

# Appraisal Report for Legacy Records – estray records from New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts

<b>File No./Document ID</b>	APP2018/25 D&A348
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<b>Date</b>	15 August 2018

## Purpose

The purpose of this appraisal report is to obtain disposal authorisation from the Chief Archivist for records relating to the New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts, which came into Archives New Zealand custody on 8 August 2017.

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.

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.

### **Appraisal Circumstances**

Archives New Zealand received 50 coloured glass lantern slides from Te Papa, who originally obtained them from a private donor. The glass lantern slides were created by the New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts and are deemed to be public records. The material was received by Archives New Zealand on 8 August 2017.

The material was registered (D&A348) and set aside for an internal assessment as to the status of the material, to determine whether the contents were public or non-public records. The assessment (Estray Assessment 2017-2018 Cohesion), which was completed on 24 May 2018, made the following determination:

- The 50 coloured glass lantern slides were assessed to be public records, and it was recommended that they be formally appraised as legacy records.

### Scope

This report covers the 50 coloured glass lantern slides received by Archives New Zealand on 8 August 2017.

### Format

The records being appraised are physical formats (coloured glass lantern slide photographs).

### Function/Activity Information

The 50 coloured glass lantern slides date from circa 1900's to circa 1950's. The photographs were created by the New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts and its successor departments. They were used to promote various tourist destinations in New Zealand to people residing in the country and in Australia.

The New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts was established in 1901 to encourage and promote tourism within New Zealand. It was responsible for the administration of resorts in destinations such as; Rotorua, Hanmer Springs, Mount Cook, Morere and Te Puia, the Doubtful Sound track and the Little Barrier Island bird sanctuary. In 1906 the department was merged with Industries and Commerce and then in 1909 amalgamated into the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Tourists. For a short period it was an independent entity known as the Tourist and Health Resorts Department, but by 1930 it was re-united with Industries and Commerce to become the Department of Industries and Commerce, Tourist and Publicity. By the 1950's it had another name change to the Tourist and Publicity Department.

The glass lantern slides contain various images of New Zealand (scenic and people) which were taken over the period of the above summarised departmental history with the principal function of:

- encouraging and developing the New Zealand tourist industry and tourist traffic to, within and beyond New Zealand

## Methodology

The glass lantern slides were identified as public records during the internal assessment process, and have been appraised using the legacy records appraisal template.

For the purpose of this appraisal, these records are considered to be estrays (under the Public Records Act an stray record means a public record, public archive, or protected record that has not been disposed of in accordance with an authorisation of the Chief Archivist, or as required by or under another enactment).

Research undertaken during the initial assessment of the records was used to inform the appraisal process. This research was conducted by looking at existing New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts holdings held at Archives New Zealand.

Relevant similar holdings in Archives New Zealand:

Series 8315 contains a small incomplete collection of glass lantern slides originally held by the Sydney branch of the New Zealand Department of Tourist and Health Resorts. Images of the slides have been compiled for the purpose of the promotion and marketing of New Zealand as a tourist destination in Australia.

Series 6493 contains slides of the same format and labelling system ('New Zealand Government Publicity') as those in Series 8315. As with Series 8315, only an incomplete set is held. It is presumed that 8315 were created for use in Australia and that series 6493 were intended for use in New Zealand.

After examination of the slides offered it is established that there is no duplication of the above series slides and the slides presented to Archives New Zealand for deposit.

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)<sup>1</sup> have been applied to the records.

1. For more information see the Appraisal Statement on the Archives New Zealand Records Toolkit website, <http://records.archives.govt.nz/assets/Guidance-new-standard/16-Sm3-Appraisal-Statement-Pdf.pdf> (accessed 15 August 2018).

## **Class 1. – Coloured Glass Lantern Slides**

### **Description**

#### ***1.1 – 50 coloured glass lantern slides***

The coloured glass lantern slides (photographs) are of various tourist scenic destinations in New Zealand and include some unidentified people.

### **Value Statement**

The 50 coloured glass lantern slides contribute to the knowledge and understanding of New Zealand history, geography, society and culture.

The records demonstrate value by reason of age and historical association, they are linked with a period of photographic development in the advertising of New Zealand as a country to explore and visit.

These records provide evidence of the promotion of New Zealand as a tourist destination from the period of circa 1900's until circa 1950's. The various photographic scenes show New Zealand's scenic countryside and popular tourist destinations such as Rotorua and Mount Cook. Some of the photographs also contain unidentified people who are posed in some of the photographs, these demonstrate evidence of New Zealand society and culture over this time period.

### **Retention and Disposal Recommendation**

It is recommended that the 50 glass lantern slides be transferred to the control of the Chief Archivist once the disposal is authorised.

### **Access Recommendations**

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