

Reviews of Books

EDWARD E. HILL, *Editor*

Washington National Records Center

The Secret Archives of the Vatican, by Maria Luisa Ambrosini with Mary Willis. (Boston and Toronto, Little, Brown & Co., 1969. xiv, 366 p., illus. \$10.)

In 1881 Pope Leo XIII opened the Library and the Secret Archives of the Vatican to scholars and researchists regardless of religious and/or national affiliation. Scholars and researchists from many countries consulted these records depositories and are continuing their studies there. American scholars and researchists did not avail themselves of this opportunity until Carl Russell Fish published in 1911 *Guide to the Materials for American History in Roman and Other Italian Archives*. Professor Fish's scholarly study described the Italian records collections, particularly those in the Secret Archives of the Vatican, as being rich sources for the history of Europe in general and for American history in particular. He considered the Secret Archives as the most important center in existence for the 16th and 17th centuries. No serious studies by Americans were made; many years passed before *The Secret Archives of the Vatican* by Maria Luisa Ambrosini with Mary Willis appeared in 1969.

The extended delay by Americans in consulting these depositories is partly owing to the fact that the Secret Archives of the Vatican is probably the most exclusive archival center in the world. Even today it is open to a researcher only with the personal permission of the pope. In 1951 this reviewer petitioned His Holiness, Pius XII, for permission to study the manuscripts in the Secret Archives concerned with the efforts of Jefferson Davis to obtain the Vatican's recognition of the Confederate States of America as a Nation from Pius IX. His Holiness, Pius XII, was occupied with pressures besetting the world at this time. The petition went unanswered.

This text is an admirable study offering to American scholars and researchers new quarries of information open and opening for study and research on the vast memorabilia of the past. The author viewed the petitions and/or dispensations from Petrarch, Boccaccio, Rabelais, Michelangelo, Copernicus, and a host of others making up the Who's Who of the Renaissance. She read many remarkable manuscripts: love letters of Henry VIII to Ann Boleyn; miscellanea on Luther and Calvin; notes on abbot Moses, a black man, as one of the most honest of hermits; details of the cattiness between St. Jerome and St. Augustine whose mother was a mulatto from North Africa; a 3-hour dinner in which 74 courses were served as the Church Universal attempted to institute austerity during the meetings of the Council of Trent in the 17th century after the bacchanalia of the Renaissance; prostitutes being granted a guaranteed annual income and civil service status in Ethiopia while the same country established a compulsory public education; and a host of other historical tidbits.

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The text abounds in fascinating vignettes of individuals who made it from different places and varying degrees of intellectuality and sobriety to the papal seat: one from the boudoir of his mistress as he took both to the papal seat with him; another from jail to the same august place; while another came from the grottoes in the wilderness of northern Italy (he resigned, preferring the wilderness to the seat of St. Peter). The majority of the occupants of the papal seat came from less incriminating places. A study of these sources should unfold a multifaceted and multicolored kaleidoscope of individuals laden oftentimes with human greatness, occasionally with human weaknesses.

The author of this text was fascinated with the individuals who occupied the papal seat. She occasionally confused the occupant of the papal seat with the Papacy. The latter is an institution with centuries of a proud and enviable history while the former represents individuals, sometimes rising to heroic heights, occasionally falling to the depths of human degradation. The Romans in their quaint though very practical dialect exclaim even today, "Morto un papa; se ne fa un altro" (The pope is dead. So what! Another is selected), which distinguishes the individual from the institution. The Greeks had a word for it; so have the Romans who have lived through long periods with popes. There were a few periods when no one occupied the papal seat; occasionally two occupied the papal seat at the same time; and for an inglorious period from 1409 to 1416 three popes occupied the papal seat at the same time with each excommunicating the others and their followers, thus leaving all of Christendom in the pale of hell. This period has long since passed; today the Vatican is one of the finest institutions that mankind has created.

The Secret Archives of the Vatican is filled with age and lore and history. The author of this text is keenly aware of this. The illustrations are exceptionally good; the writing is as conversational as when one talks to an old friend while strolling through the Louvre or the Metropolitan. In addition there are notes for each of the 29 chapters, a selected bibliography, and an index. The chapter notes are none too clear but the bringing together of many events and personalities within 366 pages is a commendable achievement.

The Secret Archives of the Vatican should become public and open for study and research by archivists and historians. The Vatican has had almost 2,000 years of history, which should be more than sufficient for it to survive a few sybaritic, perhaps voluptuous, interludes when the ecclesiastics were more human than the catechism permitted.

