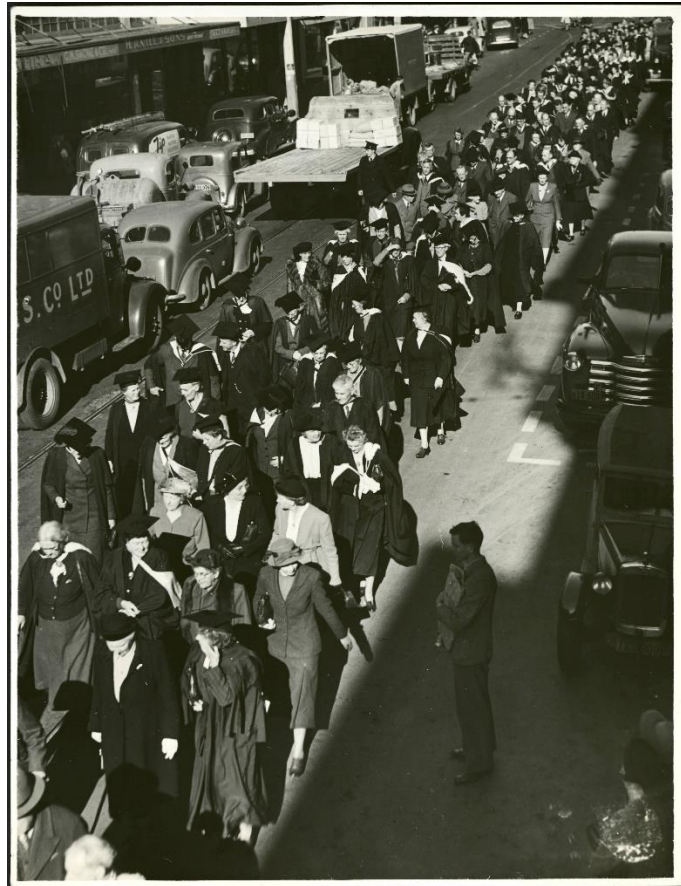
Photographs & Negatives

It's hard to be exact on how many photographs are in the JCBR, but it is well over 3,000. These provide a rich representation of the University and include Merv King's, the first official University photographer (1950-1975), series. These were transferred at his retirement. This series includes photographs of student activities, field trips, portraits, and buildings. See:

https://archives.victoria.ac.nz/repositories/2/archival_objects/10284

Image Services digitised Merv King's photographs and deposited the original prints and/or negatives as well as a set of CD-ROMs with JCBR for ongoing preservation. Some of these are available via JCBR's online tool for unpublished collections – ArchivesSpace. Metadata still needs to be added to describe the photographs and make them discoverable and during 2020's lockdown, the Special Collections Librarian and the JCBR Library Advisor began this work. However, further work is required to ensure all the photographs with

digital copies are discoverable and accessible to everyone, such as the following photo of a University graduation procession, 1949:



Examples of uses:

- Communications and Marketing draw on the photograph collection for marketing and publication purposes.
- The late Emeritus Professor Brian Halton for his autobiography, *From Coronation Street to a Consummate Chemist*, which offers insight into the evolution of the chemistry department at Victoria University of Wellington from the 1960s until the early 2000s.
- Gavin Woodward's (University photographer) photos of Futuna Chapel were used for Gregory O'Brien and Nick Bevan's book - *Futuna: life of a building* (2016).

[New Zealand fine printing](#)

The focus for this collection is on books or print objects created not just as carriers of information but as works of art and craftsmanship in themselves. The collection includes examples from the Caxton Press, Holloway Press, Hawk Press, Kowhai Press, Pear Tree Press, Otago University's Bibliography Room, and our own Wai te Ata Press among others. Over the years the collecting has been selective rather than comprehensive except for Pear Tree Press, Otakou Press and the output of Wai te Ata Press. Due to our current examples of fine printing being quite extensive, there are no plans to actively pursue building this collection unless a research gap was identified.

Print cultures exemplars

This collection was established in 2006 from a joint bid between JCBR and Wai te Ata Press for some Library contestable funding. Approximately \$20,000 was spent on the establishment of the collection and there was interdisciplinary support from across the University.

