
The Kingston Public Library in publishing this bibliography has been of great service to students, teachers and the general public as well as to itself. Kingston’s Tercentennial celebrations have increased the already flourishing interest in local history, so that librarians and historians have been deluged with appeals for help. In Miss Defoe’s compilation, the lists of available material should encourage further research.

The problem is that of getting it into the hands of those who should use it. Every school library, not only in the Kingston area but also in all Ontario, should have copies of the bibliography, as should each history teacher. It has already been recommended to a number of teachers from across Ontario, who have had their students write to the Kingston Historical Society for “everything you have on early Kingston”.

The topical divisions are very helpful, and the cross references are generally quite adequate. Since, as Miss Defoe says, a number of the sections (8 of 21) list “background books which deal only incidentally and in part with Kingston”, they might have been shortened so that limitations of space would not have prevented the inclusion of manuscript sources and much archival material. The Kingston Public Library, and especially the Archives of Queen’s University’s Douglas Library, have material which should be at least mentioned if not listed in a Kingston bibliography.

There might also have been a note that some material is available on microfilm, for those who cannot visit the Ontario Archives or the Public Archives of Canada. The cumulative index to *Historic Kingston* is noted, but for those who are not familiar with it as a source of material not otherwise easily available the publication deserves a brief, even a one-sentence, explanation of the scope of its articles.

These are minor criticisms of an excellent piece of work. Bibliographies add breadth and depth to the range of the historian – amateur or professional. Miss Defoe’s bibliography of Kingston is a most welcome addition to the tools of the trade.

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This guide is one of a series of guidelines to Ontario Educational sources. It
is part of a larger project being conducted by the Department of History and Philosophy of Education of The Ontario Institute for Studies in Education. The purpose is to facilitate access to and utilization of historical documents for social historians and educational researchers. This particular series of guides surveys the materials in the possession of Boards throughout Ontario.

This guide focuses on Eastern Ontario, covering as far west as York County, as far east as Glengarry County and as far north as Haliburton and Renfrew Counties. The material is set out by board and by township within each board. It makes it possible for the researcher to identify what is available (assuming the guide is complete) without going through all the trouble of locating and identifying official files. The records go as far back as they are generally available and include materials up to 1970.

This volume consists mainly of a series of indexes to various file drawers. I find it difficult to assess the amount of effort saved for potential researchers in terms of the amount of effort that has gone into it, in terms of cost/benefit. There is no general index and the summaries of what materials are available are very brief. There is no question that the guideline will help the historian do a more effective job in a shorter period of time. Also, it is a useful summary of what is available in educational records across the province. Nevertheless, this phase of the project seems tedious and perhaps unworthy of the time of a reputable educational research organization.

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In 1964, the Northern Co-ordination and Research Centre of the then Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources published the preliminary edition of James R. Lotz’s Yukon bibliography, in a mimeographed edition, as no. 1 in the Yukon Research Project series. At that time, the compiler said “it is hoped that, in two years’ time, a more detailed Yukon bibliography can be issued” (p.2).

Now, some nine years later, an update to the original preliminary edition has appeared under the auspices of the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies, with the support of the Yukon Government and the Yukon Research and Development Institute. The Boreal Institute operates as an integral part of the University of Alberta, under a faculty advisory committee. Its principal field of research is the development of Canada north of the 60th parallel, including a systematic inventory of resources, people and environment potential of the Northwest Territories and the Yukon Territory.

The Library of the Institute undertook the work of updating the Bibliography.