

Canadian production — *Evangeline* by the Canadian Bioscope Company of Halifax in 1913 — through to the 37 films produced in 1985, this is an excellent reference work for the history of Canadian cinema.

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**A Guide to the Holdings of Queen's University Archives. Volume 2: Audio Visual Collections.** ANNE MacDERMAID and GEORGE F. HENDERSON, eds., Kingston, Ontario: Queen's University, 1987. 137 p. ISBN 0-88911-473-0.

This second volume of the guide to the Queen's University Archives provides concise descriptions of approximately 900 audio tapes, 50,000 photographs and negatives, a very modest collection of eleven films and four videotape productions, and more than a dozen collections of architectural plans, maps, sketches, and blueprints.

Two aspects of audio-visual archives that most frustrate researchers — copyright restrictions on recordings, and the need to operate different types of audio and visual playback equipment to gain access to various technical formats — are not fully addressed. The introduction helpfully mentions that researchers can only obtain copies of sound recordings once written clearance is obtained from copyright holders, but does not add that this regulation obviously applies to videotapes and films as well. The introduction also fails to specify whether the recordings are in fact available for consultation by researchers in the formats indicated in the guide. Do researchers have access to film prints, or do they have to view videocassette copies?

The sound and moving image recordings are described, with few exceptions, on an item-by-item basis. Oral history collections containing many interviews are among the few examples of recordings listed only at a collection level. The visual documents are listed at the level of the collection, a format which is understandable given that some of the collections consist of several thousand items. Most entries indicate titles, dates, physical format, quantity of documents, and subject descriptions ranging from several words to several paragraphs.

The sound documents are listed primarily in alphabetical order by the name of the speaker, a logical means of organization when there is only one speaker on a recording. Occasionally, sound recordings are listed by a broadcast title, particularly when there are a number of speakers on a tape. The sound collection has many radio programmes and oral history interviews documenting the history of radio, particularly at Queen's University. Students of broadcasting history could very well want to access the recordings by broadcast titles but titles are not consistently found in the subject index to the guide. To find programmes in the series "The Spoken Word," for example, it is necessary to look entries in the main under the collection of radio station CFRC. Similarly, people's names are not always in the index. An entry for a debate involving Gordon Sinclair does not appear in the index under Sinclair's name. Several such discoveries made during a quick check of the index indicate that the index is not comprehensive.

The amount of detail provided for any given sound recording varies from a rather unhelpful entry under the name of Caroline Cairnie Jenkins stating only that the subject is

a memorial service, to a nine-line synopsis of a speech by Knowlton Nash about the news media delivered at Queen's. Presumably all recordings are in English, as several descriptions of speeches by General Charles de Gaulle do not state otherwise.

Although no guide can answer all the questions a researcher might have, this one does do two things that a guide should: it provides the researcher with enough information to know whether a visit to the Archives is worthwhile, and it demonstrates the richness of the Queen's University collections. For those of us working in audio-visual archives, who must continually remind researchers that non-textual documents are an extremely useful but untapped resource, guides such as this are a step in the right direction.

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**Inventory of the Catharine Robb Whyte Collection.** DONALD J. BOURDON et al., Banff: Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, 1987. 6 sheets of microfiche. ISBN 0-920608-28-0. Free.

The Catharine Robb Whyte Collection, which consists of 38 linear metres of personal papers of Catharine Whyte, Peter Whyte and members of his family, and members of the Robb and Morse families, is an important source of information concerning the history of the Canadian Rockies, Canadian art, winter recreation, alpinism, heritage conservation, national parks, native education and enterprise, ethnology of the Stoney Indians, and Banff local history. The microfiche inventory includes an introduction to the collection, file-level description of the papers, a detailed subject index, a list of more than 200 audiotapes, and series-level description of the 49,000 photographs which accompany the papers. Copies are available from the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies, P.O. Box 2038, Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0.