

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

(guide entry 44), guide entries 44.01 to 44.16 all have the same entry heading as the fonds name. These are followed by entries 44.17 to 44.43, each with name headings different from the fonds name. What do these name headings represent? In the description of the Vancouver School of Theology fonds (guide entry 430), guide entries 430.12 and 430.23 both have the same name heading, "Registrar's Office." By going back several pages in each case, the reader finds a category heading clarifying 430.12 as the Registrar's Office of the Anglican Theological College, and 430.23, as the same office in the Vancouver School of Theology. Are these categories as used within this description, in effect, series; and are the guide entries not more clearly seen as subseries within these?

A further element of confusion is added since the next five categories in each section are simply that. Following the multilevel description of the first fonds in each section, these five category headings simply divide the other fonds in each archival repository into related organizations, collections, individuals (i.e., personal papers), deaneries, and parishes.

A full application of the rules for multilevel description in *RAD* would have eliminated the confusion created by the category and guide entry headings, and would have clarified the levels of description and the relationship between guide entries. *RAD* is a coherent system of rules which for best effect must be applied in its totality.

The largest part of the guide consists of entries for parish records. The historical/biographical notes add important information on individuals and ecclesiastical jurisdictions. The note on the location of reproductions and originals makes the records in a dispersed archival network more accessible. The scope note initially summarizes the record types available in each parish and then in a second paragraph itemizes all of the place names documented by this entry. This works well. Used in conjunction with the ecclesiastical and technical terms glossaries, the first paragraph effectively summarizes the contents of a broad range of records. The "Glossary of Ecclesiastical Terms" defines jurisdictions of church offices and the functions of church officials, providing useful context for the records described. The "Glossary of Technical Terms" defines record types described: for example, clergy records, memorial records, and instruments of consecration. Further, by linking general terms, such as men's, women's, and youth organizations, to various and changing corporate names, the glossary circumvents the need for precise and lengthy corporate name references in the scope note. Given the ongoing realignment of churches within parishes, a separate listing of geographic locations included in parish records—without specific linkages in each case to record types—seems a most pragmatic way of handling such description.

There are two indexes—Personal and Geographical Names—each clearly linking names with specific records descriptions. The former identifies papers of individuals and records of offices and officers. The latter is an essential tool for genealogical researchers and those interested in local history research. Since descriptions highlight the availability of parish registers, such researchers will be directed to an appropriate archival repository. The indexes serve less well other types of research. Without an index to corporate names, for example, the various records of the "Related Organizations" in each section are not easily available to researchers.

How would one know to look for the records of the Canadian Guild of Health or those of the British Columbia Anglican Youth Movement—an organization without a consistent central office—in the section on the Diocese of British Columbia? However, once an entry to a body is located, the “see also references” do locate other references to records of the same body. A topical subject index would have been difficult in such a project, but it would have assisted research based on issues or programme areas within the Anglican Church as a whole.

This guide should be celebrated as a major archival project and as a model of what can be achieved with cooperation throughout a dispersed archival network. It is thus an undertaking and achievement beyond an institutional guide. Similarly the series of guides, of which this is the third, should be celebrated. These guides are gradually making accessible and facilitating research in the broad diversity of records held by the Anglican Church in its archival repositories across Canada.

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The Bank of Canada: Origins and Early History, GEORGE S. WATTS. THOMAS K. RYMES, ed. Ottawa: Carleton University Press, 1993. xiv, 112 p. ISBN 0-88629-183-6. \$19.95. [Same binding contains French version of book, **La Banque du Canada: Origines et premières années.**]

Paribas: 1872-1992 - Europe and the World. ÉRIC BUSSIÈRE. Fonds Mercator: Antwerp, 1992, 320 p. ISBN 90 6153 28.

Writing about banks is no easy matter. The writer can so easily slip across the border that separates a readable, narrative history, accessible to a broad public, from the *terra incognita* of leaden arcane financial detail and theory. The trouble with most bank books, a wag once remarked, is that as soon as you open the cover, you lose interest. This is unfortunate, because banks provide the life blood of economic activity and failure to comprehend their crucial role of financial intermediation fundamentally handicaps any attempt to study economic man.

Two of the banking institutions which have played a formative role in the vitality of western free market economies over the last century have been the merchant banks and the central banks. The merchant bankers moved money to opportunity, assembling the capital for the growth of industry and often shaping national economic policy. They were the princes of finance. Their success in these affairs often reached beyond the *bourses* of Europe to touch the course of nations. As this financial dexterity bred global complexity, the economies of Europe and North America have one by one arrived at the realization that national credit creation—the heart beat of national economic health—is best delivered into the hands of an autonomous central bank. The creation of the Federal Reserve in 1912, for instance, brought the U.S. to this threshold. Canada, however, was a laggard in this respect; it would take the catastrophe of the Depression to provoke the creation of the Bank of Canada in 1935.

In 1992, the age of the Euromarket dawned with the complete integration of the EEC economies; it also brought the 120th anniversary of a Paris-based *banque*