

# REVIEWS REPORT

By Dr Ashwinee Pendharkar:  
Editor, Reviews

This is my final year as the Reviews Editor before I hand over the baton to someone else for 2025. This experience has been immensely enriching as has been working with the editorial committee.

I started on the 2022 issue and successfully advocated for broadening the scope of the Reviews section beyond books. This has opened the reviews space up for scholarly engagement with exciting new, or non-traditional, activities within the sector, providing a platform for new and emerging scholars within the field (as reviewers) and their work (for reviews). In keeping with this change, both the 2023 and 2024 issues included reviews of books and podcasts.

We hope to bring in more variety next year, so we encourage

established and new professionals / academics and researchers to express interest in reviewing for *Archifacts*. Reviews can be great first or early publications and a helpful means of engaging with new developments in the field. Therefore, we encourage sector-relevant educational programmes and institutions to establish 'reviewing' as a scholarly activity in assignments, course work and field work.

We continue to welcome recommendations of relevant new scholarly articles / theses / podcasts / blogs / conferences / new initiatives / products (journals, platforms, tools, websites, software, etc.) to review. We are also interested in expressions of interest from reviewers for *Archifacts* 2025.

Please email us at: [Reviews@aranz.org.nz](mailto:Reviews@aranz.org.nz) if you would like to know more.

Ngā mihi, Ashwinee

# UNESCO MEMORY OF THE WORLD

## Aotearoa New Zealand 2024 Inscriptions

By Jane Wild

The UNESCO Memory of the World Register recognises items and collections of unique national significance,<sup>1</sup> with accepted nominations recognised by their inscription into the Register. The Memory of the World programme was established by UNESCO in 1992, with the objectives to raise awareness of the significance of unique documentary heritage and support preservation and access to these collections. The Aotearoa New Zealand register was initiated in 2010 by the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO.

The four 2024 Aotearoa New Zealand inscriptions on the Memory of the World register come from six archival institutions, reflecting the distributed nature of documentary heritage. They also represent unique documentary heritage taonga, with many firsts. Each of the four inscriptions is described below, along with their related page work as it will appear on the Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Nga Māhara o te Ao website.<sup>2</sup> You will be able to view these page works online at: <https://unescomow.nz>.

### THE WILLIAM JAMES HARDING COLLECTION OF WHANGANUI-RANGITIKEI.

The William James Harding collection contains photographs and negatives of people and places

around Whanganui-Rangitikei throughout the 1850-1890's, as documented by William Harding. This is our first inscription for a collection held across three institutions, with parts of the collection being held at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington, the Whanganui Regional Museum, and the Alexander Heritage and Research Library / Te Reenga Mai o te Kāuru in the Whanganui District Library. This collection gives remarkable insights into the people, the region and the Whanganui River, and complements Whanganui's unique status in Aotearoa New Zealand as New Zealand's only UNESCO Creative City of Design.<sup>3</sup>

### JANET FRAME: LITERARY AND PERSONAL PAPERS

The inscription for Janet Frame: Literary and Personal Papers is timely in 2024, as it is one hundred years since author Janet Paterson Frame's birth in Dunedin. The papers archived at Hocken Collections / Uare Taoka o Hākena, University of Otago include original manuscripts, correspondence and household documentation. It is noteworthy that Dunedin is a UNESCO City of Literature and that the Hocken Collections hold significant New Zealand literary collections, including the

Charles Brasch literary and personal papers inscribed in 2013.<sup>4</sup>

### TANGATA WHENUA: THE PEOPLE OF THE LAND

Another inscription is for *Tangata Whenua: The People of the Land*. This documentary series was broadcast on television in 1974. When it screened it reached a remarkable audience of one million viewers in a population on just three million. The kaumatua and kuia interviews in this landmark series can still be heard today, thanks to preservation work by Ngā Taonga Sound and Vision and the TVNZ+ platform. Their *kōrero* directed by Barry Barclay is vivid and historically poignant in 2024. It is appropriate to recognise the pioneering television production work of John O'Shea of Pacific Films in Wellington, as Wellington is a UNESCO City of Film.

### THE FRANK SARGESON COLLECTION

The Frank Sargeson Collection is also inscribed in 2024. The Sargeson Archive comprises literary drafts, correspondence and photographs held at the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington. Frank was a friend and mentor to many New Zealand writers, including Janet Frame and Karl Stead. Janet lived on Sargeson's property on Esmonde Road, Takapuna from April 1955 to July 1956, where she worked on her first full length novel *Owls do Cry* (1975).

Literary archives often connect in our research repositories across the country. In the inscriptions above the work of Michael King is present in three of the four. He worked on significant biographies of both Frank Sargeson and Janet Frame and accessed these collections in Wellington and Dunedin.

