

PACIFIC MANUSCRIPTS BUREAU

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Report on PMB fieldwork in Rarotonga, 31 August-12 September 2009.

General.

The aim of this fieldwork was to microfilm the Cook Islands research papers of Donald Stanley Marshall at the invitation Rod Dixon, Director of the Cook Islands Campus of the University of the South Pacific, as reported to the PMB Management Committee meeting in May 2009.

I took the opportunity to visit the Cook Islands National Library, the Cook Islands Library and Museum Society and the Cook Islands National Archives, but there was not enough time to continue microfilming the correspondence of the Resident Agents in the outer Islands. With Rod Dixon's encouragement I gave a public "slide show" of photographs in an album documenting the Pacific Islands official tour of Lord Liverpool, Governor-General of New Zealand, in 1919 (PMB 1281, PMB Photo 11), and distributed catalogues of PMB resources documenting the Cook Islands.

11 reels of microfilm were exposed, producing the following PMB microfilm Series titles:

- PMB 1335 MARSHALL, Donald Stanley (1919-1905), Polynesian Expedition Journals, 1951-1961. Reels 1-4. (Available for reference.)
- PMB 1336 MARSHALL, Donald Stanley (1919-1905), Mangaian Census Materials, 1958. Reels 1-2. (Restricted access.)
- PMB 1337 MARSHALL, Donald Stanley (1919-1905), Cook Islands Research Papers, 1951-1989. Reels 1-6. (Available for reference.)
- PMB 1338 EASTMAN, Rev. George Herbert (1881-1974), A Rarotongan-English Dictionary, Compiled 1918. 1 reel. (Available for reference.)
- PMB Doc 518 TE KARERE KOIA OKI TE PEPA SOCIETY. With which is incorporated, *Fugitive Papers, Edited in Mangaia*, The London Missionary Society Press, Mangaia, South Pacific, Nos.4-16 & 16, Sep 1898-Jan 1901. 1 reel. (Available for reference.)

This was the 4th PMB visit to Rarotonga during my time as Executive Officer; the previous fieldwork being carried out in Nov 2001, Apr 2002, and Nov 2004. Staying at the Aitutaki Hostel, right next to the USP Centre, was not only convenient but also provided the best entertainment. About 100 Aitutakians arrived to prepare for *Te Maeva Nui* annual inter-island dance competition. As Rarotonga had been very busy hosting the World Netball Championships, the dance competition and independence day celebration were postponed until 12 September. The Hostel woke at 6.30am to the most beautiful custom hymn sung in parts, prayers, a sermon and speeches, then leapt up to exercises, cooking, eating, washing, cleaning, making costumes and rehearsing the songs and dances accompanied by slit drums, base drum, conch shells and yells, like Tarvuvur in full eruption, and continuing off and on until more speeches and evening prayer at about midnight. I wished I could microfilm it all!

Thanks very much to the Aitutaki leaders and to the Hostel managers, Kath and Gavin, who allowed me to stay on at the Hostel. Thanks to Mr Mataio, a friend of my colleague Dr John Spurway, who kindly kept an eye on my welfare, providing large amounts of pawpaws, bananas and lemons from his wonderful garden and taking me to lunch at his place on Fathers' Day. Thanks also to Seana and Tiena of the USP Centre administrative staff for their tolerance. I am especially grateful to Rod Dixon for his kindness, collaboration and exuberance, and for allowing me access to the USP Centre's visitor's room at all hours.

D.S. Marshall Papers, USP Centre, Avarua, 30 Aug-10 Sep 2009

Mira Nan Marshall donated her father's Cook Islands research materials to the USP Cook Islands Campus in 2008. Ms Marshall approved the microfilming but advised care when copying some of Marshall's inward correspondence. A second, larger, record group of Marshall's research materials, probably relating to French Polynesia, where Marshall worked in Ra'ivavae and Tikehau, has been donated to the Bishop Museum by Mira Marshall.

Don Marshall undertook 12 expeditions to Polynesia during the period 1951 to 2004, a number of them on behalf of the Peabody Museum, Salem, carrying out research work in Honolulu, Tahiti, Fiji, New Zealand, the Cook Islands, Samoa, the Australs and the Tuamotus. His field work in the Cook Islands focused on Mangaia.

