

**Artibise, Alan F.J., and Stelter, Gilbert A. *Canada's Urban Past: A Bibliography to 1980 and Guide to Canadian Urban Studies.* Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1981. Pp. xxxix, 396. \$42.00 (cloth), \$20.00 (paper)**

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wrote. The article on Charles Durand appears to put Baldwin and Lafontaine in power in 1844, while that on Peter Carroll implies that the Bank of Hamilton was founded in the 1850s. Allan MacNab's assumption of the Canadian premiership, correctly dated at 1854 in Don Beer's excellent article on MacNab, is dated 1855 in the next article, on MacNab's daughter Sophia. Despite the book's own evidence, the author of the article on Adam Fergusson thinks the Gore District declined economically in the 1840s, while the author on the article on Henry McKinstry thinks there was a depression extending from 1857 to 1867. J.G. Hodgins was not "deputy minister of education" in 1855 (p. 131). Withal, to the extent that time and funding permitted, the volume has a highly professional quality and remarkably few of these sorts of lapses, which might very well have bedeviled a book produced by so many hands.

In short, this volume represents first class local history and is highly recommended for all those interested in Hamilton's past. The city's local historical community, and particularly the many individuals involved with production of this volume, have much cause for satisfaction in the result of their efforts. One hesitates even so to urge it as a model in urban history and as an approach for other cities to emulate (the prospect of such dictionaries for every city in Canada would doubtless send shivers down the spines of granting agencies), and it is to be hoped that the future volumes envisaged will succeed more completely in transcending the localism that is the present volume's most serious limitation.

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Artibise, Alan F.J., and Stelter, Gilbert A. *Canada's Urban Past: A Bibliography to 1980 and Guide to Canadian Urban Studies*. Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1981. Pp. xxxix, 396. \$42.00 (cloth), \$20.00 (paper).

This substantial and up-to-date bibliography will be a useful addition to any reference collection whose users require information relating to urban studies in Canada. The scope of the work is wide, reflecting the authors' view of urban history as "a field of knowledge in which many disciplines converge." Thus, the work in many different areas of research, from political science to public health, as well as many different genres, from tourist guides to census tracts, is included.

The 7,054 items listed, including bibliographies and many recent theses, together with the archives, special libraries, journals, and other sources described in the

Guide, will undoubtedly lead the searcher to virtually all the material that exists. For example, policy and planning documents published since the 1920s are generally excluded, but bibliographies on relevant policy areas are listed. (The dust-jacket blurb claiming that the bibliography "brings together virtually all of the material that exists in the field of Canadian urban studies" is slightly misleading). The work aims to be complete to 1980, and in fact even includes a few 1981 publications.

The arrangement is similar to that used in Professor Stelter's smaller but still useful 1972 bibliography. A General Section covers Bibliographies and Guides to Sources, General Works, Historiography and Methodology (including selected non-Canadian material). There follow general thematic studies under the headings: Growth and Economic Development (including Transportation); Population; Urban Environment (including Planning); and Municipal Government. Studies on these topics, and others, which refer to specific places, are listed in the geographical section — the major part of the bibliography — arranged by region, province, and city or town, East to West. Most of the references are in English, with a fair representation in the French language — mainly in the Quebec section, as might be expected.

There are Author, Place and Subject indexes. The Place index serves as a finding aid for works dealing with more than one place, and for those listed under "Other Centres" in each province, which do not have their own separate section. The Subject index is a crucial item in a geographically-arranged bibliography of this size, and here, despite the obvious care taken to cover all the subjects, with topical and place subdivisions as needed, one does find some problems. Cross-references, both "see" and "see also," are indeed provided, but as a long-time user of indexes, I feel there could be more; for example, the term "Ethnicity" might not occur to everyone looking for references on minorities or racial problems — neither of which appear; "pollution" is another urban problem which could be listed with references to the headings Water, Sewage, and Public Health; entries under Settlement Patterns could usefully be linked to those under Migration and related terms; the "see also" reference, under Welfare to Public Health, could also mention the heading Child Welfare. Material on "heritage conservation" (a phrase used in the Introduction) is not found under this heading; under Conservation are listed two references, with the direction to "see also" Ecology and Architecture; under Architecture one finds a reference to Preservation, architectural, and it is under this heading that the bulk of the entries on this subject are listed. However, an article entitled "Urban preservation in London" does not appear under any of these headings. Other entries not apparently included in the Subject index include *The Macmillan Book of Canadian Place Names* (Bibliography #10) (while G.A. Armstrong's *The Origin and*

*Meaning of Place Names in Canada* is indexed under Place Names - Ontario); and the *Bibliography of Ontario History, 1867-1976*, listed in the Ontario - General section along with some 250 other items.

