

## **Collection and Resources Development Policy**

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### **Geographic Areas**

The Library collects resources from all parts of the world. The intention is that a visitor to the Library should be able to find basic information about any place in the world, or any language or culture.

#### **Collection overview**

Historically there has been an emphasis on collecting material from the British Commonwealth and Western Europe, which reflected Australian migration patterns of the time. The demographic profile in Australia has changed, however, and as a result these traditional areas are no longer given the same level of emphasis.

Collecting decisions are guided by the following criteria:

- the collecting policies of each of the main collections
- relevance to Australian circumstances, needs and interests
- material linkages, such as trade and tourism
- linguistic and cultural diversity of the Victorian population
- proximity to Australia – in the absence of other criteria, the Library acquires material relating to neighbouring countries on the grounds that interest and demand are likely to increase in the future.

From the application of these criteria, material relating to Victoria, the rest of Australia and countries of major current and historical significance to Victoria will be strongly emphasised.