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JOHN W. MANIGAULTE

GUIDES AND FINDING AIDS

Great Britain. Public Record Office. *Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office*. Vol. III. *Documents Transferred 1960-1966*. (London, Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1968. .vii, 191 p. \$4.95 [order from British Information Services, 845 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022].)

This volume has a notable pedigree. It follows relatively close upon the publication of its companion volumes, I and II, which appeared in 1963 (see

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review by H. G. Jones in *American Archivist*, 27:514-515; Oct. 1964) and at a greater distance from the volumes prepared by Montague Spencer Giuseppi in 1923-24 (*A Guide to the Manuscripts Preserved in the Public Record Office*, 2 vols). There were, as well, several earlier guides produced in the 19th century.

The basic division in the great collection of documents held in the P.R.O. is between Judicial Papers (such as Chancery, Exchequer, Court of Common Pleas, and others) and State Papers, which include the departmental records that grew out of and became differentiated from the old secretaries' offices (such as Admiralty, Colonial Office, Foreign Office, Board of Trade). Volume I of the 1963 *Guide*, therefore, was designed to elucidate the various classes (series) of legal records (and a few other special categories), and volume II accomplished the same for the departmental records. Volume III, under consideration here, is a supplement and accounts for transfers of new classes of records and changes in existing classes made between September 1, 1960, and December 31, 1966. In format, it continues the division between legal and departmental records, but there are only two pages devoted to the former, whereas there are 124 for the latter, providing brief descriptions of over 800 new classes added to new and existing groups during the 1960-66 interval. The disproportion is due simply to the fact that there were far fewer transferrals of legal records, and, in fact many of the courts described in volume I are now defunct and further accruals of their records are not to be expected. Corrigenda and addenda to volumes I and II occupy 37 pages in volume III.

The earlier volumes of the *Guide* presented a comprehensive view of the P.R.O. and allowed us to catch a glimpse of that stately house whole. The supplementary volume, however, makes clear that nations, and the institutions that are their reflection, do not stand still. The supplement, in fact, must be supplemented itself by resort to the published *Annual Report of the Keeper of Public Records*, which contains an appendix devoted to a "Summary of Records transferred during the year."

Interesting and historically significant entries abound in volume III. The corrigenda and addenda, for example, take note that Ships' Logs (Admiralty 53) increased from 52,158 volumes (for 1799-1920) as of 1960, to 94,454 volumes (through 1934) by 1966. Another, and perhaps more striking seafaring example, in the main body of volume III, takes cognizance of the transfer of an entire class of records hitherto not available at the P.R.O. Not even the brevity of the entry—"Submarine Logs (Adm. 173) 1914 to 1934, 13,341 volumes"—can suppress the evocations of World War I to which it gives rise.

Volume III lacks the full table of contents available in volumes I and II, thereby obliging the user to turn to the index to discover references to the departments, offices, commissions, boards, and so on about which information is sought. This index is a consolidated one, whereas "persons and places" were indexed separately from "subjects" in volumes I and II.

Library of Congress

JOHN McDONOUGH

THE AMERICAN ARCHIVIST

A Guide to Computer-Assisted Historical Research in American Education, by Arthur H. Moelman, David Van Tassel, William H. Goetzmann, and Gerald D. Everett. (University of Texas at Austin, Center for History of Education, 1970. x, 95, [14] p. \$3.95.)

The *Guide* represents a thrust forward in methods of computerization of data in compiling as well as studying the history of education in the United States. As interest in history of this type expands, the data to be studied expand at a geometric rate. Any historian studying statistical data has been faced with the enormity of working with a large data base that requires considerable manipulation. As the authors point out, it has been proven that computers lend themselves to an efficient means of compilation.

The *Guide* begins with an introduction or perhaps justification of the use of computers in historical research. Historical landmarks in the use of computers for statistical research are listed, beginning with the work of Hollerith in the late 19th century. As the topic of the study expands, two parts of the problem appear and are separated. First, the obvious data base or bibliography of published materials is described, and second, the assembling of a calendar of legislation pertaining to education is discussed.

Each project by itself is enormous, and the authors wisely chose a definite period in which to work, since their initial intent is to prove the effectiveness of the computerized method. They chose the period 1917-67 both for the bibliography, which was to be all-inclusive of the United States, and the legislative calendar for the State of Texas relating to educational legislation.

The project began at the University of Texas at Austin Center for the History of Education with preliminary planning in 1966, followed by a major conference on March 2, 1967. As a result of this conference, the university decided to undertake the 1917-67 phase of the project as a beginning and promised funds for it over 2 additional years.

