Who we are
New Zealand Micrographic Services
Mass-Digitisation of Cultural Heritage

The LINZ Project

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Mass-Digitisation
The LINZ Collection

Much of the material is deteriorating and with the constant need for access, along with the increasing customer expectation for high resolution digital files to view high levels of detail and information, LINZ decided the material needed to be digitised with modern technology on a mass scale.
This mass digitisation project captured a total of **949,857** images of vital New Zealand land history from Surveyor Field Books and the resultant Imperial Plans, Provisional Registers and Certificate of Titles from the 1860’s onwards.
As the biggest cultural heritage digitisation bureau in New Zealand, our facilities were the perfect environment to capture this significant collection of land information. As outlined above, our four suites across New Zealand are well equipped with high performing digitisation equipment and a strong team of experienced professionals in handling and capturing this kind of material.
Logistics
An interesting challenge

At the height of the project 15 custom built crates were rotating weekly between LINZ Hamilton, all 4 NZMS Locations, Auckland Archives and Iron Mountain.

This resulted in 224 freight tickets for the entire project!
Our Team

It was a team effort, with almost everyone in our company of 50 employees having touched the LINZ project in some way or another, from research and testing, liaising with freight companies, governance and reporting, to capturing the material itself, Quality Control (QC) and Post Capture Process (PCP) activities, to online data hosting, writing scripts and ingesting metadata into Recollect for Quality Control checking by LINZ and access to the images by the LINZ customer service team.

A mass digitisation project of this size also meant that the technicians who were performing repetitive tasks had to be looked after. With a high demand on the team we had 7-8 capture stations capturing between 6-12 hours each day over our 4 locations, this meant that we had up to 10 people working at capture stations each day of the week.
Special requirements
Another interesting challenge…

Burnt Maps

Provisional Registers
LINZ Field Books
Special Surprises!

Field Books
Special Surprises!

The Output – Digital Files

File sizes

At time of capture a “Preservation copy” is produced which ranges between a 145-200MB Tiff per item of material. An “Archive copy” was produced from the Tiff as a JPG2000 as agreed with Archives NZ ranging between 6-9MB per item. The final “Access copy” was also created to allow LINZ to upload these images online and become easily accessible for the surveyors and users of this important land information.

In the entire project our team produced well over 100TB of data.

That’s over 2TB of data created each week!
Large Format – at a large scale
Special Equipment

Rolled Plans
Online Collection Management System
LINZ approval process
Black Maps Project for Ngāi Tahu
Designing the large format capture unit

https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=lxRWbQSt0Qk&feature=youtu.be
Online Collection Management System
New Zealand Heritage Maps

http://maps.recollect.co.nz/