

ward, the Second World War fiftieth anniversary events from 1989 through to 1995 constitute one factor. As well, the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the ending of the Cold War, the civil war in Yugoslavia, and events in Somalia and Rwanda, have all had major effects on the nation's military; thus, much has been added to the literature about Canada's military past and current affairs in the last ten years.

This bibliography will be helpful to archivists in two areas: arrangement and description and reference. In both areas, the bibliography can assist archivists by pointing, when needed, to a work or a number of works that can help put information into context. If the context is not already easily established for a collection of documents, a secondary source can help establish it. Moreover, the detailed index located at the back of the bibliography can make this source easier to find. For the reference archivist, the book can help answer questions about the Canadian military. If researchers want to know more about a campaign, unit, ship, or battle, to name just a few examples, then Cooke's work is a very good place to start.

Anyone interested in Canada's military history will find this bibliography useful in beginning their research.

**Danial Duda**

Science and Technology Library  
University of Alberta

**Articles Describing Archives and Manuscript Collections in the United States: An Annotated Bibliography**, DONALD L. DeWITT, comp. Westport (Connecticut): Greenwood Press, 1997. xiv, 459 p. ISBN 0-313-29598-0.

It goes without saying that most archivists are generally more than willing to discuss their collections and to assist researchers in finding the source material they require. Many of us often carry this interest one step further and publicize our collections in learned journals. We do this not just to inform a wider audience about the existence of specific records, but to provide the information necessary to help researchers formulate reference questions and decide if a collection of primary sources is relevant to their research needs. Under a single cover, DeWitt's guide collates more than 2,200 learned articles describing public archives and private manuscript collections in the United States. It has been hailed by the publishers as the first bibliographic reference to do so.

The volume is actually intended as a companion to DeWitt's earlier *Guides to Archives and Manuscript Collections in the United States: An Annotated Bibliography* (Westport, Conn., 1994), also published by Greenwood Press. Accordingly, the entries in this second guide are organized under the same subject headings as those used in DeWitt's earlier work: "General Collec-

tions," "Business Collections," "Ethnic Minorities and Women," "Federal Archives," "Fine Arts Collections," "Literary Collections," "Military Collections," "Political Collections," "Professional Groups," "Regional Collections," "Religious Collections," and "Foreign Repositories." The articles cited by DeWitt date from the 1890s to the mid 1990s and cover all archival media. Each entry features a full bibliographic description and a two or three sentence précis of the article. A detailed ninety-seven page index rounds out the usefulness of the guide by consolidating all the articles pertaining to a single records collection or entire archives, and all those written by single authors.

Originally, I thought DeWitt's guide was somewhat frivolous. But having gone through it carefully for the purpose of this notice, I now see where it will prove to be useful to reference archivists. We now have a tool to which researchers can be referred for information about American collections. I suppose anything that helps researchers find the primary sources they require is worth its cost. I have already used DeWitt's guide in support of my own research interests.

**Jeffrey S. Murray**  
National Archives of Canada