Period 1 saw the initial training of staff and the development of the "Morphology of Categories," which is a "functional hierarchical structural system of classification" of the broadest subject categories to be used in the bibliography. These are the "signposts" to be used when the researcher is recalling data and are really the heart of the retrieval system. With the morphology as a guide, some 3,500 entries of bibliographical data were prepared for subsequent entry.

Period 2 was devoted to assembling the calendar of educational legislation. For ease of usage, a format similar to the source record was used. Each entry was abstracted in the briefest possible form in order to conserve computer storage space.

Period 3 marked the translation of the morphology into computer language. In order to perform the translation effectively and efficiently, additional staff was trained in both computer technology and abstracting. Testing of the system followed and proved that the system would be an effective tool for the researcher.

The remainder of the book is devoted to definitions of terms for computer procedures, procedures for the use of the Morphology of Categories for coding, procedures for preparing entry of data, the generation of the permanent archive and procedures for the use of the system in studying questions in education history. A summary of capabilities and limitations of the system

and the Morphology of Categories completes the book.

Overall, the authors have made their point: the computer is a usable tool in the study of history, be it in education or any other field. It is evident however to the reviewer that a great need to justify the project was felt by the authors, and the point was belabored. The justification could have been shortened and the space used to explain the details of the program in clearer language. Both education and computer "jargon" were employed unnecessarily, to a degree that the reader might have difficulty in understanding the purpose of the project. Details about the project do not need to include some of the descriptions of the hardware or computer elements that were included. The heirarchical structure of the computer software or programs was confusing since each acronym was included. A chart showing this structure would be most clarifying.

It is interesting or perhaps dismaying to note that no discussion of the use of primary source materials is included in the project. Perhaps this type of project does not lend itself to use of primary materials, yet the type of research described would need to go beyond published materials in order to be really new or innovative.

The project itself is most ambitious and worthy. Since the principles have held up under testing, there appears to be little doubt that the entire system will be developed, given sufficient time and funds. It might well be that this study will provide guidelines for similar systems in other fields. As the authors so aptly put it, if a researcher is willing to invest time in understanding the computer method, the results of his research will be increasingly freed of the frustrating drudgery leaving him able to do more creative analysis and interpretation.

Wayne State University

GERALD L. HEGEL

American Institute of Physics. *National Catalog of Sources for History of Physics. Report No. 1: A Selection of Manuscript Collections at American Repositories*, prepared by Joan Nelson Warnow. (New York, 1969. vi, 73 p.)

The first report of the National Catalog of Sources for History of Physics (sponsored by American Institute of Physics Center for History and Philosophy of Physics) marks the beginning of a valuable descriptive listing of unpublished source material. Supported by the National Science Foundation and the Friends of the Niels Bohr Library, the report includes 103 entries describing papers of physicists, astronomers, mathematicians, and engineers in other repositories. The brief descriptions are followed by name, repository, and finding aid indexes. The second section of the report describes documentary source materials in the Niels Bohr Library. These include 64 manuscript collections, 17 file drawers of biobibliographical data on a thousand physicists, historical sketches of physics research in universities and industries, lists of oral history interviews conducted and deposited, a list of tape recordings acquired, and information on photographs and motion picture films.

Historians of science and archivists holding scientific manuscripts will welcome the publication of a guide by an institution they have come to regard as a leader in the field of documenting the development of modern

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science. In future versions more comprehensive indexing would be advisable. Compilers of guides also need to achieve some standardization in the content and measurement of oral history interviews and tape recordings of lectures and programs. Though problems of technique and inclusiveness will remain with any guide to archival materials, this report accomplishes its objectives. When the reader has finished, the archivist knows what has been done and the researcher knows where the material is located.

University of Illinois

MAYNARD BRICHFORD

Hertfordshire County Council. *A Catalogue of Manuscript Maps in the Hertfordshire Record Office*, by Peter Walne. (Hertford, 1969. ii, 156 p. \$2.25.)

Under the direction of Peter Walne, Hertfordshire County Archivist, the staff of the Hertfordshire Record Office has compiled an admirable descriptive catalog of all manuscript maps in their custody as of December 31, 1968. As Mr. Walne gratefully acknowledges in his introduction, its format and structure closely follow that of the *Catalogues* and *Supplements* of maps produced by F. G. Emmison of the Essex Record Office. It is divided into three major sections based upon broad map categories or provenance: maps accompanying inclosure awards; maps accompanying tithe commutation awards; and private or nonofficial estate maps dated before 1850. A brief but adequate discussion of the origin and administrative history of the maps, which date from 1588 to 1869, introduces each section. Of particular interest to this reviewer is the fact that the largest category, which covers 108 pages, or more than three quarters of the length of the catalog, consists of estate maps that were collected from private sources.