Marshall was a professional photographer before World War II. He enlisted in the US Army in 1942 and was based in Panama where he developed an interest in the San Blas Cuna Indians and a lifelong passion for anthropology. After the War Marshall studied anthropology at Harvard and in 1951 was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to New Zealand, stopping at Honolulu for a few weeks with Sir Peter Buck who had studied and published a good deal on Mangaia. Marshall carried out fieldwork in Mangaia, including collecting artefacts for the Peabody Museum, in May 1952, February to May 1955, and November 1957 to June 1958. He was awarded a doctorate from Harvard University in 1956. Marshall returned to the Cook Islands in 1976 and 1989.

Marshall was editor of Frank Stimson's, *Songs and Tales of the Sea Kings: interpretations of the oral literature of Polynesia* (1957); joint author with Frank Stimson of, *Ra'ivavae: an expedition to the most fascinating and mysterious island in Polynesia* (1961); joint author and editor of *Human Sexual Behavior: variations in the ethnographic spectrum* (1971), based on papers presented in 1965; and author of, "Too Much in Mangaia", in *Readings in Human Sexuality: contemporary perspectives*, edited by Chad Morgan and Gayle Johnson (1980).

In 1962-1963 Marshall attended the US Army War College then joined the Army General Staff in Washington, serving two tours of duty in Vietnam, working on analyses of US involvement in the war and strategies for the future. He also served as deputy director of the Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) task force at the Pentagon and as director of strategy and assessment for the Defense Nuclear Agency. He retired in 1976.

From 1980 to 1990 Marshall worked at the University of California, Berkeley on post-doctoral studies in anthropology and linguistics, and later on the Vietnam Project of the Military Conflict Institute. In 1990 he became director of publications and research for Oceania at the Peabody Essex Museum, and editor of *Neptune*. Ill health forced Marshall to retire a second time in August 2000. (The biographical notes above are from, Rod Dixon (ed.), *Captive Images: images of Rarotongans and Mangaian in the 1950s. Photographs by Donald Stanley Marshall, donated by Mira Nan Marshall Virginia, Rarotonga, USP Cook Islands Campus, 2009; a catalogue for an exhibition of Marshall's photographs on display at the Beachcomber in Avarua Aug-Sep 2009.*)

The Don Marshall archive in Rarotonga is held in 47 archive boxes and 3 containers of negatives, in 4 four-drawer filing cabinets, in Rod Dixon's room at the USP Centre. The bottom drawers of the filing cabinets have not been used as the USP Centre building is subject to flooding. The papers and photographs are loosely arranged, but Rod Dixon has compiled a detailed item list to which I contributed a little when working through the documents. The archive consists of:

- prints and negatives of Marshall's Cook Islands photographs;
- journals of Marshall's 1st-5th Polynesian expeditions (but not his expedition field notes),
- drafts of Marshall's Cook Islands publications, including his unpublished paper, *Descent, Relationship and Territorial Groups of Mangaia - Kith, Kin and Kindred on Mangaia*,
- correspondence relating to Marshall's Cook Islands fieldwork;
- research papers compiled during Marshall's Cook Islands field work, including his catalogue of fish and fauna on Mangaia, and materials on songs and music, bibliography, census and linguistics;
- one filing cabinet drawer of Cook Islands Maori (Mangaian) word cards (not microfilmed).

Published material held in the Marshall Papers includes:

- publications of the LMS Press on Mangaia, including *Te Karere Koia Oki Te Pepa Society, with which is incorporated, Fugitive Papers, Edited in Mangaia*, Nos.4-16 &16, Sep 1898-Jan 1901, the latter microfilmed at PMB Doc 518;
- extensive sets of post-War school readers in Cook Islands Maori (not filmed), and *E Au Tua Maori*, Nos.1-3, c.1946-47, together with a compilation of stories and legends of the Cook Islands by Cook Islander authors;
- extensive collection of rare Cook Islands Maori dictionaries, word lists and grammars,
- including an annotated copy of Rev. Eastman's, *Rarotongan-English Dictionary*, given to Marshall by Rev. Murphy, microfilmed at PMB 1338. (Another copy, held by Rev. Eastman in Dorset was microfilmed at PMB 478 in 1974. However we considered that the annotations in this volume would make it worthwhile microfilming as well.)
- a strong set of Cook Islands annual reports and legislation (not filmed);
- a good set of early papers by Ron Crocombe on land tenure in the Cook Islands.