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AND NOMINATIONS

If you are interested in nominating an Aotearoa New Zealand collection for inscription in 2025, you can register an expression of interest by filling in a form on the New Zealand Register website.<sup>5</sup> This expression of interest will help you to establish whether your nomination will meet the required criteria. After this, it is a matter of completing a nomination form.<sup>6</sup> Expressions of interest close on 1 March 2025 and nominations for the 2025 register close on 31 May 2025.

### ENDNOTES

1. Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Ngā Mahara o te Ao, 'We Celebrate and Promote New Zealand's Documentary Heritage', n.d., available at <https://unescomow.nz/new-zealand-register>, accessed 30 July 2024.
2. *ibid.*
3. UNESCO, New Zealand National Commission Te Kōmihana Matua o Aotearua, 'Whanganui becomes a UNESCO Creative City of Design', 2021, available at <https://unesco.org.nz/news/whanganui-becomes-a-unesco-creative-city-of-design>, accessed 30 July 2024.
4. See: <https://unescomow.nz/inscription/charles-brasch-literary-and-personal-papers>.
5. See: <https://unescomow.nz>.
6. See: <https://unescomow.nz>.

# ... an appropriate language to deal with the material of New Zealand life

### Frank Sargeson Collection

Frank Sargeson (born Norris Frank Davey) had a profound effect on the style of New Zealand writing with his focus on the voices of New Zealanders and their authentic vernacular.

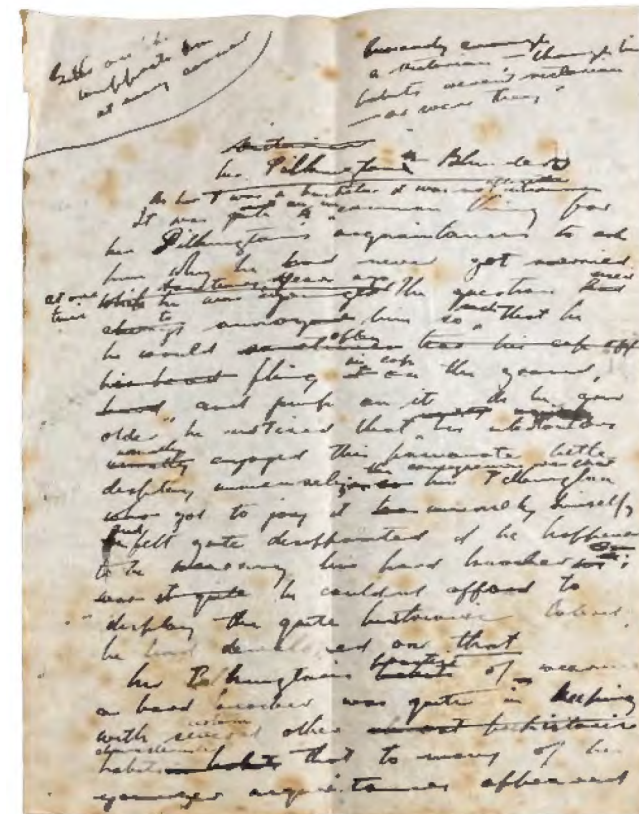
The bulk of this material contains 878 folders and nearly 400 black and white original photographic prints. Including within the manuscripts are three series of inward and outward correspondence. These letters are comprehensive covering his many relationships including those with friends, fellow writers and publishers. There are further series comprising literary drafts across all forms of writing as well as tranches of his personal and financial papers, interview transcripts, collected newspaper cuttings and theatre ephemera.

It includes annotated manuscripts, literary drafts, and research notebooks that demonstrate his creative process and allows researchers to trace the development of some of his novels, short stories and memoirs.

Sargeson was a mentor to many other writers, including Janet Frame, and there are many connections to these writers in this collection.

### Archive Location

ALEXANDER TURNBULL LIBRARY  
NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NEW ZEALAND  
Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa



Short story 'Mr Pilkington blunders', MS-Papers-0432-260.

# ... she kept meticulous details of her life

## Janet Frame: Literary and Personal Papers

"Janet Frame burst onto the post-war New Zealand literary scene with a series of novels which were unlike anything written in New Zealand before, with a vividly imaginative and perceptive insight into the human psyche, the workings of memory, and the manifestations of the human spirit." Literary scholar Patricia Neville.

The papers contain the details of her life – from household and travel documents to the correspondence from friends, acquaintances, publishers and family, to the manuscripts for her work. Her autobiographies *To the Is-land* (1983); *An Angel at My Table* (1984); *The Envoy from Mirror City* (1985), and Michael King's biographical work, draw heavily on the papers.

This collection forms a rich resource for scholars of the post war New Zealand literary scene. The correspondence includes letters from New Zealand and international writers, artists and other figures.

2024 is the centenary of Janet Frame's birth.

