

Publications

EDWARD E. HILL, *Editor*

REVIEWS

Die Nachlässe in den deutschen Archiven: Verzeichnis der schriftlichen Nachlässe in deutschen Archiven und Bibliotheken, by Wolfgang A. Mommsen. Band 1, Teil I: Einleitung und Verzeichnis. *Schriften des Bundesarchivs* 17. (Boppard am Rhein, Harald Boldt Verlag, 1971. xxxix, 582 p.)

This weighty volume is the product of 15 years of painstaking labor by Wolfgang Mommsen, at present the president of the Federal Archives of the German Federal Republic in Koblenz. It was undertaken almost singlehandedly while Mommsen served as *Nachlassreferent* (chief of the collections of personal papers) at that institution. In 1955 he had published a preliminary listing of *Nachlässe* in German State Archives (*Die schriftlichen Nachlässe den zentralen deutschen und preussischen Archiven*; Koblenz, 1955), but it was limited in scope and soon out of print. The present volume aims to be more comprehensive. The individual entries are more detailed, and they cover, as far as is possible, collections in the entire German language area, i.e., West and East Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, as well as certain German papers in other foreign countries, particularly the United States, Great Britain, the Netherlands, and Israel.

In his Introduction, Mommsen discusses the various types of *Nachlässe*. The guiding criterion for defining and establishing an "authentic" *Nachlass* is, of course, the single origin, or provenance, of an individual's papers. To compile the inventory, he sent inquiries to State and municipal and church and university archives as well as to the archives of corporations and noble families. Papers deposited in archives of the German Democratic Republic were also cataloged, as far as they could be found from publications; for as the compiler remarks laconically, the East German authorities who had cooperated until 1955 brusquely refused to do so thereafter. Under these circumstances it is amazing how much information about East German archives has been assembled here, although the negative findings, that is the destruction and disappearance of papers due to the ravages of World War II, are almost equally significant.

Books for review and related communications should be sent to Edward E. Hill, General Archives Division, Washington National Records Center, Washington, D.C. 20409.

The inventory itself consists of 4,264 items, arranged in alphabetical order. Each entry includes the name and dates of the individual concerned, his occupation and positions held, a brief description of the contents and scope of the collection, and its present location. Most of the papers listed are in public archives, but those in private possession are also indicated, as, for example, the papers (or some of the papers) of Adenauer, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Karl Haushofer, Max Weber, Ernst Jünger, Gen. Friedrich Paulus, and many others. The listings in foreign archives are necessarily sporadic, discovered more or less by chance; but they include some noteworthy collections at the Library of Congress, the National Archives, and the Hoover Library in the United States; at the Leo Baeck Institute and the former Wiener Library in London; the Jewish National and University Library and the Central Zionist Archives in Jerusalem. Among the more exotic items noted by this reviewer were papers of Heinrich Schliemann (80,000 letters!) in Athens, of Eduard Bernstein, Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels, and other Socialist leaders at the Institute for Social History in Amsterdam, some historical manuscripts of Ranke at Syracuse University, and letters and musical papers of Jenny Lind at Stanford University.

The significance of this work for archivists and historians is obvious. It is an indispensable finding aid, made necessary by the fact that pre-World War II inventories are largely obsolete. Dr. Mommsen's achievement is further impressive in view of the limited resources at his disposal (although including a subsidy from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft) in comparison with such generously financed giant enterprises as the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections in this country. His volume forms the counterpart to a similar survey of personal papers deposited in German libraries compiled by Ludwig Denecke and published in 1969 as Volume II of this series (*Die Nachlässe in den Bibliotheken der Bundesrepublik Deutschland: Verzeichnis der schriftlichen Nachlässe in deutschen Archiven und Bibliotheken*, Band 2; Boppard am Rhein, Harald Boldt Verlag, 1969). The second part of Mommsen's volume, containing the Index, will appear in the course of this year. It is sincerely hoped that every research library and archives will be able to acquire this valuable tool soon.

The American University

CARL G. ANTHON

U.S. National Archives. *Guide to Cartographic Records in the National Archives*. (Washington, 1971. xi, 444 p. \$3.25.)

Although other cartographic records, inventories, and special lists have been compiled by the National Archives, the agency planned the *Guide* as a central source of information about its immense cartographic holdings, which are the accumulation of maps and aerial photographs to July 1, 1966, in the Cartographic Branch.

For those who have seen the *United States Government Organization Manual*, the *Guide's* table of contents follows the familiar arrangement

of the structure of Government, showing record groups and their numbers under the Legislative, Judicial, and Executive Branches and their subdivisions, Independent Agencies, and the inevitable miscellany listed as Other Sources. General records of an agency are listed first, followed by the record groups of subordinate organizations within the agency. And, helpfully to the reader, agencies no longer in existence are shown separately from those still active.