Within each section the entries are arranged alphabetically by parish name and chronologically within each parish. Maps that cover more than one parish have cross-references. Entry descriptions are short and generally furnish the name of the parish, map title, date, reference number, scale, physical dimensions, surveyor's name, general description of the physical and cultural features, and cross-references. Unfortunately their form differs from section to section, requiring the reader to constantly refer to the entry form description that immediately precedes the body of each section. The least satisfactory entry form is found in the section relating to tithe maps, where the compilers, apparently in an effort to save space and reduce repetition, have substituted a numbered key system for the narrative description of cultural and physical features. The key includes twelve "common features," numbered from 1 to 12, that may be found on a tithe map. When one or more of these features appear, they are indicated by the appropriate number or numbers. Although this system does not detract from the overall usefulness of the publication, it is somewhat cumbersome to use and requires additional patience and care when examining the descriptions. A thorough 14-page index "of places, surveyors, proprietors, and occupiers" completes the catalog.

In addition to its obvious value to anyone interested in the early geography, cartography, and settlement history of England, this catalog should also be of interest to American archivists and manuscript curators who are contemplating publishing descriptions of their map holdings. In Rundell's *In Pursuit of American History: Research and Training in the United States* (Norman,

University of Oklahoma Press, 1970), John E. Frost of the New York University Library recommends that "a guide to maps, down to the county level," be prepared as a research aid for scholars; but what is really needed by students of United States history and geography is a series of published map listings of the major State, university, and local archives and historical collections. For such a project Peter Walne's catalog could serve as a valuable model.

National Archives

RALPH E. EHRENBERG

The Papers of John Marshall, A Descriptive Calendar, by Irwin S. Rhodes. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1969. 2 vols. \$25.)

Irwin S. Rhodes, a lawyer from Cincinnati, Ohio, has obviously spent many years seeking out both the published and unpublished utterances of John Marshall. Materials relevant to his research were found in over 60 repositories and in more than 75 publications. His dedication and patience have resulted in a most formidable reference work.

His original objective was to prepare an edition of the complete papers of John Marshall, but he was refused the cooperation of the National Historical Publications Commission. The encouragement of the American Bar Association and others prevailed, however, and culminated in this present study. (It should be noted that the National Historical Publications Commission, in cooperation with the Commonwealth of Virginia, is financing a letterpress edition of the papers of John Marshall. The latter is a joint undertaking of the Institute of Early American History and Culture and William and Mary College.)

This calendar contains descriptions of a wide variety of types of materials relating to Marshall's life and activities. These include judicial opinions, legal case papers, land deeds, letters, commissions, an account book, and other manuscripts. Most of these concern Marshall's legal and judicial activities. The next largest category concerns land transactions. A relatively small number of items are of a personal or family nature.

The items are roughly arranged in chronological order. Within each year, they are arranged under headings such as documents, legal practice, House of Delegates of Virginia, land transactions, U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Circuit Court (Virginia), and U.S. Circuit Court (North Carolina). The legal cases are listed by citation or, if unpublished, alphabetically. Overall, this appears to be a satisfactory procedure in handling the complexities presented by the nature of the material. Historians should applaud the intermingling of both published and manuscript items.

Each item has been analyzed in an attempt to convey to the reader its main points, including facts, procedures, events, and places. Occasionally footnotes further elaborate on pertinent background, meaning, or controversy connected with Marshall's pronouncements. Much attention has been given to minutiae, which, although not always of deep significance, do reflect the depth of the research that went into the compilation of this calendar. In every case the location of the original item is clearly stated.

Although the rather standard archival abbreviations (e.g., A.L.S., D.S.) have not been utilized, the system employed, at times awkward in appearance, is not a serious drawback.

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The items listed fill 1,064 pages. Volume I covers the period 1755 to 1808; volume II covers the period 1809 to 1836, with a few entries for 1838–40, 1842, 1843, 1845, 1882, 1899, and undated. The 10-page introduction is succinct and informative. The appendixes to volume II are helpful. One contains an alphabetical list of the judicial opinions rendered by Marshall in the U.S. Supreme Court and the U.S. Circuit Courts, Virginia and North Carolina; the second contains an alphabetical list of the cases relating to Marshall's legal practice. The 42-page index is adequate. Unfortunately, not all the names of persons and places contained in the descriptions are brought out in the index. If they had been, the usefulness of this book would have been further enhanced, especially for the biographer and the local historian. The political historian, however, is well served by the thorough indexing of Marshall's political views and comments.

