

A further complaint is the artificial and unnecessary division in the index the editor has made between planters and what she labels non-planters. Perhaps a simple asterisk beside the name of one group or the other, in a single name index, would have sufficed, if she wanted to distinguish them. A New Englander, for instance, who happens to find his way to Halifax, about the same time as his fellows were taking up land, much of it formerly occupied by expelled Acadians, is classified as a non-Planter, a concept he would have found not only inaccurate but perplexing. It obliges users to look in two indices when one index would have served the purpose.

I must make two observations about its title. It is not a bibliography, which can refer only to books—and no books are listed here—but a guide to manuscripts. Secondly, the maritime provinces formed no part of Canada until 1867. Before then they had nothing to do with Canada, but were of British North America, and the title should have made this explicit.

Frankly, I was amazed at the expensive format for so focused a volume. At \$125 a copy I cannot imagine that many interested professors in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, let alone their students, will afford it. Here I fault the Planters Studies Committee, which presumably made the decision. The model perhaps should have been the well produced and moderately priced *The Loyalist Guide. Nova Scotia Loyalist and their Documents* (1984) published by the PANS.

Finally, there is no rationale offered to explain the end date of 1800. We all understand that a stop has to be made somewhere. Yet the date chosen was already being questioned in the historical conferences, long before this publication was in its final stages. There may have been an excellent reasons, but the user deserved an explanation. All such objections, could easily have been corrected had the manuscript received a wider circulation.

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Manuscripts and Government Records in the United Kingdom and Ireland Relating to Canada. BRUCE G. WILSON, ed. Ottawa: National Archives of Canada, 1992; xxxi-705 p.

In 1964, armed with Crick and Almon's *Guide to manuscripts relating to America in Great Britain and Ireland* (1961), and the resources of the National Registry of Archives, I located and then visited British archives known to hold documents of interest to the Fortress of Louisbourg Restoration Project, with whom I had a year's contract. With three research assistants, we looked at perhaps 400,000 manuscripts, of which about 30,000 were microfilmed for use in Louisbourg and Ottawa. In the process I had discovered dozens upon dozens of other collections, scattered throughout the United Kingdom, containing Canadian materials touching every aspect of Canadian history from European contact to the mid-twentieth century.

Although the Crick and Almon *Guide* had been of real value, it was quite wrong in its claim that it had included all Canadian materials before 1867. I returned from

London to Ottawa convinced that a similar guide for Canadian materials must be prepared to provide Canadian scholars with quick access to what was clearly an enormous body of material, wholly unimagined and certainly unused by scholars interested in Canadian history. The plan foundered principally upon the unexplained opposition of the then Dominion Archivist, W. Kaye Lamb, who curiously believed that the United Kingdom was his sole preserve as far as Canadian manuscripts were concerned. My subsequent extended research trips in England and Ireland in 1968-69 and 1975-76 merely confirmed my first considered view. As there were untold Canadian materials in the British Isles, of which the London office of the Public Archives of Canada was ignorant and would never microfilm for use in Canada, the proposed guide would become a vital tool to historical scholarship.

On another lengthy research visit to England in 1982-83, I was collecting materials of interest to Nova Scotia's economic history, none of which was found in Canadian repositories—I was delighted to discover Dr. Bruce Wilson busily at work since 1981 on this long delayed project. Quite independently I had formed a high opinion of his scholarship, and was not in the least surprised to discover the excellence of his plans and the thoroughness of his methods. When the bulk of the project was at an end in 1984, but with publication still years in the future, I consulted his working documents at the National Archives. I was delighted both by the intelligent manner in which he had continued to collect information, and amazed at the variety of materials and repositories, which were far more extensive than I had originally imagined in 1964-65.

This impressive publication, the fruit of work which continued on a casual basis into 1986, which lists Canadian material in over 900 UK and Irish repositories, is the result of Wilson's excellent planning, great capacity for independent work, and the help he received from Anita Burdett in compiling the entries. It constitutes the most important guide to historical sources ever published for materials on Canadian history outside of this country. The scope and limitations of the compilation are clearly explained in his introduction. It is vital to understand that, as a guide, it is far from the last word. Repositories—as all archivists and only some historians know—keep acquiring new manuscripts, while manuscripts in private hands tend to migrate and occasionally emigrate. For instance, when I visited the Northamptonshire estates of Lord Spencer in 1965, I found there one of the most carefully indexed monument rooms in my experience. I was quickly able to locate a few documents on Louisbourg and Cape Breton, which were of interest to me, but also a unique series of letters from Quebec in the 1760s written by the governor's secretary. When I asked Spencer's permission to microfilm this material, I was unhappily sent packing empty-handed. These items—wherever they may now be, for the Spencer's have been selling all sorts of artifacts—are not noted in this volume.

As the book explains, as far as the Public Record Office (PRO), where most of the copying of Canadian materials on behalf of the National Archives has occurred, a "listing of records relevant to Canada, detailed enough to be meaningful, was beyond the resources" (233) of the project. Guides to much of the most copied "Canadian" political, military, and naval material are available in a variety of NA finding aids, most available only there. Clearly, what is now needed is a

second volume devoted exclusively to this great archive, whose resources are well known to Canadian archivists and historians, yet whose range of Canadian material is still far greater than has hitherto been copied. Beyond that, as a third companion volume we very much need a guide to Canadian materials in US repositories. Let the lobbying by archivists and historians begin!

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A Guide to the Archives of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon. ARCHIVISTS OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON. Records of the Anglican Church of Canada No. 3. Toronto: Anglican Church of Canada General Synod Archives, 1993. ISBN 0-9697207-0-X.

This is the third in a series of informative guides documenting the holdings of the Anglican Church in Canada. It follows similar guides to the Ecclesiastical Provinces of Rupert's Land and Ontario, this time documenting holdings within the archival network of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon.

The guide describes the records of the Ecclesiastical Province, each of the six dioceses, and the Vancouver School of Theology. A map, outlining the geographical boundaries, introduces most sections, along with an introduction to each of the archival repositories and names of the leading church officials in each jurisdiction. Within each section, the entries are arranged in order of Diocesan Synod records, related organizations, collections, individuals, deaneries, and parishes. The guide is completed by addresses of the archives represented, glossaries, biographies, and personal and geographic name indexes.

The "Technical Introduction" indicates that the design of the guide entries is based on the *Rules for Archival Description (RAD)*. Elements of description within each entry include those taken from *RAD*: title, dates, extent, historical/biographical note, scope, originals and reproductions, and see also references (related groups of records in different fonds). Using *RAD* to design the entries and to name the guide elements, without a rigorous application of *RAD* beyond this use, is confusing to this reader. This is particularly true for the multilevel descriptions that make up the larger part of the fonds descriptions introducing each section: the Ecclesiastical Province, each of the Diocesan Synods, and the Vancouver School of Theology. The scope note of the fonds level description and the technical introduction identify three categories: general administration, offices and officers, and boards and committees. These category names appear intermittently, as "category headings" above guide entry descriptions. Is there an intended relationship between these category headings and the concept of the fonds?

The application of designated name or guide headings, which precede each entry, only add to this reader's confusion. These headings are described in the introduction as identifying the primary creator or collector of the material. What archival purpose do these headings serve in the guide entries below the fonds level description? For example, in the description of the Diocese of British Columbia fonds