

d'ailleurs, ne peuvent assumer seules. En somme un excellent petit guide à la manière efficace d'un bon «Que sais-je?»

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Archives, Personal Papers, and Manuscripts: A Cataloging Manual for Archival Repositories, Historical Societies, and Manuscript Libraries. Second edition. STEVEN L. HENSEN, comp. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 1989. 196 p. ISBN 0-931828-73-2.

When it was first published in 1983, *Archives, Personal Papers, and Manuscripts (APPM)* represented the first concerted effort to adapt, for archival description, the cataloguing techniques embodied in the second edition of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR 2)*. It demonstrated to archivists that, practically speaking, archival description could be accommodated within the framework of library cataloguing and thereby integrated into national systems for automated bibliographic description.

It is hardly surprising that one of the purposes of this expanded and revised second edition of *APPM* is to reconcile its descriptive elements with corresponding fields in the USMARC format for Archival and Manuscripts Control. To that end, a number of descriptive elements in *APPM* have been renamed and new ones added; as well, certain rules have been given USMARC-oriented explications and one appendix is devoted to MARC-coded examples. Increased archival participation in on-line systems for bibliographic description would also appear to be the motivation underlying the new edition's inclusion of guidelines for choosing and formulating headings to archival descriptions based on part II of AACR 2. The new edition also broadens the application of the cataloguing rules by giving them a less specifically textual context. The multimedia approach taken in the rules is admittedly a very general one; archivists attempting to describe non-textual material at both the aggregate and item levels will still need to consult other rule manuals for guidance in providing medium-specific details, particularly in the physical description and note areas.

Steven Hensen's understanding of the analogies and incongruities that exist between archival descriptive practices and library cataloguing is evident throughout *APPM*. With its straightforward and clearly written guidelines, it is easy to understand why *APPM* has become a de facto standard for archival bibliographic description in the United States. Its orientation toward either "collection" or item-level description, however, places it somewhat at odds with the standards for archival description currently emerging in Canada. The rules in *APPM* prescribe only one analytical technique for linking descriptions ("In" analytics), a technique that is inadequate when it comes to describing a complex fonds d'archives and its multiple descriptive records. In this respect, *APPM* represents a significant departure from the Canadian standard which is explicitly built on identifiable levels of description (fonds, series, files, items), and which prescribes descriptive practices premised on the organic relationship between and among these levels. It remains to be seen whether the fundamental difference in orientation that exists in the American and Canadian approaches will significantly affect the prospects for a single North American standard for archival description.

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