This calendar is primarily a reference tool. The fact that Mr. Rhodes is not a "professional" archivist was not an insurmountable obstacle to his compiling a sound calendar. Because of the nature of John Marshall's papers, Mr. Rhodes' law background was a more important ingredient in the successful completion of this undertaking.

The Western Reserve Historical Society

KERMIT J. PIKE

The Negro in the United States, A Selected Bibliography, compiled by Dorothy B. Porter. (Washington, Library of Congress, 1970. xiii, 313 p. \$3.25.)

Guides to the recent flow of publications concerning the Negro are a widely recognized current need. Drawing on her experience as librarian of the Moorland Foundation, the Negro Collection of Howard University, and her earlier bibliographic publications as well as on guides prepared by other writers, Dorothy Porter has produced a major contribution to research in two directions. She has prepared a well-balanced bibliographic key to the significance of the Negro in American life and simultaneously provided a major addition to our national bibliography—a selective guide to the printed materials on the Negro in the Library of Congress.

"Recent monographs in . . . the Library of Congress" provided the chief basis for this general guide to the study of the American Negro, resulting in a compilation of some 1,800 titles, useful to both student and advanced scholar. Locations in other major research institutions are noted for the few titles not found in the Library of Congress. In a brief but instructive preface Mrs. Porter has traced the origin of the Library of Congress collections on the Negro and the leading role of an early Negro assistant librarian, Daniel A. P. Murray.

Since this is a bibliography *about* the Negro, both white and black authors are included, generally without identification by race, except for the fiction section, which includes novels and short stories by Negro writers only. Only works published before 1969 appear to be included, throughout. Many well-known and recent proven titles are listed, but a distinctive value of this bibliography lies in its frequent reference to little-known, but useful older works, some of them minor publications but valuable in a full assessment of the Negro's contribution to American society.

Arrangement of titles is by 40 broad subject categories and, within these

subjects, by author. A detailed author and subject index supplements this arrangement in locating additional books on a particular topic. Not all topics are treated in equal depth. Emphasis is on questions of civil rights, race relations, and on cultural and political history.

Many titles are annotated, the notes most often giving bibliographic information relating the work noted to other editions or printings and citing bibliographic listings within the work noted. The latter add considerably to the potential value of this compilation to researchers. Contents notes are given in some cases, or identification of the author, or purpose of the work, when this will clarify its importance. A few titles, however, lack notes that would pinpoint their significance.

Omissions of important titles can be noted, but it must be assumed that they were made in deliberate judgment to limit the size of the work. This assumption is underscored by finding a number of such titles in the author's *A Working Bibliography on the Negro in the United States* (University Microfilms, 1969), a work directed to librarians and collectors to satisfy the urgent need for a book selection tool and therefore not as comprehensive nor as valuable for research as the present work.

Temple University

MIRIAM I. CRAWFORD

American and British Genealogy and Heraldry, a Selected List of Books
compiled by P. William Filby. (Chicago, American Library Association
1970. 184 p. \$10.)

Archivists, librarians, and Federal, State, and local records functionaries have the common denominator of having to deal with the ever increasing species, the inveterate and ubiquitous genealogist. The days of vaguely pointing a finger to the genealogical reference shelf or glibly reciting the address of the nearest genealogical group will no longer suffice. *American and British Genealogy and Heraldry* provides the general research consultant with a ready tool in aiding those interested in genealogy and heraldry.

The author, P. William Filby, who is Librarian and Assistant Director of the Maryland Historical Society, has compiled this book as a result of years of experience as a reference librarian dealing with ever increasing numbers of genealogical searchers. The threefold purpose of the book is stated in the introduction: it helps the librarian to point out available sources to the researcher; it is an aid to selection for the librarian; and it claims to be a reliable book and source list for the neophyte family researcher.

Family histories, compiled genealogies, or family trees are not to be found in the book. General works of genealogy covering the United States, including a State by State listing, and Great Britain, with a separate list for Canada, are included. Because heraldry is international in scope, works dealing with this subject are treated in a separate division of the book. Many useful European heraldic works are included as well as American and Canadian references.

Other useful aspects of the book are references to records offices and genealogical societies in the United States, the British Isles (including Ireland), and Canada. For England and Ireland works dealing with vital statistics, wills, and records of religious bodies are included. A name, subject, and place index plus a list of abbreviations necessary to the amateur researcher are also included.

