cially approved names; however, an attempt is also made to cross reference these names with the historic name(s) or unofficial name that may sometimes be applied to a particular place or feature. Unofficial names are those that have not been validated through toponymic research. Nor have they been approved through the appropriate provincial or territorial body responsible for sanctioning the use of the name in an official capacity. Various rules and guidelines for geographical naming in Canada are used to ensure that the naming process reflects the multicultural heritage of Canada, and to make certain that official publications, including maps, apply names consistently.1

Each volume reveals fascinating information about the history and cultural heritage of Alberta through the use of toponyms. Unlike the gazetteers that are produced by the provinces and territories in association with the Geographical Names Board of Canada, and that only provide information about the geographic position (latitude and longitude) and the map sheet with which a name is associated, these publications provide information about the origin of a name. This is invaluable when conducting research because it sets the historical context of the name within both time and space. To the best of my knowledge, these publications are the first in Canada to provide such detail about the origin and meaning of a particular name.

Compiled by experts in the field of toponymy, these publications will be a useful source for both the novice and the expert who is interested in conducting toponymic research about a particular location or feature on the Alberta landscape.

David L. Brown
National Archives of Canada

1 Comprehensive information about the rules and guidelines that are used in the naming process can be found in Geographical Names Board of Canada, Principles and Procedures for Geographical Naming, 2001 (Ottawa: Geomatics Canada, 2001), 24 pp.


This book is an extensive and impressive compilation of preservation reference materials for libraries and archives. Though the authors’ backgrounds in libraries are evident, the book is far from exclusive of archives. It is important to remember that many of the techniques, supplies, and resources that would apply to library holdings are also used for archival holdings, as the essential media base tends to be the same.

As this book is mainly a bibliography, there is little upon which to comment
in detail. The introductory pages of the text give the background of the book, and a caring acknowledgement of the work carried out by the two deceased authors (Cunha and Swartzburg), as well as the contributions made by library and reference staff. Near the end of the book, however, an article on the “Aspects of Preservation Management in Libraries” provides some information which may be examined more closely.

This article begins with an emphatic warning against the “out with the old and in with the new” philosophy associated with new advances in recordable media, stressing the need to ensure the preservation of the old organization and retrieval systems of collections, as well as the documents themselves. We are then led through the development and advances of conservation and preservation in libraries and archives, beginning with skilled bookbinders and paper restorers, to the first experiments in de-acidification, good housekeeping techniques, the impact of environmental conditions on holdings, and the preservation of collections as a whole. The key ingredients of a preservation programme are then presented. A number of information sources are listed, as well as sources of financial assistance (for the United States). The importance of a needs assessment survey is stressed, and the necessity of establishing a preservation management programme is illustrated. The explanation of such a programme includes prevention and conservation, as well as a job description of the preservation manager. Next, basic repair and conservation is discussed, beginning with the pros and cons of in-house repair. The article leans toward minor in-house repairs by librarians and archivists, noting that the hiring of professionals to complete basic repairs easily completed by staff would cost a great deal of money. The other choice, mainly for libraries, is commercial library binding. This is an expensive alternative to in-house repairs, or an in-house conservator, and involves collections leaving the institution. Finally, the article touches on disasters, explaining planning, prevention, and recovery. All aspects of a disaster preparedness plan are briefly covered, stressing the importance of each one.

The conclusion of “Aspects of Preservation Management” is the resolution that librarians and archivists must also serve as preservation managers. Librarians and archivists are coming to realize the importance of preventive conservation in their jobs, and are taking it upon themselves to learn about various preventive techniques, such as environmental monitoring, microfilm programmes, the beneficial uses of electronic formats, as well as acquisition and access policies. We are reminded that the emphasis in libraries is on resource sharing, not on becoming the biggest and best.

Overall, the book is a good source for locating preservation literature. However, while it is interesting, the article which spurred the development of the bibliography is too closely aimed at libraries to be of great use for archives. Archives and libraries are indeed very similar in many aspects, but the core materials within the collections of the two types of institutions are intrinsically
different. Libraries largely hold published materials; archives hold mainly original, unpublished documents. While the article on preservation management cannot be faulted for its concentration on libraries (which is stated clearly in its title), overall this book presents a vast bibliography of preservation resources but provides little actual information on preservation in archives.

**Angela Hoddinott**
Provincial Archives of Newfoundland and Labrador


Patents of invention both illustrate and document ingenuity, creativity, and technological expertise. Mario Theriault, a professional patent agent from Fredericton, New Brunswick, has demonstrated in *Great Maritime Inventions, 1833–1950* that there was no shortage of this technological expertise in Canada’s three Maritime provinces. To this end, Theriault has carefully selected fifty-five inventions (of the more than 3,300 patents of invention granted to residents of the Maritimes for the period 1833–1950) that clearly attest to the creativity of Maritimers.

The book is divided into several components, beginning with a concise explanation of the patenting process and how it emerged in the Maritimes (prior to Confederation, each province had its own patent system). This is followed by five sections: Consumer Goods, Food; Consumer Goods, Conveniences; Engineering, Farming and Industry; Engineering, Transportation; and Engineering, Construction. Theriault presents descriptions, specifications, and drawings of such diverse inventions as the pipeless furnace, the odometer, sardine cans, the vortex-flushing toilet bowl, kerosene, and Alexander Graham Bell’s “Electric Telephony.”

Similar to the National Archives of Canada’s recent acquisition of all patents by Canadian inventors from 1869 – beginning with patent number one, “Hamilton’s Eureka Fluid Meter” (1869), and including Bell’s “Electric Speaking Telephone” (1879) – Theriault places an emphasis on Maritime residency for purposes of his selection of inventions. With only about ten per cent (10%) of all patents of invention registered in Canada from 1869 onwards actually filed by Canadians, the National Archives has actively sought to acquire and organize these “Canadian” patents of invention within a discrete collection.

The NA’s collection of Canadian patents of invention includes such notable entries as J.A. Bombardier’s “véhicule à chenilles (snowmobile),” as well as several Bell patents. At the same time, there are countless other patents of