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Outaouais. The journal of L'Institut d'histoire et de recherche sur l'Outaouais (IHRO). Edition 1987: "Le Hull disparu." Pp. 89. Illus. $10.00 (paper).

This is the second number of *Outaouais*, one that focuses, as its subtitle indicates, on the fact that Ottawa is a vanishing city being replaced by a government town. The eight articles detail places, people, businesses, and activities typical of the older city: industrial, mercantile, and paternal. This issue ends with a walking guide to the older city.

No one piece is long, but each is carefully done and conventions of research and documentation are observed. Sources are noted and can be treated with confidence and, if necessary, pursued further. For students of the city, this remains, as well, a good source for Hull, which apart from the efforts of IHRO, has been an almost neglected place. Ottawa and Parliament Hill have cast a long shadow.

The volume can be ordered from l'IHRO, C.P. 1875, Succ. B, Hull, Quebec. J8Z 3Z1.

Taylor, John H. *The Face of the National Capital*. Secretary of State, Canadian Studies Directorate, About Canada series. Ottawa: Supply and Services, 1988. Pp. 39 (English) Pp. 41 (French). Maps and illustrations. Free.

This booklet was prepared under the auspices of the Association for Canadian Studies for the Canadian Studies Directorate to promote a broader understanding of Canada. It is an effort to explain the physical pattern of Ottawa as a collision of private and public city.

Though intended for a high school audience, it may have some relevance for courses at university level. It may be ordered under Catalogue No. S2-184/1-/1-1988.

Parker, Dave. *First Water, Tigers*. Victoria: Sono Nis Press, 1987. Pp. 234. Maps and illustrations.

This is one of the few histories of Canadian fire departments and, though clearly intended for a popular audience, its very existence makes it useful. For academic purposes there would have to be much reading between the lines.

The fascination here is clearly with the artifacts, not surprisingly given that the author is a historical curator with the Royal B.C. Museum. The detail, overwhelming at times, for the most part seems reliable. Notes are used sparingly, but the main sources are documented in the bibliography. They include interviews and some primary material that appears quite rich. Most stunning is the wealth of photographic evidence, used here lavishly.

Much information can be found in this book, though none of it is informed by even conventional generalizations on the growth of urban infrastructure, which, even in a popular history, would have helped. Still, it is a remarkable, informative, and entertaining effort.

Styran, Roberta M. and Taylor, Robert R., with John N. Jackson. *The Welland Canals: The Growth of Mr. Merritt's Ditch*. Erin, Ontario: The Boston Mills Press, 1988. Pp. 168. Maps and illustrations. $19.95 (paper).

This is a fine example of popular history: not only easily read and entertaining but also well documented and well produced. Styran and Taylor are both professional historians (the former a medievalist, the latter a modern European specialist) and Jackson is a geographer. All are devotees of the Welland Canals, the first two are founding directors of the Welland Canals Preservation Association. Though the focus throughout, is on the canals, an understanding of them illuminates the more general development of the Niagara region.

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