In the text of the *Guide*, a brief historical statement of each office's mapping responsibility and activity precedes the descriptive listings of pertinent record series, and valuable citations to other references are often given here. The major headings in the text give the record group title and number, with series subheadings under the agency showing the inclusive dates of those records and the number of items in each. These last data are an invaluable boon to the scholar, allowing him to see at a glance the "when" and "how many." Maps and sketches of early land and sea explorations produced some of the first records in the custody of the Archives, and the United States was quick to recognize them as being vital to its development. The great military production of maps began with the Revolutionary War and ends here in the *Guide* with the Second World War; the smaller conflicts are included. The Army, Navy, and Air Force are represented by their excellent, detailed charts, altogether comprising a great part of our Government's holdings associated with the military. One cannot overlook the considerable peacetime mapping, however, because a large part of the cartographic group is that modern aerial photography executed primarily by the Department of Agriculture. These maps cover almost all the United States, giving a comprehensive view of our landscape. The 20th-century regulatory responsibilities of the Government have resulted in the creation of many types of maps for conservation, public service, highways, railroads, city planning, climate, and weather.

To its everlasting credit, the National Archives developed the SPINDEX II computer programs, modifications of standard keyword out-of-context programs, that were used in preparing the *Guide's* 166-page index. Herein is the bonus for the serious researcher in cartographic records, for each item—from Aachen to the Zuider Zee, with the Lava Beds at Tule Lake, Calif., in between—is referenced by entry number. The index also lists major classifications by page numbers and the inclusive dates of groups covered in the text. Cartographic finding aids at the Archives consist of card catalogs, lists of descriptions, and indexes for aerial maps.

It is not hard to envision the thousands of hours spent in the compilation of this *Guide*. It began under our old friend Herman R. Friis, now head of the Polar Archives at the National Archives, and was completed under the aegis of the present head of the Cartographic Division, A. Philip Muntz. To them, and especially to the staff members who worked so hard and long, will be given much praise and credit by each who uses the *Guide*, be he geographer, historian, or map buff.

Georgia Surveyor General Department

PAT BRYANT

Guide to Historic Preservation, Historical Agencies, and Museum Practices: A Selective Bibliography, compiled by Frederick L. Rath, Jr., and Marilyn Rogers O'Connell. (Cooperstown, New York Historical Association, 1970. xvi, 369 p. \$12.50.)

In 1966 the New York State Historical Association published, as a pilot project, a *Selective Reference Guide to Historic Preservation*. It was a 133-page paperback and sold for \$3.50. Comments and suggestions were invited, with the hope that in 2 years a new, revised and enlarged edition could be produced. The new volume, hardbound, with a new title more accurately reflecting both its nature and scope, closed its entries on December 31, 1969. It is divided into seven major sections: Preservation Organizations, General Reference, Preservation Principles and Practices, Administration (under which is found Archives and Records Management), Study and Care of Collections, Research Methods and Sources, and Interpretation. A new feature is an excellent index of 93 pages. An old feature, surprisingly unchanged (two entries dropped, two added, and revised editions indicated), is the Basic Reference Shelf of 20 publications the total cost of which is less than \$125. The list is good and is deliberately general but should have added to it Carolyn Horton's *Cleaning and Preserving Bindings and Related Materials*. (Unfortunately, Mrs. Keck's *Safeguarding Your Collection in Travel* was published just after the closing date, or certainly it would have been included.)

To this reviewer, the *Guide* is not, as suggested by another reviewer, a way to keep pace with information in one's area of specialization. The intent and value of the *Guide* is to provide quick and comprehensive information in fields related or allied to one's specialty, and herein is its primary value for archivists.

Annotations appeared in only the Conservation and Preservation section of the 1966 volume, and even these brief but useful remarks ("Some material outdated," "Excellent but out of print," "Standard reference manual") have been omitted in the new volume (because of bibliographic professionalism?). If there is to be a third volume, such annotation ought to be considered and possibly could be supplied through committees of the various professional groups concerned.

My complaint is with the form. Does it cost \$12.50 because it had to be set in type? How many copies were printed? Such a guide seems not only a useful but also an essential need, increasingly so as specialty area bibliographies grow. Is it not possible for the major fields to pool funds to computerize the data? Is it sensible to suggest a basic physical form to which supplements (by subdivisions within sections) could be added, enabling maintenance of a more current reference?

There ought to be a direct relationship between bibliographies and professions, particularly professions professing professionalism. Yet, for the second time in 4 years, here is the only comprehensive bibliography for three broad, major fields, each of which eagerly solicits and expects support from individuals and foundations and governments. Historic preservation has the excuse of youth, and historical agencies have the

problem of identity. But museums, although their existence predates their confused, emerging professionalism, have none. At a time when accreditation (see p. 67 of the *Guide*) has become a fact, it is ironical if not shameful that such a vital professional tool is the product of spare-time effort. At least it is by two dedicated professionals. Thank them and help yourself: buy it.

