

Urban History Review Revue d'histoire urbaine

URBAN HISTORY REVIEW
REVUE D'HISTOIRE URBAINE

Bloomfield, Elizabeth and Stelter, Gilbert A. *Guelph and Wellington County: A Bibliography of Settlement and Development since 1800*. Guelph, Ontario: University of Guelph, 1988. Pp. 329. \$22.50 (ppd.) paper

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Volume 18, Number 1, June 1989

URI: <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1017828ar>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7202/1017828ar>

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Publisher(s)

Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine

ISSN

0703-0428 (print)

1918-5138 (digital)

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Cite this review

Losinger, I. D. (1989). Review of [Bloomfield, Elizabeth and Stelter, Gilbert A. *Guelph and Wellington County: A Bibliography of Settlement and Development since 1800*. Guelph, Ontario: University of Guelph, 1988. Pp. 329. \$22.50 (ppd.) paper]. *Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine*, 18(1), 88–88.
<https://doi.org/10.7202/1017828ar>

Bloomfield, Elizabeth and Stelter, Gilbert A. *Guelph and Wellington County: A Bibliography of Settlement and Development since 1800*. Guelph, Ontario: University of Guelph, 1988. Pp. 329. \$22.50 (ppd.) paper.

This bibliography is the first published product of the Guelph Regional Project. Established in early 1987 under Chairman Gilbert Stelter and Project Manager Elizabeth Bloomfield (both at the University of Guelph), the project is to explore and analyse the evolution of a particular Ontario region, the Upper Grand Valley. Its principal task has been to establish a comprehensive databank of all primary and secondary material pertaining to Guelph and Wellington County. Records of published and secondary documents have been extracted from this databank to form the printed bibliography. A second research tool, also to be extracted from the databank, will constitute an inventory of primary and archival sources and is scheduled for publication in 1989.

A lengthy two-part introduction by Stelter and Bloomfield provides some background to the project's approach and methodology. Stelter first examines some of the issues relating to academic studies of regions (especially Guelph/Wellington). He then reviews the various sources that may be of use to those studying the history of this region. Bloomfield's part of the introduction is a detailed description of the methodology involved in establishing and manipulating a databank in regional history. This section not only serves as a cogent introduction to the format of the bibliography, but more important, provides some valuable information to researchers planning to emulate this type of approach.

The bibliography is organized in broad subject areas, covering social, demographic, economic, political, and administrative concerns. Material cited includes more than 1,700 monographs, periodicals, theses, and other items written or published inside and

outside Canada. All entries are sequentially numbered and generously annotated. Each annotation includes a "period" note (to indicate the approximate period covered), as well as a location code to any of eight institutions — museums, libraries, and archives situated in Guelph, Toronto, and London. Five indexes provide additional points of access: author, place, subject, personal subject, and corporate subject. It should be noted that cross-references are not included in these indexes: this might be a handicap to researchers not sufficiently acquainted with, for instance, various forms of personal names.

According to Dr Bloomfield, the bibliography is expected to "benefit not only teachers and students at secondary and post-secondary levels, but also local historians, genealogists, archivists, municipal and museum staff, and heritage groups." This approach is commendable: as well as serving the research interests of professional historians, it will also inspire more individuals from all age groups, backgrounds, and affiliations to pursue regional/urban history on their own or as part of an organized program of study.

The usefulness of the bibliography and the forthcoming inventory will be greatly enhanced if they can be made publicly available as an online database or on CD-ROM. (The project team is intending to offer at least one of these options soon.) The enormous popularity of CD-ROMs in public and university libraries suggests that the project's target audience (students, historians, archivists, etc.) would be extremely receptive to searching a CD version of the bibliography. What is particularly attractive about an online or ondisc product is, of course, its support of Boolean logic, a distinct advantage over printed indexes and bibliographies.

In the mean time the printed bibliography will be an asset both to individuals researching

Ontario's regional history and to institutions supporting studies in this area.

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Lord, Margaret Gray. *One Woman's Charlottetown: Diaries of Margaret Gray Lord 1863, 1876, 1890*. Edited, with notes and additional text by Evelyn J. MacLeod. Ottawa: Canadian Museum of Civilization, 1988. Pp. vii, 203. Black and white photographs. Paper.

One Woman's Charlottetown features three of the more than thirty diaries written by Margaret Gray Lord (1845-1941), a member of one of Charlottetown's most prominent families, during the latter half of the 19th century. MacLeod's selections reflect an appreciation of the utility of a life-cycle approach to the study of women's experience of the past. Through Margaret Gray Lord's diaries we glimpse three significant stages of an upper-class woman's life in a late Victorian British North American city. The first, written in 1863 when Lord was a young, unattached woman of 18, is also the earliest diary of the larger collection held by the Prince Edward Island Heritage Foundation. The remaining two, dating from 1876 and 1890, record her life as a busy young wife and mother at the age of 31 and as a mature woman of 45 who, once relieved of child-rearing responsibilities, gradually expanded her role outside the domestic sphere.

MacLeod's title is well chosen. Lord's diaries provide us not only with rare snapshots of one upper-class woman's course through life from young womanhood to middle-age but also with a compelling portrait of the development of her urban environment and of the political and social ruling class of which she was a member. The cultural ramifications of urbanization are apparent in the expansion of Lord's social activities; by