Manuscripts, unpublished and rare printed materials in boxes 1.1-1.8, 2.1-2.5, 3.1, 4.1, 5.1-5.5, 6.1-6.2, 7.1-7.6, 8.1-8.4 were microfilmed in order of the listing, including, for many items, photographic prints where they were held with textual records. Selected items in Boxes 6.3-6.5, 9.1-9.5, 10.1-10.3, 12.1-12.4 have yet to be microfilmed. Rod Dixon has already digitised a number of the photographic prints and plans to digitise the complete set of Marshall's negatives in due course. He may call on the Bureau to collaborate on the digitisation.

Rod Dixon suggested a number of other possible projects to be undertaken by the PMB in Rarotonga:

- Bryant Allen, research papers for his Masters thesis of agricultural change in Mangaia.
- Hugh McCrone Connal, land surveys in the Cook Islands (1930s-1940s?) – notebooks not located;
- Ron Crocombe, research papers – felt inappropriate to approach Marjorie Crocombe at this stage. Note that a special edition of the *Cook Islands News*, "Salute to Papa Ron" (12pp.), was published on 26 June. Copies are available from Rod Dixon dixon_r@usp.ac.fj who helped edit the compilation of eulogies, odes and tributes.
- Rod Dixon's own research papers on Mangaia may include material for PMB microfilming.
- Niel Gunson, Mangaia genealogies.
- Gerald McCormack, project files for his Cook Islands Natural History Project, which is a database currently with the Bishop Museum but likely to be transferred to Sussex University; McCormack reported to Rod Dixon that he is willing to allow microfilming at a future date.
- Survey and listing of Cook Islands Court archives, including comparison with records microfilmed by the Latter Day Saints. Note the National Archives does not have a list of Court records in its custody. Contacts for listing are: Mark Short, Secretary for Justice, and Teati Mokoroa, in charge of Justice records. A draft listing of LDS Cook Islands microfilms was compiled from the (LDS) Family History Library catalogue and is available from the PMB.
- Survey and listing of Cook Islands National Archives (Cf. *Cook Islands Government, List of Archives*, n.d.; Ts., p/c., 105pp. In W.G. Coppel, *Research Papers on the Pacific Islands – The Cook Islands, Norfolk Island And Pacific Bibliographies*, Box 7, at PMB, not yet microfilmed.)

In addition:

- Rod Dixon wishes to locate and obtain copies of recordings on wax cylinders of Cook Islander chants in the Grainger Collection at the University of Melbourne.
- Rod Dixon would like to construct a Cook Islands Archive of digital materials – island by island – but is uncertain where he would locate a server for the digital archives. We had a brief discussion with Te Tika Mata'ipo, Dorice Reid, in which she confirmed the interest of the Ko'utu Nui ('Are Marama Nui Project) in compiling a comprehensive catalogue of Cook Islands archival materials.
- Rod Dixon would like to publish a joint report on the D.S. Marshall Papers in the Archives section of the *Journal of Pacific History*.

Presentation, Beachcomber, Avarua, 3 September

The “slide show” of photographs in the Lord Liverpool Album, 1919 (PMB 1281 / PMB Photo 11 lent to the Bureau for copying by Ewan Johnston) was advertised by the USP Centre in the *Cook Islands News*. The meeting was convened by Rod Dixon, assisted by Mahiriki Tangarua, Beachcomber Contemporary Art Curator,, and held in a new gallery at the Beachcomber in which an exhibition of Marshall’s Rarotonga and Mangaia photographs was on display. About 30 people attended, helping to identify sites and buildings in the photographs. A report on the meeting was published in the *Cook Islands News* on 8 September.

A draft *Catalogue of Cook Islands Documents at the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau*, published for the ‘Are Marama Nui Project by the USP Cook Islands Campus, was distributed at the meeting, consisting of:

- Summary list of Cook Islands titles on PMB Microfilms
- Summary of the contents of the Rarotonga Microfile, October 1961
- List Cook Islands Papers formerly held in the Pacific and Asian History (RSPAS) Records Room
- W.G. Coppel, Research Papers on the Pacific Islands, in particular, the Cook Islands, Norfolk Island and Pacific bibliographies.
- The D.S. Marshall Archive catalogue

We also distributed a handout, *Cook Islands Photograph Collections listed in PMB Catalogue of South Seas Photograph Collections, and elsewhere*, which abstracted information from Marie Melvin’s “Introduction” to *Captive Images* to help construct a “genealogy” of Cook Islands photograph collections.

Both catalogues are available from the Bureau on request.

Cook Islands National Library, 31 August

I visited Justina Nicholas, the National Librarian, exchanged news – Sonny Williams has been re-appointed Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture. Agreed to provide Justina with the lists of PMB Cook Islands materials.

