

Appraisal Report

Legacy Functions, activities and records evaluation for Land Information New Zealand, Dunedin

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Agency	Land Information New Zealand (LINZ)
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Purpose
<p>The purpose of this appraisal report is to obtain disposal authorisation from the Chief Archivist for records that have been taken in by the Dunedin Office of Archives New Zealand from the Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) storage facility at Recall in Christchurch. The records consist of 6 historic maps of Dunedin which had originally been held by the LINZ Dunedin Office which was closed in 2010. The Dunedin office of Archives New Zealand is now seeking disposal coverage to formally transfer these records into its holdings.</p> <p>Under section 20(1) of the Public Records Act 2005, the Chief Archivist must authorise the transfer, alteration, destruction, sale, or discharge of public records. Before authorising any disposals, the Chief Archivist must also give no less than 30 days public notice of the intention to dispose of public records.</p> <p>This report, which makes a disposal recommendation based on an appraisal of the records, is submitted to the Chief Archivist as part of the public notification and authorisation process.</p>
Scope
<p>This report covers six large maps of early Dunedin and the Otago Harbour area. These are dated between the mid-19th Century, circa 1860's to 1910.</p> <p>There is one damaged map which is unable to be dated with accuracy, but is clearly pre 1900 since it outlines the shoreline before significant reclamation in the 1860s.</p>
Format
<p>The records being appraised are physical formats (maps).</p>

Function/Activity Information/Collection

The LINZ Dunedin office was responsible for administering the land titles service, providing land information, the provision of survey services, and the management of contracts within the Otago Land District. After 2001, the Southland Land District was added to the coverage of this agency.

All are historically significant to Dunedin, showing key points in the city's history:

- Land vested as Otago Harbour Board c1909
- two 1860s maps of Dunedin at a point during early reclamation of the harbour
- two street maps of the city in 1866, showing early legal descriptions of land

Methodology

These maps were part of the working collection of the Dunedin Land Information New Zealand Office. If they had been appraised in 2010 while DA1 was still current they would have been transferred, as belonging to record class 8.

In order to make an informed decision on a disposal action, the appraisal criteria and indicators of value set out in Archives New Zealand's Appraisal Statement (issued March 2014) have been applied to the records.

Consultation

Archives New Zealand Dunedin was alerted to the presence of these maps at LINZ storage at Recall in Christchurch by the National Records Manager, Land Information New Zealand, in late 2016.

LINZ, as the originating agency is the key external agency for providing input on these six maps. LINZ has a strong interest in the most appropriate disposal of these records. The preferred outcome for LINZ is that these six maps are transferred to Archives New Zealand as records with permanent archival value.

This is the same outcome as recommended by Archives New Zealand in this appraisal report.

Class or class grouping

Description

Six large maps referencing early Dunedin or the Otago Harbour. All are mid nineteenth to early twentieth century.

- Plan of a portion of the city of Dunedin showing the position of ground already reclaimed and the proposed future extension. 1864
- Plan of the North end of Dunedin. Registration map. District of Dunedin No. 1 1866
- Plan of the South end of Dunedin. Registration map. District of Dunedin No. 2 1866
- Map of the town of Dunedin (fragile). No visible date, but c1860

- Otago Harbour Plan of Lower Harbour [1910]
- Otago Harbour Plan of Upper Harbour [1910]

These maps were created by either Crown Lands Department 1858 – 1891, the Survey Department 1876 – 1891, or the Department of Lands and Survey 1891 – 1987. Land Information New Zealand is the successor agency for all of these entities, and therefore will have had the maps in its holdings for decades.

Value Statement

The maps contribute to the understanding of the history of Dunedin and Otago Harbour. They document the physical development of the harbour, and the settlement and growth of the city.

While it is difficult to date the map of Dunedin because of damage, these are not known to duplicate other known holdings in Dunedin, making them at least unique to the local context. As such, it clearly shows value on Appraisal Criteria 6: Knowledge - Records that will substantially contribute to knowledge and understanding of New Zealand., its history, geography, society, culture and achievements and New Zealanders' sense of their national identity.

These maps are historical records, which provide insight into the growth of Dunedin. They record Dunedin and the harbour at certain points of historical development between 1866 and 1910. Additionally, they record the historic impact of man on resources and the environment of Dunedin through recording both land use and the use of the harbour.

Therefore, these records have permanent archival value.

Retention and disposal recommendation

It is recommended that the six maps be transferred to the control of the Chief Archivist once the disposal is authorised.

Access Recommendations

[Details removed]