

## THE MAPUNGUBWE ARCHIVE COLLECTIONS

The Mapungubwe Archive manages, maintains and preserves a considerable collection of historical documents, photographic material, maps, multimedia material, digital records, publications and other related material from the period 1933 to the present. However, the Mapungubwe Archive is not yet available online (or open access) as the establishment of an accessible online repository is what we aspire to in the future. The following is a list of sub-collections that are currently open for research:

Mapungubwe Document Collection (MAD), 1933–1999  
Mapungubwe Photograph Collection (MAP), 1933–1999  
Mapungubwe Cartography Collection (MAC), 1933–1990s  
Mapungubwe Illustration/Art Collection (MIC), 1930s  
Mapungubwe Newspaper Collection (MAN), 1933–2023  
Mapungubwe Digital Files and Electronic Media  
Mapungubwe Object File Collection (MAO), 1933–2023  
Mapungubwe Research Collection (MRC), 1933–2024

### The Mapungubwe Biography Collection (MBC) comprises the following:

Francois Bernard Lotrie records (1825–1917)  
Jeremiah Cornelius van Graan records (1908–1987)  
Leo Fouché records (1880–1949)  
Jacob de Villiers Roos records (1869–1940)  
Eustace Adams records (1888–1968)  
Guy Attwater Gardner records (1881–1959)  
Johannes Fritz Eloff records (1918–2007)  
Andrie Meyer records (b. 1946)  
Clarence van Riet Lowe records (1894–1956)  
John Schofield records (1886–1956)

The Mapungubwe Research Collection consists of published and unpublished hard copy and some digital research articles and field reports. There is also a dedicated Mapungubwe Libraria that houses books, theses, school textbooks, poetry, fiction and non-fiction books, and any published material on the subject of Mapungubwe, 1933–2024.

## CONTACT

**Archivist:** Helma Steenkamp  
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**E-mail:** [maparchive@up.ac.za](mailto:maparchive@up.ac.za)  
**Website:** <https://www.up.ac.za/museums-collections/article/3103767/mapungubwe-archive>

**Opening times:** 08:00–16:00 Mondays to Fridays  
**Research hours:** By appointment only. Not open on weekends, public holidays, during December.

**Fees:** Researchers are required to register annually and nominal registration fees apply. For image use for commercial purposes, costs will be incurred as copyright. Digitisation costs may be charged for.

**Address:** Mapungubwe Archive  
University of Pretoria  
Hatfield Campus  
Old Arts Building, Room 1-16  
Lynnwood Road, Pretoria, 0002  
Gauteng, SOUTH AFRICA



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University of Pretoria Museums

# MAPUNGUBWE *Archive*



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## INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Mapungubwe Archive is to collect, organise, and preserve in perpetuity the records of the University of Pretoria related to the diverse subject of Mapungubwe, and to make the Archive associated with the Mapungubwe collection accessible and provide research support to further an informed and enduring understanding of Mapungubwe. The Archive is a repository of historical and modern significance that forms a key part of the University of Pretoria's institutional memory bank. The Mapungubwe Archive was opened as a formal research repository in 2022 with generous funding from the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation in association with the U.S. Embassy in Pretoria.

## BRIEF HISTORY

Historical records dating back to 1933 relating to the history of Mapungubwe were departmentally managed as archaeological records as a result of the University of Pretoria's excavations from 1933 until 1998. However, since the establishment of a museum in 1999, records were transferred to form part of an archive which has since greatly expanded in scope and now serves under the curatorship of the University of Pretoria Museums. The Mapungubwe Archive operates under the umbrella of the University of Pretoria Archives of the Office of the Registrar and forms an integral part of the UP Museums' research and social responsibility role as stewards of the Mapungubwe Collection.

## RESEARCH ACCESS

The Mapungubwe Archive is a member of the International Council on Archives representing the records and archive professionals across the globe dedicated to the effective management, preservation and use of the world's archival heritage. The Mapungubwe Archive is accessible to staff, students and researchers. The Mapungubwe Archive is not a public archive and is only available to registered bona fide university researchers, both nationally and internationally. Requests for research access are sent by email and granted upon accepted registration as a researcher, after which an appointment time is scheduled for the researcher's visit. Researchers are all required to submit a letter of motivation with a formal research proposal (signed by a supervisor) with the required ethics permissions on a formal letterhead. The Mapungubwe Archive is available for research listed into practical sub-collections within chronological order and a reprography collection of copies is made available, as original material is rarely handled.

## RESTRICTIONS

Access to certain Mapungubwe Archive records is granted at discretion as these materials may be restricted to protect individual privacy rights, proprietary rights of the UP Museums or intellectual rights to the University of Pretoria, or because the records have not yet been processed and prepared for active research use. Restrictions may be imposed on certain primary materials including, but not

limited to fragile materials, confidential records, personnel-related files, financial records, legal records, including insurance and appraisal records, any personal information and other data that would compromise the Mapungubwe Archive's security.

