

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT Micro MS Coll 20
Miscellaneous Series microfilm, various dates. 689 reels to date.

Provenance

This project aimed to search out important groups of personal papers and archives in the United Kingdom, Germany and the Netherlands, which related to Australia and New Zealand, and microfilm them. Work began in the late 1950s and is still proceeding. The Library has endeavoured to acquire copies of all reels which relate to New Zealand.

Contents

The M Series has a strong emphasis on the records of missionary organisations, of trading and land companies and of learned societies and institutions.

Efforts were made to include material held in private hands and the collections document the activities of people from all walks of life: politicians, governors, small farmers, emigrants, convicts and commercial operations such as whaling and trading.

There is a high proportion of illustrative matter.

Finding aids

Before 1983, large M Series groups were made separate collections: London Missionary Society (Micro MS Coll 2); Germany. Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Micro MS Coll 9); Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew) (Micro MS Coll 10); N.Z. and Australian Land Co. Ltd. (Micro MS Coll 15) and Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (Micro MS Coll 17). After 1983, all new accessions were put into Micro MS Coll 20.

An expanding inventory is available containing an alphabetical list of collections, a numerical list by M reel number and copies of individual inventories copied from the reels or supplied by AJCP.

The *AJCP Handbook, Part 8*, second edition, contains details of each collection.

The *Guide to Manuscripts in the British Isles Relating to Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific*, by P. Mander-Jones (Canberra: ANU Press, 1972) also contains descriptions of many of the collections.

Research value

Well over 2,300 reels of microfilm have been produced as part of the Miscellaneous Series, providing an extraordinary variety of collections from both well-known repositories and those further from traditional research paths.

2. *Science*

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS (KEW) Micro MS Coll 10
Records, 1793-1928. 59 reels.

Provenance

The original records are held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Surrey and were microfilmed in 1971 through the AJCP as part of the Miscellaneous Series.

Contents

The Kew botanic collection was started in the late seventeenth century by Lord Capel and from 1759 George III greatly encouraged its development. The collections have been built through expeditions and the acquisition of the private collections of professional and amateur botanists.

The microfilmed records comprise scientific papers and correspondence relating to Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific and is divided into four main series: Kew Collectors' series containing correspondence and lists 1800-1859; official correspondence with the Director, 1825-1928; miscellaneous manuscripts consisting of diaries, maps, notes, correspondence and inward and outward letterbooks, 1793-1895 and miscellaneous papers, reports, despatches, parliamentary papers, and references to various Australian states, New Zealand, New Guinea and Fiji for certain periods.