The exemplars cover chronological spread from papyrus ca 1200 BCE (currently on loan to Classics Museum) to mid-late 20th century. While there have been only occasional additions since original project, the collection now includes palm leaf manuscripts, a printing block, Māori writing primer, samples of illuminated manuscripts and printed books, examples of Mauchline bindings and a 17th century French almanac which has a highly embroidered binding, a replica Chinese illustrated map of the Yangtze, a set of progressive proofs of a certificate, showing stages of printing, Incantations by Mayan women, a typewriter golf ball, and the 1643 ordinances of the Lords and Commons. Recent additions (via Victoria Foundation) are two Persian books (late 19th, early 20th century) with illuminations, and five pages of illuminations from Persian books.

It is unlikely that this collection will be added to in future, other than through agreed donations, because there is limited current usage and there is no longer any teaching on fine printing from the staff at Wai te Ata Press.

Thematic collections

- Swiss Family Robinson Collection

The collection comprises over 400 editions in several languages of the novel, *Swiss Family Robinson*, and related titles (e.g. *Lost in Space*). It was donated by a local collector in the early 2000s and has been added to intermittently over the years. The original intention was that a scholar would be identified to research the collection. This, however, did not eventuate.

- Kipling Collection

A collection of just over 100 books by and about Rudyard Kipling, including the Kipling Journal, was purchased from a deceased estate in 2011. At the time of its acquisition, Harry Ricketts, English professor and an internationally recognised Kipling scholar, was consulted and value was seen in its acquisition. The collection has been used off and on, however with Harry's retirement later this year, there is no requirement to add further material to the collection. The value of the collection is in its "formed" nature rather than its rarity or fragility.

Neither of these collections will be added to in future for the reasons mentioned above. With such legacy collections we could consider approaching institutions where these fit better with their collecting parameters. If an appropriate alternative cannot be identified, there is an obligation for the JCBR to retain these collections as the donors gifted them in good faith to be used by current and future scholars.

Victoria University – The organisation

- Staff publications - preservation copies of publications (books, book chapters) by staff of the University. Historically, academics were obliged to send a copy of their publications to the Vice-Chancellor, including article offprints. These were then sent and added to the JCBR collection and include approximately 30-35 linear metres of article offprints up until the 1970s. Article offprints are no longer collected given online access and the research publications platform, Elements recording all of these. Currently the Library attempts to collect books that have significant contribution by University authors for the general collection. The collecting of preservation copies of books by University authors is currently not systematic.

- Victoria University periodicals - occasional papers, working papers, University calendars, student magazines such as the Spike and Salient, and staff newsletters
- Many items of personal memorabilia from alumni - particularly photographs
- Victoria University Press - a preservation copy of each publication from Victoria University Press Victoria University Students Association (and some of its clubs) and New Zealand University Students Association archives

Student Association records

The earliest records of the Students' Association (from 1899-1905) have not survived, although the student journal 'The Spike' dates from June 1902 and aimed to provide 'an official record of the doings of The College and of all clubs and institutions in connection with it'.

Copies of VUCSA outward letters are held from 1905 on, and Minute books from 1924.

Records appear to have been sporadically kept, reflecting the realities of student politics and administration.

- There is a comprehensive record from the late 1950s until the 1980s.
- The 1990s saw the full emergence of digital records for VUWSA
- Several photographs that were discovered and transferred in 2007 have been digitized but all still require metadata and digital objects linked to these records.

Contribution to Teaching & Learning

The JCBR collections are used for a range of courses, usually to access primary sources related to their study topics. History, Māori and Pacific studies subjects are the predominant users and sessions are held in the reading room, conducted by the Special Collections Librarian and / or Lecturer.

Courses that have used the JCBR collections	
2016	PASI 201- Comparative History of Polynesia HIST 216 - NZ Social History
2017	MAOR211 - Tū Te Wana Wana/Māori Language 2A MAOR216 - Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi MAOR301 - Tā Te Māori Whakahaere Rauemi/ Māori Resource Management PASI201 - Comparative History of Polynesia Printer's Devils FREN333 - 17th and 18th-Century French Literature HIST316 - NZ Social History
2018	MAOR216 - Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi MAOR803 PASI201 - Comparative History of Polynesia ARTH406 - The Cultures of Collecting

2019	MAOR216 - Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi MAOR803 (T1 & T2) PASI201 - Comparative History of Polynesia ARTH406 - The Cultures of Collecting HIST316 - NZ Social History FREN 331 - 19th & 20th-Century French Literature HIST hons class
2020	PASI201 - Comparative History of Polynesia HIST121 - WWI and its Legacies
2021 (T1)	HIST316 - NZ Social History ENGL428 - Contemporary Fiction

Rare books case study: Art History programme

Carmel Lee Pledger bequeathed a significant amount of money equally to the Art History and French programmes. The money was received in 2012.

