

Dahl, Edward H., H el ene Espeset, Marc LaFrance, and Thiery Ruddell. *La Ville de Qu ebec, 1800-1850: un inventaire de cartes et plans*. National Museum of Man, Mercury Series, History Division Paper No. 13. Ottawa, 1975.

T. A. Crowley

Number 3-75, February 1976

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1019654ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019654ar>

[See table of contents](#)

Publisher(s)

Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine

ISSN

0703-0428 (print)

1918-5138 (digital)

[Explore this journal](#)

Cite this review

Crowley, T. A. (1976). Review of [Dahl, Edward H., H el ene Espeset, Marc LaFrance, and Thiery Ruddell. *La Ville de Qu ebec, 1800-1850: un inventaire de cartes et plans*. National Museum of Man, Mercury Series, History Division Paper No. 13. Ottawa, 1975.] *Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine*, (3-75), 64-66. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019654ar>

d'une ville bien ordonnée, d'après le plan de Dollier de Casson, est ici remise en cause. Mieux que ses prédécesseurs, Louise Dechêne indique la marge entre la législation et le respect de celle-ci, nous montrant ainsi, une fois de plus, les dangers d'une histoire institutionnelle et juridique.

La structure sociale que décrit l'auteur est celle de l'ensemble de l'île et, par extension, celle de la Nouvelle-France. Elle établit ses catégories en tenant compte soit du statut, soit du secteur professionnel. Dans la ville même la répartition des professions en 1715 est la suivante: 40% dans les services, 30% dans le commerce, 25% dans la construction et la fabrication et 15% de manoeuvres. La faiblesse du secteur secondaire et le petit nombre des manoeuvres confirment les données de l'auteur sur la structure économique de la ville.

Montréal au XVIIe siècle est somme toute un comptoir commercial dont l'emprise métropolitaine est presque inexistante quant au terroir, mais s'étend très loin en ce qui concerne le commerce des fourrures. Avec Louise Dechêne, l'histoire de Montréal au XVIIe siècle est sortie de la légende et s'appuie maintenant sur des bases solides. On pourrait certes souhaiter que le milieu urbain y soit examiné plus en détail mais il fallait bien commencer quelque part...et laisser un peu de pain sur la planche pour les successeurs. Habitants et marchands de Montréal au XVIIe siècle, un livre à lire absolument!

Paul-André Linteau
Département d'histoire
Université du Québec à Montréal

* * *

Dahl, Edward H., Hélène Espeset, Marc LaFrance, and Thiery Ruddell.

La Ville de Québec, 1800-1850: un inventaire de cartes et plans.

National Museum of Man, Mercury Series, History Division Paper No. 13.
Ottawa, 1975.

During the past five years the bulldozer of progress has demolished some 2,500 lodgings in Quebec City to make way for temples to

Quebec's modernization and burgeoning bureaucracy. The appearance of this inventory is a salutary reminder of an era when the walled city was still the pulsating nerve centre of Canada's chief metropolis rather than a Disney-like creation for tourists.

Here is a carefully edited and useful reference tool to the 315 maps and plans of Quebec for the years 1800 to 1850 held by the Public Archives of Canada. For each document the authors have indicated its size, location, date, author, and general description of contents. Although listed in chronological order, a detailed index surmounts any problems this format might present the researcher. A long, but less satisfactory appendix outlines similar holdings in four Quebec archives; unfortunately, they are not included in the general index. Scattered throughout the text are some high-quality reproductions, although the scale of some maps makes their detail invisible to the naked eye.

In a brief introduction, the authors provide a cursory overview of Quebec's role as a commercial, military, religious and administrative centre. Although this period witnessed the development of Quebec's economy to its highest point before decline set in after 1858, no attention is given to the part played by the local mercantile community in effecting this change, nor its impact on the physical and architectural setting. The authors' chief interest lies in the city's rapid demographic and spatial expansion, especially in the suburbs of Saint-Roch and Saint-Jean, and the resultant social stratification and residential segregation that was also experienced by other North American ports at the time. They note that business and professional groups, especially anglophones, were most likely to request and secure assistance from local government, but in attributing this situation to favoritism and the period when Quebec was administered by justices of the peace, they ignore the over-representation of the British in nearly all occupational categories except those of day-labourer and carter, as well as the vast difference in literacy between the two ethnic groups.

Until recently historians of Quebec have tended to ignore the

habitant and labourer. History from the bottom up is certainly welcome, but urban history must attempt an even broader approach.

T.A. Crowley
Department of History
University of Guelph

* * *

Tilly, Charles, Louise and Richard. The Rebellious Century, 1830-1930.
Harvard University Press, 1975.

During the late 60's and early 70's several articles and mimeographed working papers provided specialists with a glimpse of Charles Tilly's ambitious researches into violence and collective action in modern European history. In this book that research is supplemented by the expertise of his wife, a specialist in Italian social history, and their son, a specialist in German economic history. The Rebellious Century describes and analyzes the incidence and function of collective non-governmental violence in three nations undergoing the crucial structural changes of modernization. It also puts forward hypotheses about linkages between socio-economic change and political conflict on the one hand and collective action -- non-violent as well as violent -- on the other.

Readers of this journal will likely be more interested in the Tillys' interpretations of such linkages; therefore this report restricts itself to the authors' cross-national generalizations, which can be summarized as follows:

1. The Primary of politics. In each country violence tended to cluster around years which saw key power struggles at the national level. This link is far more apparent than any connection with major structural changes. For this reason the authors hold that collective violence is part of an overall historical surge in collective action by groups contending for power within an essentially political framework. "We keep rediscovering the political basis of collective violence." A corollary to this is:

2. The breakdown of "breakdown" theories of social conflict. The