

A Guide to Sources for the Study of Ukrainian Canadians. MYRON MOMRYCK, compiler. Ottawa: National Ethnic Archives of the Public Archives of Canada, 1984. 42 p. ISBN 0-662-52803-4

This is the second in a series of published thematic guides produced by the National Ethnic Archives of the Public Archives of Canada. The work is prefaced by a brief discussion of the history of Ukrainian immigration to and settlement in Canada as well as an outline of the development of Ukrainian-Canadian associations. The work provides a select bibliography for Ukrainian-Canadian studies and an introduction to research facilities at the Public Archives of Canada. The focus, however, is the alphabetical listing of significant collections in the field held by the Manuscript Division of the PAC. The listing represents condensed inventory entries, providing short biographies of the creating individual or body, the extent, and nature of the material. The guide also contains a listing of related collections which provide research material on Ukrainian-Canadians. The work is in a bilingual format.

The Historical Evolution of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA (Departmental History Series), 1983. 33 p.

The Historical Evolution of the Department of Municipal Affairs. PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES OF ALBERTA (Departmental History Series), 1984. 97 p.

In March 1983, the Provincial Archives of Alberta reactivated a research programme begun in 1974 to prepare administrative histories of each provincial government department and agency. The two latest editions to this series are histories of the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the Department of Municipal Affairs. The histories are organized along similar lines, providing a description of the present organization of each department and an outline of their historical evolution. The introduction to both volumes claims that researching and writing the administrative histories guided the organization of the archival records of these government departments by the Provincial Archives of Alberta. These administrative histories are also of primary value to researchers interested in using the records.

The Militia of the Battle of the Châteauguay: A Social History. MICHELLE GUITARD. Ottawa: Parks Canada, 1983. 147 p. ISBN 0-660-11388-0 \$9.50.

Woodside and the Victorian Family of John King. MURRAY W. NICOLSON. Ottawa: Parks Canada, 1983. 117 p. ISBN 0-660-11713-4 \$6.95.

One of the aims of the historical research undertaken by Parks Canada is to provide information for interpretive programmes operating in the various national parks and at the historic sites it administers. These two volumes, published in a new format in the "Studies in Archaeology, Architecture and History Series," have been devised to present the sort of historical detail needed to fulfil this mandate.

Michelle Guitard's study deals primarily with the nature of the militia involved in the Battle of Châteauguay in 1813. Rather than detailing the mechanics of the battle, this study focuses on aspects of militia life such as how men were recruited, their social and economic background, and where they lived. Guitard describes their living conditions, including an outline of the militia diet, what they wore, the duties they performed, and the

nature of billeting during the War of 1812. The value of such a study rests in its ability to suggest how military duty affected society in Lower Canada. Building a profile of both officers and soldiers, Guitard finally posits that traditional interpretations of the Battle of Châteauguay have exaggerated the actual numbers of American soldiers the militia faced, and that the militia was not homogeneously French Canadian.

Murray Nicolson's work on Woodside, the boyhood home of Mackenzie King, is in some senses also a revisionist study. Nicolson's research deals with the home where John and Isabel King and their four children lived from 1886 to 1893. It was at Woodside that William Lyon Mackenzie King apparently spent his happiest childhood and adolescent years. In addition to describing King's early life, Nicolson depicts the personalities of John and Isabel King, their social milieu, and John's business affairs. The study contends that John, rather than Isabel, was the central figure in young King's life and that his father had a stronger influence on the course of his career than is usually granted. The study tells of life in the King home, the relationships among the children, and with the nearby community of Berlin. Nicolson also describes how the home came to be designated an historical park.

The volumes in this series are available in both official languages.

* * *

A final note, readers of journalist Roy MacGregor's highly praised novel about fading professional hockey player Felix Batterinski, **The Last Season** (Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1983), may have noted that a Finnish player in the book named Timo is "an art historian with the government archives." (p. 245) *Archivaria* has it on very good authority that Jim Burant, an archivist in the Picture Division of the Public Archives and a teammate of MacGregor's in Ottawa's Canterbury "Rusty Blades" old-timers' hockey association, is the author's literary inspiration.

Nancy McMahon
Manuscript Division
Public Archives of Canada