### Archive Location

Hocken Collections  
Uare Taoka o Hākena



# It attracted approximately one million primetime viewers, out of a population of just three million



Production photo showing Piri Poutapu speaking with Michael King on the porch of Mahinaarangi, Tūrangawaewae Marae, Ngāruawahia.

## Tangata Whenua: The People of the Land

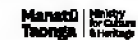
The ground-breaking documentary series *Tangata Whenua* was broadcast on New Zealand television in 1974. It attracted approximately one million primetime viewers, out of a population of just three million, and captured rich details of Māori history, culture, and identity during a period of significant change in New Zealand. The NZBC said the Feltex Award winning series had "possibly done more towards helping the European understand the Māori people, their traditions and way of life, than anything else previously shown on television".

The six-part series was filmed just after the Māori Language Petition and broadcast the year prior to the Māori Land March and the establishment of the Waitangi Tribunal. We see these issues playing out on the screen, as people shared their experiences and wrestled with questions of identity.

The series was timely, providing Māori with an opportunity to speak for themselves while helping Pākehā New Zealanders understand the Māori people, their traditions and way of life.

There are 15 boxes of associated documentation, artwork and stills.

### Archive Location



Inscribed onto the UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Register in 2024

Discover more at [unescomow.nz](https://unescomow.nz)



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# A singular insight into a period of settlement in the Whanganui-Rangitikei region



Whanganui iwi tents and waka on the river foreshore, Whanganui town, circa 1880s. Harding studio proof print, Alexander Heritage & Research Library | Te Rerenga Mai o te Kāuru.

## William James Harding Collection

Harding's studio portraits, street and landscapes provide a detailed picture of Whanganui society from the 1850s to the 1880s, documenting in rich detail the growth of the settlement during a formative time in the history of Aotearoa. The more than 6,500 photographs are a rich and unique source of information relating to Māori and Pākehā individuals of the

Whanganui-Rangitikei population, and the growth of the settlement during a period of significant conflict and rapid expansion, characteristic of early settler colonialism in New Zealand towns. What is unique about his approach to photography is his dedication to a faithful depiction of his subjects.

### Archive Locations

Alexander Heritage & Research Library  
Te Rerenga Mai o te Kāuru, Whanganui District Library



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### Archive Location



Alexander Heritage & Research Library  
Te Rerenga Mai o te Kāuru, Whanganui District Library



Wright family baby of Bell Street. Quarter-plate collodion silver glass negative. Photograph: Studio of William Harding, ca. 1870s. Ref. ¼-008515-G. Alexander Turnbull Library, William James Harding Collection.



Inscribed onto the UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Register in 2024

Discover more at [unescomow.nz](https://unescomow.nz)

# A singular insight into a period of settlement in the Whanganui-Rangitikei region



Eel or fish weir at Pungarehu, on the banks of the Whanganui River. Whole-plate collodion silver glass negative. Photographer: William Harding, between 1856 and 1889. Ref. 1/1-000483-G. Alexander Turnbull Library, William James Harding Collection.

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## Archive Locations



Alexander Heritage & Research Library  
Te Rerenga Mai o te Kāuru, Whanganui  
District Library



Inscribed onto the UNESCO Memory of the World Aotearoa New Zealand Register in 2024

Discover more at [unescomow.nz](https://unescomow.nz)

## MASSEY UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES, PALMERSTON NORTH

### An overview

By *Louis Annis Changuion*

### INTRODUCTION

Massey University Archives is celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2024. The university itself traces its origin back to 1927 when the Massey Agricultural College was established in Palmerston North. Establishing a university archive was not a fast process at Massey University. The movement to establish an archive began in 1964, the year Massey gained full university status. In that year, the library first raised its concern at the lack of an archive repository for the university and the disparate state of storage of historical records and materials of the university.

A university archive was eventually established in 1984 to put the management of the university's archival and historical records on a sound footing. This overview will look at the history of the Archives, its spaces and facilities, the collections in its care and the systems used for intellectual control and access.

### ORIGIN

In 1984, the Vice-Chancellor of Massey University called together a committee to investigate the establishment of a university archive. The Archives Committee held its first meeting on 10 May 1984.<sup>1</sup> Its first tasks were to determine the scope of the collection, find a suitable space



for the archives, assemble and organise archival material, and appoint an archivist.<sup>2</sup> This it did efficiently and at the start of 1986, the university archives was able to receive its first researchers.<sup>3</sup> The task of assembling, organising, and laying the foundation for the archives continued over the next few years.

The establishing of the University Archives was the culmination of a two-decade long quest by the library and Academic Board of the university to get an archive established. Realising the need for an office of the university to collect and preserve material related to the history of the university, the library was the main driving force behind the efforts of getting the archives established. Through the Library Committee, the library had expressed its concern in 1964 for the preservation of the archival material of the university.<sup>4</sup> This was seven years after the Archives Act 1957 came into effect.

In 1967 the Library Committee