

Video transcript: LINZ moves historic records to Archives New Zealand, November 2009

Introduction

Lindsey Meehan, Manager National Processing, Land Information New Zealand:

I'm Lindsay Meehan from Land Information New Zealand, the National Processing Manager, and it is my privilege to talk about our history today, particularly the deeds records, which we have been custodians of since 1840. Today we hand over that custodianship to Archives New Zealand, so it is indeed an historic occasion.

For many of our people who have been working for these records for a number of years it is a big occasion.

We've been fortunate to strike an arrangement with Archives New Zealand where we are going to fund a person from LINZ that will be helping with the transfer of much of the tacit knowledge from these records over the next twelve months.

Alison Midwinter, National Records Manager, Land Information New Zealand:

I am Alison Midwinter, I'm the LINZ National Records Manager.

These records are cool because in any society the land record is the thing that people depend upon. You need it to have certainty of Title, you need it for any kind of investment, property management – who people are, where they live, it's all tied to land.

We're transferring mainly the deeds registers and indexes, the Crown grants, the Crown purchase deeds, and various other bits and pieces that round out that early historical record.

We're also hanging on to the things that we are going to need for ongoing business use.

To have worked on them, it's an enormous privilege because they are old, they are fragile, they are historical and enormously significant, and we get them to Archives New Zealand and they will actually be preserved for the future in a secure environment where people will be able to use them for the next hundred years if they want to.

It's sad because these are incredibly old records that we've been responsible for, for many many years, and we're handing responsibility over to somebody else. But it's also good because Archives are custodians of the heritage of New Zealand and we know they'll have a good home.

Whakawātea at Land Information New Zealand

Sam Jackson, Kaumātua:

Nā reira rā koutou ngā taonga, koutou e nohonoho mai nei i roto i tō tātou whare i tenei rā. Ānei rā tō koutou nei i roto i tō tātou whare. Hei aha, ki te ki atu ki a koutou haere atu rā. Haere atu rā koutou, āna ki te wāhi ko whakarite nei mō koutou, āna he wāhi okiokitanga mō koutou.

Nō reira mēnā kei konei koutou ngā wairua, hoki atu ki a rātou mā. Waihongia te māmātanga i runga i ngā taonga nei. Ahakoa kei te mōhio tātou i ngā kōrero, i ngā tuhituhinga, i ngā pōuritanga, āna i tēnei rā e whakamāmā tātou i a koutou.

Nō reira haere pai atu rā, haere i runga i te rangimārie. Waihongia e tātou e noho nei i roto i tēnei wā i runga i te aroha.

Huri noa, huri noa, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

[Translation: To you our treasured documents, resting here in this building today. These people have gathered here, but don't be concerned. They are here to say goodbye to you. So, farewell as you travel to a new place that has been especially prepared for you. It is a place for you to rest.

If there are spirits present with us, then return to your people in the spirit world. Leave these treasures behind you, and lighten their burden. Although we know what has been discussed, what is written, and of the sadness within you today we are here to make this journey easier.

Therefore travel safely and travel in peace. We leave you now with our love.

To everyone gathered here, greetings and thank you.]

Colin MacDonald, Chief Executive, Land Information New Zealand:

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā reo rangatira mā. He mihi ki te Ātua, ki ngā marae me ngā wharehau. He mihi ki ngā tūpuna. He mihi ki ngā iwi katoa.

Nō reira. Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

It's great to see so many people here to send these taonga off in the next stage of their journey.

You only have to flick through the pages of these important documents to recognise that they're both a historical record that tell many stories of New Zealand's past, but you also see the quality of the penmanship and the calligraphy. And as I reflect on the world that we're moving steadily towards with giving people the ability to update land records instantly, online, across the internet, I sometimes wonder how we got here when we started with such beautiful and wonderful pieces of treasure.

But I guess we've got here as time marches on and the world changes. But the one thing we must remember about the land is, despite New Zealand's geological activity, the land does remain the same, and so having such wonderful and important historical records moved today from LINZ into the safe care of the people in Archives is indeed a very important step.

Nō reira. Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

Pōwhiri at Archives New Zealand

[Incomplete karanga]

Terehia Biddle:

Haere mai rā ngā taonga, a kui mā, a koro mā, haere mai, haere mai, haere mai rā.