Art History decided to purchase *Recueil Crozat* with its share, around \$20,000. *Recueil Crozat* is one of the first illustrated art books published in France in the early 18th century. The book comprises over 150 large-format engravings, etchings and woodblock prints that reproduce the most esteemed Italian paintings and drawings then in the French royal collection and other private collections in France. Because of its research significance, rarity and the need for care in handling, it needed to be housed in the JCBR.



In December 2014, David Maskill, Senior lecturer in Art History, spoke about the *Recueil Crozat* as part of the Two Books, Two Scholars seminar programme and to the Hunter Club. Both these events were hosted in the JC Beaglehole Room.

The published collections in JCBR are included in Te Waharoa, including preservation copies of a range of publications (eg: VUP publications). On occasions undergraduate students discover these copies via Te Waharoa and request access to them when other Library copies are unavailable (e.g.: on loan). They can only be used in the JCBR reading room which does not always meet the expectations of the students requesting them, often to complete assignments in a short timeframe. This is not the focus nor intention of these copies.

Māori and Pasifika content

Te Taratara ā Kae holds the Māori and indigenous collection in the Kelburn Library and Wan Solwara houses the Pasifika collection. There are institutions with heritage collections that include strong Māori (and to a lesser extent Pasifika) content, for examples the University of Waikato Library, Auckland City Library, Hocken Library at the University of Otago, and Alexander Turnbull Library. The latter has a statutory mandate to collect in these areas. Therefore, the focus for the JCBR is Māori and Pasifika content that has a specific relationship with the University, its people, learning, teaching and research needs – where the content fits with the collecting parameters of JCBR (rather than the general Library) .

The following are lists of examples of material in the JCBR collections relating to Maori and Pasifika.

Maori

- Colenso's 2nd printed edition of the 1835 Declaration of Independence (1837 – He waka putanga o te rangatiratanga o Nu Tirene.)
- Colenso communion card (shows use of hacked 'b' to supplement supply of 'h' for printing Māori)
- Bible chapters and prayer books in Te Reo
- Handwriting copybook for Māori pupils (Print cultures collection)
- He matenga totika [Happy Deaths] (Colenso) - unpublished typescript
- Archives from Department of Maori Studies - includes audio and video material
- Papers from Sir Hirini Moko Mead - work on Te Māori exhibition 1990; (permission required); papers from time on Geographic Board.
- Ngati Porou songbooks
- Mereana Grant's songbook
- The changing face of Māori leadership - Maharaia Winiata ca 1956; 37pp typescript
- M/S letter by A.T.Ngata 13 June 1950
- Bishop Bennett's last message
- Rewi Maniapoto carte de visite
- William Jenkins journal of trip to London with party of Māori 1863-63 (typescript of original held at Turnbull)
- 306 Digital Audio Tapes (DAT) recordings of oral histories and waiata gathered from Ngati Porou by Koro Dewes in the 1960s-1970s. The original reel-to-reel tapes were held at Victoria University of Wellington's Language Learning Centre for many years. However, at Koro's request, these tapes were moved to the Alexander Turnbull Library in January 2005. By agreement, the Language Learning Centre retains cassette copies, and the J C Beaglehole Room retains DAT copies. The DATS are noted in ArchivesSpace:
https://archives.victoria.ac.nz/repositories/2/archival_objects/2804. Turnbull is digitising the material where copyright allows.
- Maori battalion material in Les Cleveland papers

- Papers and photographs collected by Bernie Kernot in connection with his work in Anthropology & Maori Studies
- Fildes 'portfolios' - original Robley sketches (sensitive material)
- Anthropology and Maori Studies 1949-90
- Papers of Witi Ihimaera, Patricia Grace, Alistair Te Ariki Campbell
- **Te Hui Tau Ote Ropu Maori Iraro Ite Reipa Kotahitanga Poneke-Mane, Hune 6, 1938, 1938** - Booklet on Right Hon M J Savage (Mikare Hohepa Haweti) Prime Minister and Minister for Native Affairs, written entirely in Te Reo.
- Photographic negatives and prints of marae and carvings, taken by M. D. King (University photographer) during trips with Maori Studies courses 1969-1973, arranged by lecturer Bernie Kernot.
- Victoria University of Wellington - Maori Law Student's Newsletters, 2000-2001
- Some issues of early Maori language newspapers -
 - Maori Messenger
 - Te Manukura
 - Te Haeata
 - Pipiwharauoa
 - Kia hiwa ra
 - Te Kopa
 - Te Tiupiri
 - Te Puke ki Hikurangi
 - Wananga

