Map Collection

Responsibility for Policy: John Robson
Approving Authority: University Librarian
Approved: November 2012
Next Review Date: November 2014

The Map Collection Development Policy is bound by the general principles detailed in the Library’s Collection Development Policy. It is not a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with the Library’s Collection Development Policy and any other subject specific collection development documents.

1. General Information

1.1. Collection Purpose
The Map Collection provides cartographic materials in support of the research, teaching and learning of staff and students of the University.

1.2. Primary User Groups
The primary users of the collection are students and staff of the Earth Sciences, History and Geography Departments. There is some use by researchers from Crown Research Institutes and other local quasi-Government institutions, and casual and recreational users (eg genealogists and would-be travellers).

1.3. Interdisciplinary Relationships
The collection assists many faculties and departments across the University. Other regular users include Botany, Biology and the School of Māori and Pacific Development.

2. Description of Existing Collection

- Maps of New Zealand depicting topography, geology, soils, forestry, cadastral, land inventory, climate, administrative and ethnic information
- Charts depicting hydrographical, bathymetric and oceanographic information for the waters both in and around New Zealand
- Road and street maps of New Zealand
- Historical maps depicting historical versions of any of the above
- Atlases
- Gazetteers
- Tourist guides and maps

The strength of the collection is maps of the Waikato region.
The collection includes:

- Printed maps
- Maps on CD-ROM, DVD and online
- Atlases and globes (both current and historical)
- Aerial photographs (both printed and online)
- Gazetteers
- Map journals

2.1. Access

All new maps are catalogued and can be located through the University Library catalogue. However, a number of older maps are still to be catalogued. A core collection of maps is on open access and the remainder are in storage and available on request.

3. Scope of collecting

3.1. Geographic Areas

The areas covered by the Map Library collection include:

- Hamilton, the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and King Country: the region immediately around the University of Waikato is collected at a total level. All new material and, wherever possible, any historical material that becomes available is collected and retained.
- New Zealand as a whole: individual maps and sets of maps covering New Zealand as a whole and all subject areas are comprehensively collected, especially new material. For older material, collection is selective.
- New Zealand regions (other than listed above): maps pertaining to other regions of New Zealand are selectively collected to ensure good coverage both geographically and by subject.
- Australia, Antarctica and the Pacific: a representative collection has been assembled so that a good, consistent coverage is available at reasonable scales. Further collection is at a selective level.
- International: a current, representative selection of maps covering the rest of the world. New material is acquired only on a very selective basis to update the collection.

3.2. Types and Formats of Material

Print and/or electronic maps are collected but other types of material are considered such as atlases and globes (both current and historical), aerial photographs (both printed and online) and gazetteers (rarely).

4. University of Waikato at Tauranga Collection

No University of Waikato Library maps are held in the Tauranga collection.