Anyone who has ever compiled an index will view such aberrations with sympathy and, indeed, any apparent deficiencies noted in this review should be read in the light of my opening statement.

Some omissions seem inexplicable, such as the articles by L. Deshaies, D. Morin and H. Manseau in the 1975 *Cahiers de géographie de Québec*; R.G. Lillie's survey of CMHC's work from 1946-1966 in *Habitat* (1966-1968); and Jacques Henripin's 1954 work *La population canadienne au début du XVIIIe siècle*. Others, such as Johannes Overbeek's *Population and Canadian Society* (published in 1980) or the revised edition of Kalbach's *The Demographic Bases of Canadian Society* (1979) are more understandable. Another gap occurs in the listings on housing co-ops: three articles are listed, but several more, published in *Canadian Labour, Canadian Welfare*, and *Habitat*, from 1953 to 1979, are omitted. In a more peripheral area, it should be noted that the 1970 directory *Special Libraries and Information Centres in Canada* (Bibliography #1) has been superseded by the *Canadian Library Directory*, Part II, section 2 (1976); also, the *Gale Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centres*, currently published annually, has a section on Canada.

The informative Introduction defines the scope of the bibliography and provides a critical guide to current approaches to the field of urban history, with numerous bibliographical footnotes. It might be helpful to the beginning researcher if the key works listed in these footnotes, and perhaps some others in the General Section, were highlighted, by means of asterisks or some such sign, in the main bibliography.

The Guide which follows the bibliography constitutes a valuable aid to researchers whether experienced or novice. Developed from earlier guides published by Professor Artibise in 1977 and 1979, it describes newsletters and journals in the field, gives detailed information on archives and special libraries, and lists audio-visual resources and such other resources as publications series and research organizations. One possible useful addition here might be the inclusion of current bibliographical sources other than the *Urban History Yearbook's* Current Bibliography; such publications as the *Canadian Periodical Index*, *Population Index*, *Geo Abstracts*, *Bibliographie géographique internationale*, and *Political Science Abstracts* would help researchers supplement and update the references given in this bibliography.

The style and format of the volume are pleasing. The type is clear and easy to read, and all but the most obvious abbreviations are explained. There are remarkably few typographical errors, and the only ones that might cause the user some grief are a few cases of transposed digits in the Author index (e.g. 3362 [etc.] for 3662 [etc.] under Baldwin). All in all, a well-produced bibliography which lives up to its title.

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While most academic books stimulate some level of scholarly reflection, few cause personal reflection. The casual reader of this review will, therefore, be amused by the thought that a bibliography containing 7,054 references could do anything more than drive a person to distraction, but this particular compilation has caused some scholarly and personal examination.

Let me begin with the personal. Some twenty years ago, urban geography was emerging as a popular and rapidly developing sub-discipline in North American universities, and there was some considerable effort to define the focus of "urban geography" and its substance. The developing paradigm at this early stage was succinctly expressed by Brian J.L. Berry in his 1964 article with the classic one-liner title "Cities as Systems within Systems of Cities," in which the word "systems" relates to interaction, interdependence, and allometry.

As a part of the effort to define the substance of this emerging sub-discipline, a number of individuals accumulated bibliographies of mammoth proportions, and this reviewer was one of a number of graduate students, and faculty, who contributed to the accumulation, over a period of two or three years, of such a compilation relating to urban geography in North America. The sheer size of the bibliography meant that it had to be presented in a number of categories, beginning with the major two-fold division of topics suggested in the quoted one-liner. Each major division then contained a section grouping works of a theoretical nature relating to location, and separate categories of material pertaining to the various elements of the "systems."

That particular bibliography was not, of course, published, though a vast amount of work that was published grew out of the mind-set and substance of that bibliography. Looking back at the compilation, it is evident to me that (1) the organization of the bibliography was more influential than most of the contents, (2) the contents, that is, the actual citations, reflected the linguistic and