June Jackson:

Mauria mai rā ki a mātou Toitū Te Whenua e kawē nei i ngā taonga ngā kōrero onamata i tō rātou tapu te ranga e.

Terehia Biddle:

Mauria mai rā ngā taonga, a kui mā, a koro mā, kia tangihia, kia mihihia...

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Waiata ('Waiata Te Hokingā mai'), led by Te Taite Cooper:

[Incomplete]

Tangi a te ruru, kei te hokihoki mai e
E whakawherowhero i te pūtahitanga
Nāku nei rā koe i tuku kia haere
Tērā puritia iho nui rawa te aroha e

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Ihaia Biddle, Kaumātua:

Kia ora tātou. Kia hari o a tātou karakia i runga te kaupapa i tēnei ata.

Ko tēnei te wāhi noho rātou, i roto ina, kei tatū na.

Nā reira kia inoi tātou.

He hōnore, he korōria, he maungarongo ki runga i te whenua, whakaaro nui ki ngā tāngata katoa. Amine.

E Ihowa, tēnei mātou kia inoi ki a koe i runga anō i te kaupapa ka haere ai i tēnei ata.

E mauria mai nei rātou i ō rātou wairua ki roto i tēnei whare taonga Te Rua Mahara.

Nā reira e Ihowa ko tēnei te inoi atu ki a koe kia huri mai rā tōu aroraro ki a titiro mai koe ki a mātou e inoi atu nei ki a koe i tēnei ata.

E inoi ana i ngā huarahi e Ihowa ko koe tonu i ārahi i a rātou ko koe noho i ārahi i a mātou.

Kia tau kia noho pai rātou i roto i tēnei whare. Mā runga tonu anō i wā manaakitanga mai e Ihowa e tutuki ai te kaupapa e whakahaere ēnei i tēnei ata.

Tērā kei te hiki atu e Ihowa katoa i ngā tapu, katoa i te mana, i te mauri, kei runga i a rātou, kia noho pai rātou ki roto i tēnei whare ō tātou.

Ko tēnei rā ēnei inoi atu ki a koe e Ihowa, korōria ki tōu ingoa tapu. Amine.

Te waiata a Rawiri raua ko [inaudible].

E Ihowa whakapainga tōu maramatanga ki runga ki a rātou i tēnei wā.

Mau tonu hoki i tōu ārahi i te katoa i ngā mahi katoa.

Ko tēnei anō mātou e Ihowa e inoi atu nei ki koe.

Huri mai anō rā te [inaudible] takahi mai koe ngā tapu [inaudible] o waewae.

Kia koe i āhuratanga kia takahia atu kia kite te puehu.

Tērā mātou kia inoi tonu e Ihowa.

Korōria ki tō ingoa tapu. Amine.

[Synopsis: A prayer to bless the treasures, the people, and the work that lies ahead.]

Greg Goulding, Acting Chief Executive, Archives New Zealand:

Tēnā koutou katoa. Nau mai ki Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga.

Kia ora and welcome to Archives New Zealand.

It is a very momentous day for Archives New Zealand and for Land Information New Zealand, and I think our role in relation to these records today is to make sure that they can continue to be valuable to people forever.

These documents that you entrust to us today are such precious taonga because they establish a connection of people to the land, and I'm not sure really what records could be more important than that. So, because this is your, in effect, the lifeblood of what your organisation does, entrusting them to us to care for is a very high level of trust, and our commitment to you and our obligation to our mission and what Archives New Zealand is about is to meet that standard of trust.

Your records, your archives, your taonga we will care for forever, and enable you to use them when you need them and enable New Zealanders to use them when they need them.

Colin MacDonald, Chief Executive, Land Information New Zealand:

E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā reo rangatira mā. He mihi ki te Ātua, ki ngā marae me ngā whareniui. He mihi ki ngā tūpuna. He mihi ki ngā iwi katoa.

Nō reira. Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

First and foremost, thank you for a very warm welcome to Archives New Zealand this morning.

I think sharing the knowledge is really what the lead up to today has been all about. The people of Toitū Te Whenua, Land Information New Zealand, and the people of Archives New Zealand working together, sharing their knowledge – our knowledge of the land records and what they represent and what they stand for; your knowledge of preservation of precious paper and precious documents, bringing those two together to achieve a very good outcome for the people of New Zealand.

Nō reira. Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.