

This directory is extremely useful. In addition to a synopsis of the contents of each collection, the address, telephone number and the name of the responsible company officer are given. Restrictions are also clearly stated. All this information is well arranged and clearly displayed. The directory's format is ideal for the itinerant scholar. Its major deficiency is the lack of comprehensiveness for both the United States and Canada. At least ten significant Canadian archival collections, such as those held by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and by James Richardson and Sons, are missing. Certainly the *Directory of Business Archives* fails to match the extensive indexes provided in Great Britain. It serves, nevertheless, as an example of what can be done with a more limited effort. And until Canadians undertake a similar project to do the job here more thoroughly, this American publication is the best convenient guide to our private business archives.

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Pattern and Process: Research in Historical Geography. Edited by RALPH E. EHRENBERG. Washington: Howard University Press, 1975. 360 p. ill. (National Archives conferences, v. 9) ISBN 0 88258 050 7 \$15.00.

The rapid growth during the 1960s of interest in the historical geography of North America has produced a large number of unpublished academic studies on aspects of the early geography of Canada and the United States as well as a steady production of published literature devoted to the imprint of man on the land. The National Archives of the United States, well aware of the historic geographers' increasing use of archival resources, sponsored in its "user-archivist dialogue" series a conference in November, 1971, focussing upon research in historical geography. *Pattern and Process*, containing nineteen papers and discussion summaries, follows the five themes of the two-day conference: research on the historical geography of the United States; Afro-American population; exploration, surveying and mapping; transportation, commerce and industry; and, rural and urban settlement. One appendix lists the resource papers distributed at the conference; the other, probably the contribution of most archival interest, is Ralph Ehrenberg's "Bibliography of resources on historical geography in the National Archives."

The papers illustrate well the various research themes explored (for example, population mobility and vegetational perception) and the diversity of methodological approaches employed (for example, statistical analysis and narrative) by historical geographers who are distinguished from other academics, according to one of the conference participants, "by an overriding concern with location, places, areas, regions, territories, or realms" (p. 13). The four essays by archivists describe some of the sources of potential interest to historical geographers.

Historical geographers will undoubtedly find this volume interesting, but archivists will be disappointed by the omission of a discussion of the unique document requirements of historical geographers and a discussion of the government records now ignored by archivists but of special interest to this community of scholars; this dialogue was one of the objectives of the conference. Does *Pattern and Process* inform archivists of how they can serve better these academics with their particular perspective? In a limited way it does, but so does the periodical literature which is readily available. So we are left with a fine collection of essays in historical geography but little to guide us in our tasks as archivists.

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