Bishop Museum

JOHN COTTON WRIGHT

Americans of Jewish Descent: A Compendium of Genealogy, compiled by Malcolm H. Stern. Foreword by Jacob Rader Marcus. Publications of the American Jewish Archives, No. V. (Cincinnati, Hebrew Union College Press, 1960. 307 p. \$10. Reprint, New York, KTAV Publishing House, Inc., 1971. xxii, 307 p. \$40.)

In June 1950, Malcolm H. Stern, a student at the Hebrew Union College, asked Prof. Jacob Rader Marcus for an appropriate topic for his doctoral dissertation in American Jewish history. Professor Marcus had established the American Jewish Archives on the HUC campus 2 years earlier. His earliest acquisition included a large collection of typescript genealogical data on American Jews, donated by Marian Nathan Kraus Sandor and Walter Max Kraus. This collection was made available to Stern, and his subsequent researches—over a period of 7 years—resulted in the publication of *Americans of Jewish Descent*, a bulky (17" × 11") compilation of genealogical charts of 375 families—25,000 persons—who settled in America between 1654 and 1840. The terminal year 1840 was chosen to eliminate from this study the mass migrations of German Jews following the European revolutions of the 1840's. Some arrivals after 1840 were included, but only if they were genealogically connected with older families.

Many charts were those of well-known families, such as Gratz, Lazarus, Levy, Benjamin, and Harby, but most were those of typical middle class families of no particular distinction.

Stern's studies show that the first arrivals, Sephardic (Portuguese-Spanish), freely intermarried before 1840 with later arrivals, Ashkenazic (German), and were eventually absorbed by the Ashkenazi. These studies also show the rate of intermarriage with Christians.

An Addenda et Corrigenda contains data that arrived too late to be incorporated into the genealogical charts. A section on Bibliography and Sources cites manuscripts and documents, family notes, published works, wills, periodicals, and correspondence. The index is arranged by family name subdivided by given names. Full instructions on how to use the charts occupy an important position in this publication.

Dr. Marcus's foreword stresses the value of genealogical research. By publishing the results of Malcolm Stern's research, the American Jewish Archives opened a new area to historians, genealogists, and sociologists. KTAV Publishing House performed an added valuable service by re-printing it. The \$40 price tag limits its purchaser potential to institu-

tions rather than individuals; but schools, libraries, and archival agencies that missed it the first time around should acquire it.

Dr. Stern's research was no easy task, but his pioneering invites research into the period between 1840 and 1920. This would be an even greater undertaking, because it would include the refugees of the 1840's and the mass of Eastern European immigration after 1880. Where is the genealogist who would undertake this task? Where is the foundation that would finance him?

National Archives

SYLVAN MORRIS DUBOW

The Letters of Sir John A. Macdonald, 1836-1857, edited by J. K. Johnson. (The Papers of the Prime Ministers, Vol I; Ottawa, Public Archives of Canada, 1968. xxiv, 600 p., illus. \$10.)

The Letters of Sir John A. Macdonald, 1858-1861, edited by J. K. Johnson and Carole B. Stoltmack. (The Papers of the Prime Ministers, Vol. II; Ottawa, Public Archives of Canada, 1969. xviii, 626 p., illus. \$10.)

Sir John A. Macdonald (1815-91), as the subject of at least nine full-scale biographies, is one of the most thoroughly described figures in modern Canadian history. His importance lies in the influential role he played in Canadian politics during the last half of the 19th century, particularly in his successful efforts to achieve Dominion status for Canada and his long service as the Dominion's first Prime Minister. Sir John entered public life in 1844, when he was elected to represent Kingston, Ont., in the Legislative Assembly, which he did continuously throughout his political career. While in the Assembly and afterwards, he was a strong proponent of policies designed to preserve British rule and Canada's place within the Empire. In 1845 he became Attorney General of Canada, West, and in 1856 he was appointed Premier of Upper Canada, a post he held for less than a year. Later, he served as Postmaster General and Minister for Militia Affairs. He took a leading part in both the Quebec Conference of 1864 and in the London Conference of 1866, which resulted in the British North America Act making Canada a Dominion. In 1867 Sir John was chosen the Dominion's first Prime Minister, serving until 1873 and again from 1878 to his death.

Volume I offers a view of 19th-century American life, as seen by a Canadian. A devoted family man, in the winter of 1845 Sir John took his ailing wife south. Journeying through Philadelphia, a "city of marble steps, broad brims, and scrubbing brushes," he stayed with the Biddle family (not Nicholas) who introduced him to Jacob Randolph, and "all the Science & Belles Lettres." In Petersburg, "the house where we stayed was dirty, the food badly dressed, and the beds overrun with ants." Along the banks of the Roanoake, he found "the identical stone on which Captain Smith's head was laid, when Pocahontas saved it from the warclub of her father."

