corpus additional material and to see that copies are placed in the relevant local, regional, provincial and national collections. The challenge to the "network system" of inter-facing libraries/archives/scholars is to encourage the collection of these raw and rare materials in microform to make them universally accessible. The challenge to librarians, upon receiving a copy of a local publication, is as prosaic as to encourage the deposit of the two copies required for the National Library. The specific challenge to the archival profession is to study the local outcome from the area and to ensure that original source material freely drawn on is not allowed to be destroyed because its apparent usefulness has passed, or to be returned to some hideaway in oblivion. Oft have I yearned for access to the records available to the writers of Ontario's first general local histories, in the original county atlases (1875-1881) which no longer exist in many cases, or the priceless municipal and court records so freely quoted in early, massive histories of counties such as Goodspeed's Middlesex (1889); let alone the newspapers now irretrievably lost!

The source references in both volumes make note of various county and local bibliographies of varying degrees of coverage. It is obvious, both from the list of excluded topics in the volumes, and from the personal knowledge of archivists and reference librarians whose mandate concerns local studies, that a series of intensive and concentrated local listings of good bibliographical quality is an essential service leading towards the locating and describing of multitudes of locally-oriented publications, of which the church histories are perhaps the single largest group excluded from previous consideration. Printed municipal publications, from the archivist's standpoint, notably those generated in the last two decades, are another matter of deep concern. In the archival field, the first volume just released of the new Ontario's Heritage series, covering the Peterborough area, will serve as a model showing the richness of the available and, as yet, untapped resources. Archivists, librarians, local scholars, museum curators, and anyone interested in the preservation of our heritage, can take heart that their efforts are both necessary and valuable in the recording of our past, and in the perpetual updating of the record.

Edward Phelps
University of Western Ontario


A guide is most welcome in the archival jungle of uncoordinated collections, institutions, and resources. Volume one of Ontario's Heritage, of a proposed fifteen, will go far in aiding the traveller in the Peterborough Region's jungle of resources. The Guide will open under-used paths leading, at least for the genealogist, to a shady rest under a well-foliaged 'family tree'.

Therein may lie a major difficulty with volume one. Genealogists being what they are, indefatigable when on the trail of information, they will undoubtedly demand access to every sort of record listed in the Guide. Yet the availability of the vital statistics and other material listed in the private records section is controlled by stringent provincial regulations. To encourage researchers to use vital statistics even for nineteenth century information, places curators, archivists, clerks, and perhaps even directors of funeral homes, in an awkward position. The compilers of the next volume in the series should consider the advisability of excluding such references from future publications. Certainly the editorial notes could be expanded to give more direction to the genealogists who will inevitably pounce on it.
The format may also present some difficulty to the user. The volume is divided into four sections: Municipal, Educational, Religious, and Private sources. To locate the holdings of one particular institution, for example Lang Century Village, the reader must thumb through the book. One entry can be found on page 74 of the Private section, with a reference to "Peterborough County" in the Municipal section where more records are listed near the bottom of a densely-printed section. An index for each volume of the set would be a decided advantage to users, while the absence of a map of townships in the region is sure to be keenly felt. Some of the information-packed sections where one becomes lost in an interminable list could be more easily digested in a lighter, more varied presentation.

Volume one of Ontario's Heritage: A Guide to Archival Resources indicates Robert Taylor-Vaisey's concern for our heritage and the Toronto Area Archivist Group's determination to display it. The public can indeed be excluded from access to records by ignorance as well as by malevolent intent. Publication of guides do more for freedom of information than any number of bills or acts or in legislature. They ensure that the public, whether genealogist, academic, or student, has some inkling of the extent of our recorded heritage and where it may be found.

Peter Moran
Simcoe County Archives


Christina Bates calls her book, Out of Old Ontario Kitchens, a "look at cooking and eating in Pre-Confederation Ontario". Combining authentic recipes, taken from both manuscript and printed cookbooks and household manuals of the period, with material from contemporary accounts of Upper Canadian life between 1820 and 1867, she created a clear picture of one of the most basic aspects of life in that evolving society. The author has excellent qualifications as a "pioneer cook". She learned to cook using a hearth and brick oven during a year at Fort York, working for the Toronto Historical Board, and then set up the 1850 kitchen at Montgomery's Inn in Etobicoke, where she taught the staff to use it in the preparation of traditional Upper Canadian fare. She worked at the Inn from 1975 to 1978, when she was appointed Director/Curator of the restored Hutchison house in Peterborough.

Out of Old Ontario Kitchens is an interesting and entertaining as its author's scholarship is meticulous and thorough. Christina Bates knows her field and loves it. She visited many Ontario archives and libraries to do research, to ensure accuracy and authenticity. The book is fully footnoted and includes a lengthy, unannotated bibliography. Receipts are drawn from several Canadian Cookbooks, but principally from The cook not mad; or Rational cookery (1831), Mrs. Nourse's Modern practical cookery (1845), The Canadian settler's guide, (1855), by Catherine Parr Traill, The Canadian housewife's manual of cookery (1861), by Henry I. Richards, and Dr. Chase's recipes (1867). Descriptive material and historical documentation comes from British and American books too, and from many accounts of pioneer life, notably those of Anne Langton, Mary O'Brien, and Susannah Moodie. Her book has the traditional cookbook format, with a chapter devoted to each course in a meal, but it is far more than a cookbook. Three preliminary chapters, "The Colonial Kitchen", "Early Cookbooks", and "Ontario Culinary Traditions", provide an excellent introduction.