

Gibson's work is based almost exclusively on the Bank of Nova Scotia's *Monthly Review* (a publication of the Economics Department), the Bank's *Annual Report*, over one hundred interviews, most of which were with past or present Bank staff, and his own considerable acquaintance with developments. Unfortunately, his footnotes are few in number and he does not cite interview documentation when it is used, although those interviewed are listed at the beginning of the book. One hopes a record of the interviews found its way into the Bank's Archives.

To those who have been a part of the Bank's last forty years, Gibson's account will seem like congratulations on a job well done. To others the freewheeling survey he presents in the last chapters will seem overwhelming in scope and content. But it should be mentioned that Gibson had the unenviable task of writing about a period of recent history in which he was a principal actor through the combined memories and under the eyes of other living participants. Moreover, underlying his story of big men and events is a cautious attempt to justify his contentious resignation in 1965 from the position of Deputy Chairman and Executive Vice-President.

*The Scotiabank Story* provides an interesting lesson in business archives. Many business repositories are hastily created to support a company-sponsored history and some exist only until the project is completed. For nearly a decade, the Bank of Nova Scotia Archives has served as a model of the proper role a business archives can perform within its organization. The Bank has grown accustomed to serious academic use of its archival records. The Bank of Nova Scotia history project promised to demonstrate further what a well-established business archives could do for the organization and the historian. It is indeed unfortunate, and somewhat surprising, that it did not do so because this "official history" made such token use of the very sources which were plentiful and readily available through the Bank's own Archives.

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**Indian History and Claims: A Research Handbook. Volume I: Research Projects. Volume II: Research Methods.** BENNETT McCARDLE. Ottawa: Treaties and Historical Research Centre, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 1982. 376 p.

Regular readers of this journal will recall an article by James Morrison entitled "Archives and Native Claims," *Archivaria* 9 (Winter 1979-80). Morrison called attention to a new species of archival researcher typified by its almost limitless capacity for hard work and insatiable appetite for photocopies. As archivists charged with the care and cultivation of the wide range of sources relevant to native claims research know, this creature is still alive and well in the reading rooms of archives from coast to coast. Although Bennett McCardle's *Indian History and Claims: A Research Handbook* ought to be quickly devoured by native claims researchers, it is also designed for those writing native history. Interest in native history has grown dramatically over the past decade as evidenced by the increase in native studies programs and native resource centres. It is the stated aim of the *Handbook* to encourage academic work while assisting native communities to discover and record their heritage. It is intended for the novice investigating native history or claims and the seasoned researcher.

The first section, entitled "Writing a Band, Community, or Reserve History," was written for those interested in writing a history of a particular native community rather than presenting a claim. Genealogical researchers will find a separate section dealing with the questions of status, band membership, and the compilation of family histories. McCardle offers sound basic advice on researching and writing local history along with a bibliography which includes published Indian local and oral histories, a selection of general reference works on natives, and a brief list of books on how to prepare local histories. The bibliography stresses the importance of oral sources to native local history since the recollections of the elders in an Indian community, while not always the same as the written accounts of the missionary, government official, or settler, are not necessarily less valid.

The second section, entitled "Specific Research Projects," addresses issues at the heart of native claims research — although McCardle emphasizes "specific" as opposed to "comprehensive" claims. Following a brief word-to-the-wise on the political dimension of claims research, the author launches into an extensive treatment of the complexities involved in researching reserve lands and resources, treaties, economic development and finances, hunting, fishing, and trapping, band membership, the Canadian constitution, Indian self-government, education, health care, justice and law enforcement, urban, military, and international Indian issues, culture, religion, Inuit, Métis, and aboriginal peoples outside Canada. For each of these topics she poses the research questions usually asked (or which should be asked) and identifies the documents most useful in providing answers. The reader is also provided with a note on the location of primary and secondary sources for research into each issue. In many instances when the records are difficult to find, specific file references are cited. These notes on sources are invaluable to the researcher and, it should be stressed, to the archivist. A decade of personal experience with the idiosyncracies of record-keeping practices of government and archival institutions has gone into their preparation. Explanations of how to *interpret* various types of documents are presented — a typical reserve map, trust statement, fund and annuity payroll, for example. These descriptions are particularly useful for the inexperienced researcher who, failing to grasp the significance of a cryptic notation or number on a document, may miss both the full import of the record and clues to the location of crucial related material. This section quite properly highlights records available through the two institutions which house the largest and most important collections for most native claims research — the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs (DINA) and the Public Archives of Canada (PAC). The *Handbook* deals elsewhere with records in the custody of local, private, and provincial archives.

Volume two of the *Handbook* offers general advice on undertaking a research project which beginners will especially value. The heart of this volume is found in the section entitled "Research" and the four appendices. Here the reader will find detailed instruction on how to do research in different archives. The advice on locating information in Ottawa is excellent. The types of records found at the PAC, DINA Headquarters, and other repositories in the city are not only identified, but also the arrangement of major collections is explained. Anyone familiar with the PAC's Record Group 10, Records of the Department of Indian Affairs, or the labyrinth of record-holding offices at DINA will appreciate the value of the comments. The four appendices include a handy glossary of terms used in native historical research; a directory of archives, libraries, Indian associations, government

offices, and other resource centres across Canada; a guide to materials available on microfilm for loan or purchase; and a commentary on access restrictions on records relating to Indian history and claims. McCardle explains in detail current terms of access to government-controlled information and speculates on the probable impact on native research of the Access to Information and Privacy Acts. She appears to be sceptical as regards the new legislation's ability to facilitate native claims research. One hopes that her misgivings are ill-founded, but final judgement on this point can only be made after the legislation has been tested.

Archivists can only hope that *Indian History and Claims: A Research Handbook* will be carefully read in research institutions and native organizations. That should prove a boon to archivists because they can be of much greater assistance to informed and confident researchers. At the same time, the *Handbook* has another and possibly unsettling message for the archivist. The considerable attention McCardle pays to the workings and peculiarities of archives and archival collections raises important questions. Why haven't archivists already described these records in published inventories? Why aren't more archivists preparing comprehensive guides to collections which would not only provide the researcher with the information required to locate records, but also a clear understanding of the historical context of their creation and their relationship to complementary sources?

The *Handbook* was not prepared in order to assist archivists or stimulate thought on the workings of the profession. The test of its value lies in the answers to two questions which the author poses. Will it assist and stimulate the investigation of the history of native peoples in Canada? The answer is yes. Will it help in the difficult business of resolving Indian claims? Here a more guarded reply is in order. The *Handbook* will certainly aid in the preparation of comprehensive, well-researched reports. Unfortunately, in the politically-charged atmosphere of native claims resolution, that is not always sufficient to produce a solution satisfactory to all parties.

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**A Guide to the Study of Manitoba Local History.** GERALD FRIESEN and BARRY POTYANDI. Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, 1981. viii, 182 p. ISBN 088755 605 1 \$4.95 pa.

*A Guide to the Study of Manitoba Local History* is a welcome addition to the burgeoning field of local heritage studies. Gerald Friesen and Barry Potyandi provide Manitobans with much-needed information about a wide variety of sources. Practical advice, although too often prescriptive, is given to various groups, but especially to local committees forging ahead with community histories. The bibliography gives a balanced introduction to secondary sources, and the guide to libraries and archives in Manitoba provides useful direction in spite of entries which tend to be too brief.

Local historians in Manitoba are cautioned not to attempt any independent archaeological excavations without seeking expert advice. It is argued that since analysis of prehistoric remains requires complex knowledge and is governed by legal