Pasifika

- Samoan newspapers (selected), clippings on Samoan issues from New Zealand newspapers, ca. 1991-2007
- Exploring the art of Oceania: Australia, Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia: papers from Symposium 1: The Art of Oceania, held at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario (unbound typescript)
- Pacific Islands Law Students Society, 1994-2003
- Pacific History - newspaper clippings, reports, articles, 1960-80
- Pearl Beaglehole's Pukapuka field notebooks and dictionary
- Mary Boyd's papers re Pacific decolonization
- Student artwork contributed to Samoan exhibition 2012

The JCBR collections are used by a range of Māori and Pacific Studies courses as detailed in the Learning and Teaching section of this paper.

Discovery and Access

Rather than being considered just a ‘treasure room’ with limited access, there is an opportunity for the JCBR to have greater focus on developing services and programmes that connect more with audiences, including the university community, and encouraging engagement with the collections in new and different ways.

This could include, for example, better use of digital technology to bring collections to life, more inspiring webpages, and more events focused on the collections.

Finding aids are continually being created to enhance discoverability and give more access to the “treasures” in the JCBR. In addition, digitisation of JCBR collection content is another way of enabling greater access, discoverability, and engagement with them.

Implemented in 2019, [ArchivesSpace](#), an open-source archival management system, is currently used for indexing, describing and surfacing JCBR unpublished collections but it is not a tool designed for linking to the digitised item. There is an opportunity to exploit the collection management power of ArchivesSpace by integrating with a purpose-built discovery platform, such as *Recollect*. *Recollect*, produced by NZ Micrographics, is already used by many academic, research and heritage institutions as a rich digital discovery platform for promotion and engagement of their special collections: see National Library of New Zealand, [Waikato University](#), [Massey University](#), [Lincoln University](#), [University of Sydney](#), and [University of Wollongong](#).

Promotion

Promotion and marketing of the collections in the JCBR is vital and forms part of the effective stewardship of its contents. It is not just about increasing use and widening access; it can also be a concerted effort to advocate for, build awareness of, and articulate the value of the JCBR collections. It is fair to say that the JCBR is on the whole dealing with highly specialised, unique, and often scarce content, and often has low visibility or is overlooked as an information resource within the University. Marketing and promotion help keep it relevant and memorable.

Students, academics, alumni, and various other visitors may be stimulated by exhibits of JCBR collection resources, and other activities and events in such a way that enhances their engagement. At the same time, the research potential of rare and unique material is an important aspect of their value, as JCBR collections continue to support active and ongoing projects and inquiries. In addition, online engagement and events are becoming increasingly important and common in response to physical restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is a real need to increase the visibility and outreach of the collections in the JCBR. Having said this though, there have been sustained efforts many years to promote JCBR collection content.

Examples of Promotion, displays, Events, and talks

- Three Books Three Scholars - Held 3-9 times a year from August 2004 – 2012, and then intermittently until 2018
- Welcome to the NZ Literary Archive contributors – 2017
- 2014 – Talk to the Probus Club on the history of the Hunter Building
- Displays – average of 6 per year from 2012
 - 2012 – Samoan independence – 50th anniversary; Alan Turing (100th anniversary of birth); VUW Time Capsule contents
 - 2013 – Colin Bull, Cook Island Language Week; Hislop economic history pamphlets
 - 2014 – Historic election leaflets; Vietnam (Freda Cook & Cathy Kelly papers); Lichens
 - 2015 – Chinese Language Week; Gallipoli; Land March 40 years on; Hiroshima & Nagasaki
 - 2016 – Censorship; Kingitanga; “Did you know we have...?”; Polymaths & accomplished women
 - 2017 – Alan MacDiarmid; Protestant Reformation: New Zealand Literary Archive
 - 2018 – University of Wellington (What’s in a name?); Women’s suffrage; Marx & Milligan; Armistice; Jeremy Pope (Transparency International) archive
 - 2019 – Nowruz (Persian New Year); Navigating the Pacific; Pamphlets
 - 2020 – Student Life 1920-2020; June Independence Days; Staff favourites; Geering – in conjunction with launch of scholarship
- Hosting Hunter Club – David Maskill talk, and a talk on Lloyd Geering is scheduled
- Floor specific DID displays

Future collection – what should it look like?