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As previously noted the book is a useful, even necessary, tool for the reference librarian and others who must serve the genealogical researcher. It is not, in my opinion, a book for the neophyte. Reference experience has shown this reviewer that the beginning searcher tends to read into a work of this type things that are not there.

National Archives

WILLIAM E. LIND

DOCUMENTARY PUBLICATIONS

The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Vol. 2: April–September 1861, edited by John Y. Simon. (Carbondale and Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University Press, 1969. xxxiii, 399 p., illus. \$15.)

Again, John Y. Simon has completed a monumental task, and once again he has given the world a clear and accurate insight into one of the United States' foremost military men and President, Ulysses S. Grant.

Although volume 2 covers only the period of April through September 1861, the material contained within the 432 pages is both very interesting and exciting. In this volume, we follow Ulysses Grant as he serves as a recruiting officer in Illinois, then on through his commission as colonel of the 21st Illinois Volunteers and on to his promotion to the rank of brigadier general.

Letters to his father, Jesse Root Grant, and to his father-in-law, Frederick Dent, clearly indicate Ulysses S. Grant's definite opinions regarding the Civil War strife and his keen sense of duty and allegiance to the "Northern Cause." The warmth and concern for his family is well documented in the letters addressed to his wife, Julia Dent Grant. Another interesting aspect of Grant's character is illustrated in correspondence between Ulysses Grant and Maj. Gen. John C. Fremont concerning the Grant-Prentiss problem of seniority. A series of letters indicate Grant's unwillingness to jeopardize the military career of Brigadier General Prentiss. Faced with the stubborn attitude of Prentiss, Grant took the situation in hand and forced the issue.

A gunboat action at Lucas Bend, the siege of Lexington, a skirmish near Fort Jefferson, all are part of the narration to be found in this well-prepared book.

For the votary of Ulysses S. Grant, I strongly recommend reading volume 1 before absorbing volume 2. Both are excellent reading. I, for one, am anxiously awaiting the publication of volume 3.

Nevada Division of Archives

FREDERICK C. GALE

A Study in Dissent; the Warren-Gerry Correspondence, 1776–1792, edited by C. Harvey Gardiner. (Carbondale and Edwardsville, Southern Illinois University Press, 1968. xxxi, 269 p., illus. \$15.)

This volume consists of 94 letters written largely by James Warren and Elbridge Gerry and their wives to each other during the American Revolution and the decade that followed it.

Professor Gardiner's editorial apparatus and method are set forth in the book's introductory matter and are workmanlike and straightforward. Although Gardiner states that grammar and spelling have been retained as found, enough questionable instances jarred this reviewer's eye so that a

bracketed editorial exclamation point as opposed to the nagging doubt of actual misprint would have been preferable. In the dozen or so letters reprinted from James T. Austin's 1828 biography of Gerry one is confronted with transcription of text that is faulty by today's standards and must therefore discount textual accuracy. On the other hand, one becomes accustomed to idiosyncratic spelling retained as found until it appears in both James Warren's usual *and* the correct form on the same page without editorial comment (see "veiw" [*sic*], "view," p. 167).

In his footnotes Gardiner steps down twice from the editorial impersonal, once to characterize Gen. Henry Knox as a "florid 300-pounder often given to profanity" (one could equally call him an overweight former bookseller with a sizable appetite—as the bills for victuals and liquor among his papers testify amply), and again to label as "fine" an article on Mercy Warren. Gardiner does not document the fate of the ship *Argo* in which Gerry had significant financial interest nor does he identify the "dark, reserved" and "very singu'ar Character" designated to settle marine accounts in Boston in 1785 (see p. 195); presumably both could have been nailed down fairly readily with a little more effort. Even more serious, however, is Gardiner's failure to make clear how and/or whether Warren's accounts with the Government were settled. This matter is pervasive in Warren's letters and surely could have been documented by consulting the appropriate record groups in the National Archives.

Gardiner speaks of his interletter comments as neither competitive with the letters nor summarizing them but considers them to be supportive and revelatory of "personalities and problems." Rarely do they comment on events mentioned in the letters, and one infers that their function is to bridge the temporal gap between a letter and that which follows by narrating the intervening happenings. To some extent the interletter comments do this, but many provide no real link between the documents presented; indeed, they often distract from the natural flow that the letters themselves present.

Turning to the documents themselves, there are several passages that reveal in capsule form the personalities of the writers. A sentence from James Warren's letter of August 4, 1778, will serve as example:

. . . It is Mortifying to serve always for Nothing a Silly and ungrateful Generation of people wallowing with unmeaning dissipation in ill gotten abundance, and with all the fopperies and fooleries of high head dresses and large Cocked hatts &c. while their own Families are to be reduced by the Terms of their Service to Poverty.

