

Advice to Authors of Submissions

Themes

Archivaria is devoted to the scholarly investigation of archival science in Canada and internationally. The journal welcomes articles and other submissions exploring the history, nature, and theory of archival science, or the use of archives; it aims to be a bridge of communication among archivists, and between archivists and users of archives. Previous issues serve well to indicate the breadth of possible subjects relating to archives: various media and their evolution and characteristics; theoretical problems; practical solutions; new fields of history (and related disciplines), and new kinds of documentation being explored by users; new technological developments; legal and ethical concerns; the history of archives, individual archivists, and archival trends; the analysis of record-keeping practices over time and space; the relationship of archivists to other information management professionals; and much else.

Features

Organized into several departments, *Archivaria* should accommodate all types and lengths of potential submissions:

- *Letters to the Editor*: short rejoinders to previous issues, new information, corrections, criticisms, etc.
- *Articles*: theoretical and otherwise scholarly treatments of subjects based on research and/or extensive reflection.
- *Studies in Documents*: scholarly articles on the provenance, evolution, characteristics, structure, and original and present purposes of every kind of archival document or body of documents.
- *Counterpoint*: argumentative pieces, longer rejoinders, and trial balloons.
- *Pot-pourri*: edited documents relating to archives, having amusing, poignant, or piquant appeal.
- *Communications*: articles describing events or situations in the Canadian

archival community, technical information, and descriptions of procedures or practices likely to be of interest to the readers of the journal (shorter notes on these and other topics should appear in the *ACA Bulletin*).

- *Book Reviews and Notices*: critical assessments of books judged to contribute to the themes that the journal attempts to explore.
- *Exhibition Reviews*: critical essays assessing the purpose, preparation, themes, and potential of exhibitions of archival documents. Emphasis should be on the analysis of archival and historical issues raised by an exhibition and related publication, using examples from the exhibit to illustrate the author's critical assessment of it.

Manuscripts

Prospective authors are invited to submit manuscripts for consideration in either of Canada's Official Languages (English and French). Hardcopy should be submitted in double-spaced typed format, with all notes also double-spaced, gathered at the end, and adhering to the style of the present issue. *Archivaria* has adopted the *Chicago Manual of Style* (14th ed., 1993). Authors may wish to consult Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (5th ed., Chicago, 1987). In addition, a copy of an in-house Specialized Style Sheet is available to authors on request. Authors submitting manuscripts on diskette are asked to use WordPerfect 5.1, 6.0, or 6.1. Deadlines are generally the beginning of February and beginning of August. Consult with the General Editor. All manuscripts are evaluated by qualified readers, and any substantive editorial changes will be cleared with authors before publication.

When submitting a manuscript for consideration, authors are asked to provide a short biographical sketch, to be included in the section "Our Contributors" should the manuscript be accepted and scheduled for publication. This biographical sketch should be five to ten lines of typescript, outlining current and past positions in the archival field; an indication of academic background (e.g., citing degrees and institutions, along with area of specialization); any relevant service in the archival field (such as committee or editorial work); and publications of note. For examples of such biographical sketches, please refer to previous issues of *Archivaria*. Authors of articles are also asked to provide a one-paragraph abstract. The biographical note (and the abstract, if appropriate) should be submitted on the same diskette as the article, if possible. Questions regarding the biographical sketch may be directed to the Production Assistant, Catherine Bailey at (613) 995-9522 (e-mail address: cbailey@archives.ca).

Usage and Writing Style

The purpose of *Archivaria* is to educate, explore, and stimulate through the communication of ideas and information to its readers. Clear and concise

expression of ideas is a standard on which *Archivaria* assesses suitability for publication.

Simple, clear prose facilitates the communication of ideas. Indeed, the more complicated or abstract the ideas, the greater the requirement for clear, direct, and unpretentious writing. The general principle enunciated by H.W. and F.G. Fowler over a half century ago still applies: “Any one who wishes to become a good writer should endeavour ... to be direct, simple, brief, vigorous, and lucid” (H.W. Fowler and F. G. Fowler, *The King's English*, Third Edition [Oxford, 1931], p. 11). Acronyms should be used sparingly, technical terms defined in simple words, and jargon avoided wherever possible. Authors should also avoid the appearance of bias (concerning ethnicity and race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, etc.) in their writing.

Those wishing further guidance in these matters are invited to consult the standard reference works. For writing in English, the editors highly recommend William Strunk Jr. and E.B. White, *The Elements of Style*, Third Edition (New York, 1979). Additional help in achieving clear, direct writing may be found in H.W. Fowler's *A Dictionary of Modern English Usage*, Second Edition (Oxford, 1965), *Webster's Dictionary of English Usage* (Springfield, MS, 1989), and Wilson Follett, *Modern American Usage; a Guide* (New York, 1966). A Canadian work that, while somewhat technical, is still useful is Lydia Burton, et al., *Editing Canadian English*, prepared for the Freelance Editor's Association of Canada (Vancouver/Toronto, 1987).

Manuscripts and any enquiries regarding submissions or editorial policy generally should be addressed to Donald Macleod, General Editor, *Archivaria*, Association of Canadian Archivists, PO Box 2596, Station D, OTTAWA, ON, K1P 5W6; Tel. (416) 327-1570 (e-mail address: don.macleod@archives.gov.on.ca).