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Architecture Archive

Gummer & Ford, Urbis Porta [Dilworth Trust Building] (detail) (1925)
Gummer & Ford Collection (GF33)





Holman, W. A., Lambourne's building (detail) (ca 1909)
Holman Moses Collection (HMGr)

The Architecture Archive consists primarily of drawings and associated architectural records with a strong Auckland regional emphasis. Some collections have a broader New Zealand focus and include international projects.

The accumulation of architectural drawings and other archival materials began in the late 1960s and over the ensuing years a considerable collection has been assembled.

A wide range of original and reprographic architectural drawings are collected, such as sketches, presentation, contract and working drawings. Associated project documentation including specifications, correspondence, and photographs accompany drawings in some collections, along with other professional papers such as transcripts of lectures and personal papers, e.g., diaries and travel sketchbooks.

Currently the Archive holds materials relating to approximately 250 architectural practices or individuals, including in excess of 60,000 sheets of drawings.

The work of some of Auckland's more prominent architects from the latter part of the 19th and 20th centuries are represented in the collection, including H. L. Massey, Gummer & Ford, E. A. Bartley, R. A. Lippincott, Holman & Moses, Arnold & Abbott, M.K. & R.F. Draffin, Vernon Brown, Group Architects, T. K. Donner and R. H. Toy.

Various materials are held in the Archive relating to the New Zealand Institute of Architects (NZIA) annual awards, from 1927 to the 1980s, and papers from the Auckland Institute of Architects, the precursor of the NZIA.

The Archive also collects materials which reflect the history of the University of

Auckland School of Architecture and Planning. Various writings and drawings of staff members are held, along with historical prospectuses for the teaching programmes. Included are the papers of the late Professor R. T. Kennedy, the first Professor of Town Planning, and some of the papers of the late Professor C. R. Knight, the first Professor of Architecture.

The Architecture Archive is a member of the International Confederation of Architectural Museums (ICAM).



Lippincott, R. A., Auckland University College: Mosaic floor detail (1924), Lippincott Collection (LP2)



Arnold C., Cottage on One Tree Hill for Sir John Logan Campbell [Huia Lodge] (detail) (1903), Arnold Abbott Collection (AAY)

Access the Archive

The Architecture Archive is located within the University of Auckland's Architecture and Planning Library.

The Archive is open to researchers by appointment only, Monday to Friday.

Contact the Architecture Archivist by email to arrange a suitable time.

Please include details about the scope and purpose of your research to enable us to prepare materials for your visit. This is especially important as some research areas require additional permissions to access collections.

All materials are consulted under supervision.

Donating to the Archive

The Architecture Archive welcomes donations which enable us to continue to build our collection relating to the built environment and those responsible for it.

Please contact the Architecture Archivist by email to discuss any potential donations. All donations offered will be assessed according to the archive's collecting criteria.

We also appreciate hearing from researchers who know of materials which may be available for donation.



Gummer & Ford, Auckland Railway Station (1927)
Gummer & Ford Collection (GF5)