Gerry's letters are less revealing; this may be the result of his being generally more politic and less candid because his correspondence was so often subjected to pilferage by his political enemies.

The text of the letters is derived from originals in the possession of eight institutions and two individuals, with several collections in the possession of the Massachusetts Historical Society drawn upon for approximately one-third of the correspondence represented. Eighteen more letters are from the Elbridge Gerry collection of Elsie O. and Philip D. Sang on deposit at Southern Illinois University Library, Carbondale. It should be noted that the volume's dedication is to Mr. Sang, "a philanthropic collector"; one could hope that further enlightened philanthropy on his and Mrs. Sang's part will make the deposit of their collection permanent.

Illustrations of the principals, their homes, and samples of their handwriting, plus an index round out this volume that sheds considerable light on James Warren and some glimmers on Elbridge Gerry. The latter awaits the full scholarly treatment he deserves, and in the meantime, this volume will serve as a way station along the road to that goal.

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GLENN B. SKILLIN

TECHNICAL MANUALS

Reader for Archives and Records Center Buildings, edited by Victor Gondos, Jr. (Committee on Archival Buildings and Equipment of the Society of American Archivists, 1970. viii, 127 p.)

It is suprising in view of the "Edifice Complex" of most professional archivists and records managers that very little has been done in either the archival or records management field to examine in detail the functional structures needed to maintain and service collections of archives or inactive records. Victor Gondos, Jr., for more than a quarter of a century chairman of the Society of American Archivists Committee on Archival Buildings and Equipment, has performed another in his long and distinguished career of services to those who manage records and archive collections. This new *Reader for Archives and Records Center Buildings* draws together in one small volume almost all the important literature on the subject over the past 30 years. More important, it does not restrict itself to facts, figures, and pictures. This volume lays on the table basic theoretical concepts of archives and records administration and relates them to structure, function, and results.

Archives buildings and records centers are being built all the time. To plan and construct these buildings professionals must use some standards, accept some historical perspective, and follow some guidelines in planning their buildings, arrangement, and equipment. Although it might appear that an archives or a records center could be built and equipped from a stock plan and set of specifications, it becomes apparent that this does not work in practice. Kenneth W. Richards' article on archives buildings (p. 35-48) and that of William Benedon (p. 77-87) show that although there are general similarities in function from archives to archives and from records center to records center, *structure must reflect philosophy*, and this will lead to marked differences among installations. The philosophy of operation, the conceptual framework of the archives or records program, must be understood before the structure is planned and the internal arrangements set down. If a structure is built at odds with the operating philosophy, the results will clearly be impracticality, inefficiency, and increased cost. On the other hand, if the structure reflects prior assumptions of how the archival or records management program will operate, the results will be beneficial not only to the manager of the program but also to those who use it. Mr. Richards very ably examines the assumptions underlying the structures for archives collections in Georgia, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. By dissecting the philosophies involved he is able to draw value judgments on the structures and reach some conclusions that may help buildings still in the planning stage. Mr. Benedon's essay on records centers substantiates the theory that records centers

may look alike but their cosmetic similarities sometimes conceal marked differences in concept, planning, and function.

J. O. Kellerman's article (p. 49-68) is very informative. He has surveyed a number of installations and compared key elements in structure and equipment both in the United States and abroad.

The volume is enhanced by additional articles on storage containers and the handling of film in a storage environment. Scant attention is paid, however, to the most ubiquitous arrival on the modern records scene—those records generated by electronic data processing installations. These have already heavily impacted records management and are a growing concern of archival administrators. Perhaps a future supplement will concentrate on the preservation, protection, and servicing of nontraditional, that is other than paper, records. Other than this omission, this book should become required reading for those who manage archives and records collections. As James B. Rhoads writes in his foreword, "It does provide a well-balanced view of the more important facets of archival and records center construction." It goes one step further by providing a select bibliography. Unfortunately, many of the citations are 10 years old or beyond. This does raise questions of whether any of today's professionals are paying due attention to this area, whether the writing today goes beyond what has been written before, or whether we have tended too much to disregard structure and equipment in terms of procedures and theory.

IBM Corp.

WILLIAM L. ROFES

Cleaning and Preserving Binding and Related Materials, by Carolyn Horton. 2d ed., rev.; Chicago, American Library Association, 1969. xx, 87 p., illus. \$4.50.)

