

Archivaria may find it useful for background research on possible new acquisitions and for responding to inquiries. Its usefulness is, of course, intrinsically limited, and one wonders if in the long run it would be better to invest our energy in more comprehensive guides such as the *Union List of Manuscripts in Canadian Repositories*. The compiler acknowledges that the Mavor guide is limited in the repositories it covers. Given that Mavor was a national and international figure, it seems likely that material exists outside Ontario. Perhaps a wider search was not feasible with the funding available.

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A Guide to the Medical Archives of British Columbia. Second edition. JIM LEWIS. Vancouver: British Columbia Medical Association, 1988. c.150 p.

This volume describes the holdings of the Medical Archives of British Columbia housed in the British Columbia Medical Association building in Vancouver. It describes the papers of nine medical associations, organized into six units, and the personal papers of three doctors which form an additional unit. The major collections include the British Columbia Medical Association, the British Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Osler Society of Vancouver, and the Vancouver Medical Association. The entry for each collection consists of a detailed administrative outline and history, scope and content notes, and series descriptions preceding the customary file list. From the detailed descriptions, one gets a good sense of what is in the papers and where to look for specific information.

This guide, originally compiled in 1986, has been updated by Arlene Cardwell to list material acquired since 1986. Other than the listing of additional material, there appear to be no major changes to the guide. A detailed review of the original publication appeared in *Archivaria* 25.

The Medical Archives of British Columbia is to be congratulated for bringing together the records of associations and individuals vital to understanding the medical history of the province. The guide itself is an excellent model for archivists in smaller institutions who wish to describe their holdings.

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Guide to Military Archives. ERIK NORBERG, ed. Meddelanden Fran Krigsarkivet XIII, 1989. ISBN 0562-8547.

In 1984 a working group on military archives was formed within the International Council on Archives (ICA) to improve the lines of communication between institutions whose holdings included military records and to promote research in the field of military history. To meet this twin objective, at least in part, the group decided to publish a directory of military archives. A questionnaire was sent to about fifty institutions worldwide soliciting a wide range of information: name, address, telephone number, hours of operation, access, facilities, historical background, acquisition mandate, major collections, nonmanuscript material, finding aids, and publications. Individual entries