J. K. Johnson, the editor, describes Macdonald's "letters" as "all com-

munications," yet omits speeches and debates. But a random check of recent publications of "papers" indicates that Johnson had no rule of thumb to go by. "Papers" of Henry Clay by Hopkins, of Andrew Johnson by Graf and Haskins, and of James Madison by Hutchinson and Rachal do contain speeches. Yet those of John C. Calhoun by Hemphill and Alexander Hamilton by Syrett do not. The papers of Benjamin Franklin by Labaree not only have communications to and from Franklin, but include pieces about Franklin. Such works are variously entitled "letters," "letters and speeches," and, "the life and papers." No consistency is apparent.

Johnson has neither printed each document in full nor included every document. In Volume I, about half of all available communications are printed; in Volume II, about a third. No document, however, is knowingly concealed from the reader. To prevent such concealment, two safeguards are included: first, an exhaustive and excellent appendix to each volume lists every surviving letter and provides a short précis of each (90 pages in Volume I, 157 pages in Volume II); second, the selection criteria depend not only on political significance, but also on economic, social, legal, administrative, and business history. Volume I contains material found in Ontario's Provincial archives, several historical societies, university libraries, private collections, and newspaper morgues. Volume II has been taken mostly from the holdings of the Public Archives of Canada.

Volume I adds a bonus by printing a genealogical chart of the Macdonald, Macpherson, Shaw, and Clark families. Sir John comes into perspective: three generations back to the 1700's; two generations forward to 1960.

*National Archives and
Records Service*

DON HARRISON and JERRY WALLACE

NOTES

The National Archives of India has published *Index to the Foreign and Political Department Records*, vol. II, 1781-83 (Delhi, 1968. ix, 414 p. \$10.08); and *Descriptive List of Secret Department Records*, vol. II, 1776-80, edited by K. D. Bhargava (Delhi, 1971. xv, 406 p. \$12.87). In the field of documentary publications it has published *Selections from Educational Records of the Government of India*, vol. IV, *Technical Education in India, 1886-1907*, edited by K. D. Bhargava (Delhi, 1968. vii, 353 p. \$10.62); and *Fort William-India House Correspondence and Other Contemporary Papers Relating Thereto* (Military Series), vol. XXI, 1797-1800, edited by Sita Ram Kohli (Delhi, 1969. xxxiv, 550 p., illus. \$9).

The Marine Corps Museum, Quantico, Va., has published three additions to its *Manuscript Register Series*. Number Three, *Register of*

the Samuel Miller Papers, 1814-1856, was compiled by Doris S. Davis and Jack B. Hilliard (50 p.). The documents in the collection relate particularly to the campaigns of 1836-37 against the Creek and Seminole Indians. Number 4, *Register of the George C. Reid Papers, 1898-1960*, was compiled by Doris S. Davis, Richard A. Long, and Col. Tyson Wilson (37 p.). Reid served in the Marine Corps from the Spanish-American War until his retirement as a brigadier general in 1930. Number Five, *Register of the Levi Twiggs Papers, 1843-1850*, was compiled by Doris S. Davis (28 p.). The collection is composed principally of personal correspondence of Major Twiggs during the Mexican War, in which he was killed in action.

The Collection of Regional History and University Archives, Cornell University, in commemoration of the diamond anniversary of the George Junior Republic, has published *The William R. George and George Junior Republic Papers*, edited by Douglas A. Bakken (Ithaca, June 1970, 24 p.). This pamphlet includes a biographical sketch of William R. George, the founder of the George Junior Republic, and a description of the papers. The junior republic provided a rural home for youths from city slums and was intended to introduce them to concepts of self-government and individualism. The Collection of Regional History and University Archives has also published *A History of the Council of School Superintendents, Cities and Villages of the State of New York, 1883-1967*, by Merete Staubo (Ithaca, January 1971, 23 p.). The Council gave its records to Cornell in 1967 and also provided funds to process the records and prepare this historical sketch.

An article entitled "The Declaration of Independence: A Case Study in Preservation," by Verner Clapp, appears in the December 1971 issue of *Special Libraries* (62:503-508) published by the Special Libraries Association. The same issue also contains part 1 of a two-part article entitled "Picture Searching," by Renata V. Shaw.

The University of Massachusetts Press has published *The Southampton Slave Revolt of 1831*, by Henry Irving Tragle, a compilation, in one volume, of the important documentary material on Nat Turner's Rebellion.

The *New Archivist*, a bimonthly newsletter of interest to archivists, is available from its editor, David E. Horn, Archivist, Montana State University Library, Bozeman, Mont. 59715. Annual subscription for the six issues is \$1.