Deterioration and Preservation of Library Materials; The Thirty-fourth Annual Conference of the Graduate Library School, August 4-6, 1969, edited by Howard W. Winger and Richard Daniel Smith. (Chicago and London, The University of Chicago Press, 1970. 200 p. \$7.95.)

The first volume, originally issued in 1967, is another example of the excellent series of publications resulting from the cooperation of the ALA and the Council on Library Resources, Inc. In 2 years it reached the status of a "best seller" and a new edition became necessary. Mrs. Horton has changed some of the text and added a workflow chart, an index, and a summary of tests on various book-cleaning and conditioning products. Some of the illustrations by Alden A. Watson have been modified and the bibliography has been updated and expanded. The list of supplies and equipment with their sources has also been revised.

The recommended use of a mending tape will be questioned by some as will the hinging of items to the book. Though the bibliography is "selected," several articles of importance are omitted and no mention is made of the availability on microfilm of Adelaide Minogue's pamphlet as a part of the publications of the National Archives and Records Service. It is currently back in print.

Most librarians still use the name "U.S. National Archives" and the index uses this designation. It is hoped they realize that the Office of the National

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Archives is only one part of the National Archives and Records Service of the General Services Administration.

This volume has much of value for private collectors and small rare book libraries and anyone interested in the subject should have it available. Not many archives and large libraries with huge holdings, however, will be able to put the workflow chart into practice. The future publication of a manual on leather binding, currently being edited by ALA, will also be of interest.

The second item cited above is a hard cover publication containing the papers given at the 34th annual conference of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. It was originally printed as the January 1970 issue of the *Library Quarterly*. Unless one requires the better binding, the same information is available in the latter form for \$3.50—a saving of \$4.45!

Much of the content of this volume is somewhat technical and appeals primarily to the specialist in the field of preservation. It is, however, “must” reading for everyone concerned with documentation in any form.

The observation of Edwin E. Williams, associate university librarian, Harvard University, on the use of microphotography by libraries before the 1930's should result in serious thought and discussion by today's records custodians: “If its possibilities were almost entirely overlooked for more than sixty years, one naturally wonders what possibilities we may now be neglecting.” Williams reviews the history of deterioration of libraries and cites several publications of interest including the works of W. J. Barrow and the 1959 report of the Subcommittee on Micropublishing Projects of the American Library Association Committee on Resources which called for the creation of a cooperative national microfilm depository. His major emphasis is on the work of the Committee on the Preservation of Research Library Materials of the Association of Research Libraries. That federal funds will be required to solve the problem of deterioration is one of its conclusions. Obtaining congressional action is recognized as an obstacle, and Williams is under no illusion as to the difficulty of obtaining active and productive support from those whose interest should be the greatest—the research scholars. Also, he is aware that librarians, like archivists, “talk to one another so much that they often forget, when talking to ‘outsiders,’ that library ideology and dialect may not be understood.”

That librarians and others concerned with records preservation should become involved in the current antipollution campaigns is evident from reading the paper of Carl J. Wassel, chief scientist of John I. Thompson & Co. He also indicates that much more research must be completed before standards and specifications can be finalized in the areas of temperature, humidity, illumination, all forms of pollutants, and vermin control. His observation that Europeans dress warmer than Americans and are thus able to utilize libraries having a lower temperature, which is better for the books, illustrates the complexity of the problem. The 116 references serve as an excellent bibliography for the field of environmental factors affecting the permanence of record materials.

The paper by Richard D. Smith, codirector of the Conference and Fellow, University of Chicago Graduate Library School, is of special interest because of the specific information one can utilize immediately plus the promise of a nonaqueous technique for deacidification of bound items that is economically feasible and not a possible health hazard such as the Langwell VDP process.

Although Smith states that no single plan of preservation can be recommended for all libraries, his four-part "Chicago Process" is an outline all institutions can use. The list of reference items will be of interest to those who desire even more details.

The several other papers on paper production and use, binding practices, photographic media, and the role of the librarian as a conservator (despite there being no formal professional training available in the U.S.) will better prepare the reader to develop and implement a preservation program in his institution. One wonders why the work on lamination and photographic restoration completed or underway at the Smithsonian Institution, The Ohio State University, and Washington State University was not cited. Also, though publications in the *American Archivist* are occasionally cited, the complete omission of any mention of the Society of American Archivists as a professional organization is disturbing. Librarians and archivists have many of the same goals and better communication between them is required if solutions to common problems are to be found and implemented. The joint session at the ALA meeting in Detroit last July was a good start.

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