Cook Islands National Archives, 1 & 10 September

George Paniani, Kanny Vaile, and Ake Willie are still working at the National Archives. Ake may be emigrating to Melbourne later this year. Mr Paniani confirmed that the PMB may continue microfilming the Resident Agents’ correspondence. 9 reels of unexposed microfilm negative which I left in the Archives in 2004 are still there. I took one to test. The Archives had received the microfilm reader donated last year through the auspices of the LDS and PMB.

Mr Paniani reported that a new Cook Islands Official Information Act is in place. It is a freedom of information regulation, which together with improved public record keeping, is being seen as a pilot project for other Pacific Islands nations. PARBICA has been running training sessions through the Ombudsman’s Office, not the Archives. Information Management Officers are being appointed by all Ministries. There is a possibility that the Archives Act will be re-visited. There is a 15-year closure rule in the Cook Islands – the Archives is attempting to be much less restrictive on access. However there is no up-to-date listing of its holdings which impedes public access.

I showed Mr Paniani the lists of PMB Cook Islands materials intended for publication through the USP Cook Islands Campus. He said that he supported the publication of the lists.

The National Archives is two years behind in PARBICA subscriptions (US\$300 pa) due to the change the Ministry’s Permanent Secretary. Mr Paniani, a founding member of PARBICA, has not been encouraged to attend the PARBICA meeting in Brisbane in October, but has been asked for a Country Report for the conference. He will ask the Secretary to make arrangements for payment of one year’s subscription.

Cook Islands Library and Museum Society, 31 August & 10 September

Jean Mason, the CILMS convenor, welcomed the PMB's fieldwork in the Cook Islands and attended the Lord Liverpool slide show. Ms Mason took copies of the PMB listings which included a number of CILMS manuscripts microfilmed by Bill Coppell (at PMB 1065, 1066, 1069 and 1070). She said that the CILMS was reconstructing a catalogue of its manuscripts some of which may have gone astray since the microfilms were made. The CILMS also has a large collection of photographs, postcard copies of some available for purchase.

Mr Nga Mataio, General Secretary, Cook Islands Christian Church, Takamoa Theological College, Avarua, 31 August, 3, 6, 10 September

Mr Mataio attended the Lord Liverpool album slide show and took digital copies of the photographs from the album of the Takamoa mission house and lecture hall which are now being renovated under his supervision. Mr Mataio gave me digital copies the *Cook Islands Christian Church Newsletter*, Nos.1-24, 1 Sep 2005-19 Mar 2009, and hard copies of Nos.25 & 26, 14 May & 29 Jul 2009 (in Maori and English) which include records of Executive Council and General Assembly meetings, lists of office bearers, profiles of distinguished Church members, and an historical series called "Reflections" and "History in Pictures". Mr Mataio also provided digital copies of the *Cook Islands Christian Church of Australia Newsletter*, Nos.1-4, Oct 2008-Jul 2009. I did not pursue Mr Mataio about CICC archives, but note that the LDS has microfilmed some Cook Islands LMS archives, as follows:

London Missionary Society (Cook Islands)

- Birth registers, 1846-1917, for Mangaia. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975 on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Birth registers, 1849-1939, for Rorotonga. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Also includes Seventh Day Adventist records of births, 1904-1930 and deaths 1904-1928. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975 on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Birth registers, 1876-1920, for Arutanga. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Arutanga is a village and district in the island of Aitutaki. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975 on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Birth registers, 1883-1916, for Pukapuka. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975 on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Birth registers, 1899-1977, for Atiu. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975, on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Birth registers, 1902-1921, for Mauke. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975, on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Birth registers, 1899-1917, for Mitiaro. Microfilm of original records of Land and Survey Office, Avarua. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1975, on 1 microfilm reel; 35 mm.
- Church records, 1838-1954, of Rarotonga. Microfilm of original records of Blackrock Mission Home and at the Archives of Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Includes: Births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, excommunication and other records. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977, on 5 microfilm reels; 35 mm.

London Missionary Society. Aitutaki (Cook Islands). Church records, 1877-1909. Includes births records. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977, on 1 reel 35mm microfilm.

London Missionary Society. Rakahanga (Cook Islands). Church records, 1902-1931. Microfilm of original Archives of Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Records and dates are mixed. Includes: Baptism and excommunication records. Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977, on 2 microfilm reels; 35 mm.

From (LDS) Family History Library Catalogue, Sep 2009.

Ewan Maidment
PMB Executive Officer
24 September 2009

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