

HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF NEW ZEALAND

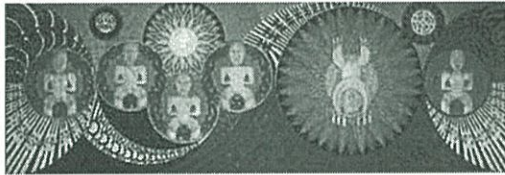
The National Library was formed in 1965, when the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Library Service were brought together.

KO TE HITORI O TE PUNA O TE MĀTAURANGA

Nō te tau 1965 ka tū ai Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa, he whakakotahitanga i te Whare Pukapuka o Alexander Turnbull, te Whare Pukapuka Whakaminenga Whānui, me te Ratonga Whare Pukapuka o Aotearoa nā te Ture.

Mā mua ka kite a muri; Mā muri ka ora a mua.

Those who lead give sight to those who follow; Those who follow give life to those who lead.



The following timeline shows significant events in the formation and growth of the National Library:

- 2011** The National Library is integrated into the Department of Internal Affairs, alongside Archives New Zealand.
- 2009** The National Library starts a redevelopment of its Wellington building, to ensure the safety of the collections and create storage space National Library's building redevelopment
- 2003** The National Library of New Zealand (Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa) Act is passed. More about the National Library Act
- 2001** The publication of Te Kaupapa Mahi Tahi – A Plan for Partnership affirms the Library's commitment to Māori clients.
- 1992** Ian Grant establishes the New Zealand Cartoon Archive in the Turnbull Library.
- 1991** The Oral History Centre is created within the Alexander Turnbull Library when the New Zealand Oral History Archive (which had been ho independent organisation since 1987) is disestablished.
- 1990** The National Film Library becomes part of the National Library.
- 1988** The National Library becomes an autonomous government department, no longer administered by the Department of Education. The L Mātauranga o Aotearoa – the wellspring of knowledge.
- 1987** Library staff and collections are moved from 14 sites around Wellington to the new National Library building on Molesworth Street. The August.
- 1985** The General Assembly Library separates from the National Library. It is now known as the Parliamentary Library.
- 1980** The Archive of New Zealand Music is established at the suggestion of Douglas Lilburn.
- 1974** Construction begins on the new National Library building, but is suspended between 1976 and 1981.
- 1965** The National Library Act (1965) brings together the General Assembly Library, the Alexander Turnbull Library and the National Library Service of New Zealand.
- 1945** The Country Library Service and the School Library Service are amalgamated to form the National Library Service.
- 1942** The School Library Service is established.
- 1938** The Country Library Service is formed, the first step towards creating a national library.
- 1934** The Munn-Barr report recommends a national library service.
- 1920** The Alexander Turnbull Library, based on the collections bequeathed to the Crown by Alexander Horsburgh Turnbull in 1918, is opened.
- 1858** General Assembly Library is formed to serve Members of Parliament.

[Email this page](#) [Print this page](#)

[About this site](#) | [Contact details](#) | [Sitemap](#) | [Accessibility](#) | [Terms of use](#) | [Internal Affairs](#)

newzealand.govt.nz