

Beth M Robertson
Manager Preservation
State Library of South Australia
North Terrace Adelaide SA 5000

Reference: State Library of South Australia UNESCO Memory of the World Australian Register

16 June 2022

Dear Beth

Thank you for contacting us regarding the nomination by the State Library of South Australia for the Old Colonists Photographic Mosaics Collection's inclusion to the Australian register of the UNESCO Memory of the World.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Society of Australian Genealogists, I write in strong support of this nomination. The Old Colonists Photographic Mosaics Collection is an important and unique asset for the public in general. It is specifically valuable to family historians who may be seeking out familial connections from the collection. The model of access, presentation and preservation that is already provided by the State Library of South Australia is to be commended. The ability to have the collection accessible online (including useful metadata) supports its place as a valuable research tool for genealogists from across Australia and the globe with links to South Australia and elsewhere.

The Society of Australian Genealogists' Archives hold items relating to the photographer Townsend Duryea – both correspondence and images - which reiterated his prominence, role, and importance as a colonial photographer.

The Society of Australian Genealogists fully supports your nomination of this collection to the Australian register of the UNESCO Memory of the World and looks forward to hearing more on this and other projects as they progress. We note the ongoing role that genealogists play in supporting collections, such as the Old Colonists Photographic Mosaics Collection, to further understand their provenance and to provide identification of photographed individuals where possible. We would welcome an article for our quarterly *Descent* magazine to provide an overview and insights into the collection.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to me or our Chief Executive Officer, Ruth Graham, via execofficer@sag.org.au.

Best Wishes



Melissa Hulbert
President
Chair of Board of Directors