As noted, the JCBR collections are currently formed predominantly of printed content: published and unpublished. It is anticipated that the unpublished collection will continue to grow although not at the current rate given scholars papers will be predominantly digital in future. This gives rise to the questions of what is collected in this regard, how its stored, preserved, curated, and made accessible.

While some ‘formed collections’ of prominent people have been previously accepted into the JCBR, it is unlikely that this will continue in future. Inventories of the private library collections of prominent people are of value and provide insights into their interests however the actual works, unless annotated by the person, provide little additional value. Therefore, it is anticipated that inventories rather than the actual private library collections will be accepted. It is scholars’ own unpublished works and thinking in relation to their research outputs and contributions that are the focus of collecting practices for the JCBR collection.

As we collect more unpublished papers of University scholars, it is important to clarify what we collect. The following criteria is suggested for collecting an academic’s unpublished papers:

- They are considered a pre-eminent scholar with a clear association with the University
- Substantial length of association with the University
- Their research has had an enduring impact in their field or on NZ society

Ideally the unpublished papers will be representative of the breadth of disciplines and the diversity of the community to reflect the University.

There are undoubtedly collections and works that currently reside in the JCBR that would not be accepted today with the change of direction and focus. However, many of these have been given and accepted in good faith and on the condition that the Library / JCBR protects, preserves, and makes them available for future use. The principle of kaitiakitanga is important in relation to this, therefore it is recommended that the current collections, where unique, rare or were donated, remain intact and continue to form part of the JCBR collection. In some instances, alternative heritage collections could be sought to potentially transfer some content to if the original conditions of accepting them allow and its appropriate to do so.

Strategic value to the University

The JCBR and its collections are considered high value by those who use them, and this is reflected in the 2021 Staff Services Survey results. Of the 138 respondents 81% were either 'satisfied or very satisfied' with the Special Library collections (including JCBR) and 81% also considered this service either 'very or extremely important' for completing their work.

While the JCBR services and collections are considered high value, the volume of requests and use is relatively low. However, when a scholar is researching a topic that relies on content held in the JCBR, they usually require concentrated periods of access over a period of time, and sometimes travel from overseas to access collections held in JCBR. For example, Simone Oettli who is researching for Witi Ihimaera's biography.

Many of the JCBR's collections, especially the unpublished content, directly align with, and contribute to, the University's iho and distinctiveness. As the case studies in this paper illustrate, the collections held in the JCBR are used by scholars from within the University as well as attracting international scholars. Except for information and records covered by the Public Records Act 2005 which are in the University Archive, the JCBR collects, preserves, and makes accessible the cultural and social heritage of the University and acts as its enduring memory.

When considering the principles outlined in [*He moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka: Navigating choppy waters: Te Herenga Waka to 2025*](#) a number are applicable and relevant to the JCBR particularly:

- Principle One: Being place-based – the collections at JCBR contribute to enabling distinctive and locally based research, like Lydia Wevers *Reading on the farm: Victorian fiction and the colonial world*.
- Principle Two: Demonstrating kaitiakitanga – the JCBR acts as kaitiaki for the collections that it has accepted and represent the cultural and social heritage of the University for future generations and researchers.
- Principle Eight: Fostering creativity, knowledge creation and innovation – using JCBR collections within courses is an example of research-informed learning. JCBR collections help foster creativity and enable new connections and research to be made – such as Clare Robinson drawing heavily on the electoral advertising collection for her 2019 book *Promises, promises*.
- Principle Ten: Being inclusive / welcoming – the JCBR collection is accessible to anyone who has a genuine interest or need. This could be strengthened by digitising content, so it is freely available and reduces barriers to discovering, accessing and using the collections.

Priorities

- Review the Special Collections Librarian role description and adjust as appropriate in preparation for recruitment. As there is a synergy between our heritage collections and archives, it is suggested that the role is revised to encompass both areas and renamed: Cultural Collections and Archives Librarian
- Review and update the JCBR collection statement to supplement this paper
- Increase the number of Te Herenga Waka authors represented in the NZLA and ensure that adequate funds are included in our annual budget
- Develop a three-year plan prioritising JCBR materials for preservation and/or digitisation
- Identify additional support / resourcing required to enable the JCBR collections to be made discoverable and accessible with a focus on online engagement and promotion
- Establish requirements for enabling greater online discoverability and engagement with the JCBR collections and prepare a business case and budget bid to enable this.