

"Mine Locations and the Sequence of Coal Exploitation on the Sydney Coalfield, 1720-1980," also chronicles the history of familiar landscape features in northeastern Cape Breton. Using Department of Mines reports and Geological Survey maps, Millward catalogues and maps the numerous mines established to the north and south of Sydney harbour and offers a model of coalfield exploitation based upon the accessibility of available resources and existing technology. This is an especially useful article both for its details about mine locations and its wider connotations for the history of resource development.

Each of these ten essays represents an important contribution to the historiography of Cape Breton Island. Collectively, they display the rich and varied source material now being used by a new generation of historians, archivists, and geographers to interpret the history of Cape Breton. Thus, the book will appeal to anyone interested in regional history. Regrettably, there is little acknowledgement of the role of Cape Breton's rural areas in the island's development over the two hundred years examined. Given the fact that a large portion of Cape Breton remained predominantly rural until 1951 this seems to be a remarkable oversight. *Cape Breton at 200* concentrates on either Louisbourg or the urban, industrial communities which emerged in the vicinity of Sydney harbour. Hopefully further studies will tell us about the experiences of farmers, fishermen, and other rural workers who comprised the largest segment of the island's workforce until well into the twentieth century.

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Eyes of a City, Early Vancouver Photographers, 1868-1900. DAVID MATTISON. Vancouver: Vancouver City Archives, 1986. Occasional Paper No. 3. 75 p. ISBN 0-9691637-1-1 \$12.95.

Eyes of a City is more than just a book of historical photographs of Vancouver. Such books are easily compiled and usually do not analyse the relationship between photographs and the context in which they are produced. David Mattison, archivist and writer, has carefully assembled a visual history of Vancouver, complemented by a well written, readable, and informative text which does just that. Quite correctly the author states in his introduction that "It must be remembered that photographs are the conscious products of subjective people who make images in a specific way for a specific purpose. Knowing who took photographs, how they were taken and why is as important as the subject of the photograph."

The book demonstrates the quality and range of the photographic activity which flourished in the Vancouver area as early as the 1860s. In significant detail Mattison describes the role of photography in the development of the city and the many different impressions of a changing city, as seen through the eyes of several accomplished pioneer photographers. Among these are J.A. Brock and Company, one of the earliest commercial photographic firms in Vancouver, the Bailey Brothers, Trueman and Caple, and S.J. Thompson, all of whom achieved a high degree of prominence in their field.

Mattison also explores the origins of commercial, landscape photography in creating an appealing and saleable image of a young and growing city. For the most part, the photographs show the photographers' concern with and interest in commercial

establishments, prominent buildings, streetscapes, and key events, all of which were readily marketable to both patrons and the buying public. Completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885 had a significant impact on the development of landscape photography in Vancouver. It provided the impetus for the increased use of photographs for promotional purposes. Once Vancouver became accessible to the rest of Canada, it was necessary to "boost" and promote the city's image, thereby attracting a larger population. Moreover, the CPR strongly facilitated the growth of a photography industry "through its issuance of railway passes to selected photographers from both eastern and western Canada. The Company also purchased or was given numerous examples of the photographs they either commissioned or fostered. No other company offered as many tangible benefits to Vancouver photographers as the CPR." This commissioned work resulted in the creation of tailored images which were used to advertise the city. In addition, Mattison explains that commercial photographers tended to seek "as much economic return as possible from the same image or sequence of images." Consequently select vantage points around the city were used to produce an image depicting the most attractive view. The intention to portray the city in such a deliberate manner meant that photographs, generated for whatever commercial reasons, were largely contrived. The author raises questions about the assumptions made about photographic evidence and provides examples of how photographs were altered or manipulated, sometimes distorting their meaning.

The photographic reproductions in the book are of good quality and demonstrate a technical richness and clarity. The range of subject matter is diverse, illustrating a variety of perspectives of the cityscape. Most impressive are the footnotes which augment the photographs. These extensive notations are insightful and provocative, reflecting the author's exhaustive research and painstaking attention to detail.

The usefulness of the book might well have been enhanced by adding an appendix of biographical notes describing in more detail the careers of some of the lesser known photographers whose works were included in the book. An addition of this nature would have given a more complete picture of the early photographers and increased the research potential of the book. Less important but worthy of consideration is the horizontal format of the book. Although this format obviously accommodates the large full frame reproductions, panoramic views, and the juxtaposition of text, it is nevertheless an awkward format for handling. Despite these minor points, the book is visually and textually stimulating and provides the reader with an excellent introduction to the use of photographic documentation and archives in understanding Vancouver's historical development.

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Bernard Amtmann, 1907-1979: A Personal Memoir. JOHN MAPPIN and JOHN ARCHER. Toronto: Amtmann Circle Publications for 1986, 1987. 73 p. \$50.00 cl. \$25.00 pa. Copies are available from the Amtmann Circle, Canadian History Department, Metropolitan Toronto Library, 789 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont. M4W 2G8.

In the autobiographies of famous men such as H.P. Kraus and A.S.W. Rosenbach, the life of the antiquarian bookseller and manuscript dealer has often been represented in almost