

Directory of Canadian Theatre Archives. HEATHER MCCALLUM and RUTH PINCOE, comps. Halifax: School of Library and Information Studies Occasional Paper 53, Dalhousie University, 1992. x, 217 p. ISBN 0-7703-9709-3, ISSN 0318-7403.

According to one of its compilers, Heather McCallum, the *Directory of Canadian Theatre Archives* aims to "encourage the preservation and use of materials important to the study of Canadian theatre history" (v); its publication is certainly an important step towards the achievement of this goal. The directory contains over three hundred entries describing record collections relating to theatre history that exist in federal, provincial, and city archives, public and university libraries, university drama departments, theatre companies, schools and associations, museums, and private collections — a broad swath indeed.

McCallum notes that theatre performance is fleeting in its very nature, and the "fugitive records" (iii) — the playbills, programmes, posters, scrapbooks, stage designs, playscripts, prompt and stage managers' scripts, audio and video recordings, correspondence, administrative files, and diaries — that document it are often housed in less than perfect conditions. She urges theatres and university drama departments to consider depositing their records in proper archives, and she asks collecting institutions to rationalize their resources in order to avoid "collections of ill-assorted materials within institutions and within regions." "There should be," she argues, "a clear understanding and an established policy among institutions collecting in the field as to what is appropriate for each institution to acquire" (v). Good sense, and a very good directory.

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Aboriginal Peoples in the Archives: A Guide to Sources in the Archives of Ontario. JAMES MORRISON. Toronto: Archives of Ontario, Ministry of Culture and Communication, 1992. 129 p. ISBN 0-7729-9839-8.

This guide is a worthwhile contribution for those persons interested in researching aboriginal history and related issues, especially for those examining Native land claims and the recognition of treaty and aboriginal rights. It combines references to primary sources available at the Archives of Ontario with an abundance of additional information provided in the introduction and appendices to assist the user of the guide.

The descriptions of the records in the guide are categorized according to the nature of the record as held within the Archives. These include Government Record Groups, Private Papers (set up by "F number"), and "Special Collections," which include Photographic Records and Documentary Art, Cartographic Records, Sound and Moving Image Records, Newspapers and various rare, printed sources from the Archives of Ontario Library, and finally, Diffusion Microfilm. Each entry has a unique number and the following information is provided for each: background description, content, finding aid, availability of microfilm, access restrictions and, where relevant, copyright information.

In addition to the detailed descriptions of the collections, the background information provided on each of the entries is extensive. It includes a general description of each record group linking the creator of the record and aboriginal people, along with supplementary information on the history of government in Ontario. The guide provides a framework which assists the researcher in putting things in perspective.

The layout and design of this guide clearly reflects the importance of the documents concerned and the issues raised by the historical documentation described.