whatever value lies in her findings and prohibit enjoyment of the reading of her book.

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The Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation has chosen to recognize the twentieth anniversary of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo by sponsoring Elizabeth Bloomfield's annotated bibliography on Waterloo County history. The result is a comprehensive work which should prove to be an invaluable resource for historians, genealogists, librarians, archivists, municipal staff, representatives of heritage organizations, and educators. The bibliography is the initial product of the Waterloo Regional Project.

Dr. Bloomfield, a Guelph-based geographer and historical research consultant, has been involved for a number of years in the development of computer-assisted methods to create information databases and research tools for urban, business, and regional history. She has directed the Guelph Regional Project and the Canadian Industry in 1871 Project. Her research associates, Linda Foster and Jane Forgay, are professional librarians. Procedures used in the creation of the Waterloo County bibliography were based on those developed for the Guelph Regional Project, which in 1990 won an award of merit from the American Association for State and Local History for its innovative research tools, *Guelph and Wellington County: A Bibliography of Settlement and Development Since 1800* (1988) and *Inventory of Primary and Archival Sources: Guelph and Wellington County to 1940* (1989).

*Waterloo County to 1972* provides a printed listing of the 4,531 entries in the computerized Waterloo Regional History database, currently available on CD-ROM in the Doris Lewis Rare Book Room at the University of Waterloo's Dana Porter Arts Library and in the Grace Schmidt local history room at Kitchener Public Library. Virtually all items included in the bibliography were located and personally examined. A diverse range of sources was consulted: local histories, journals and magazines, books, printed reports, theses, newspapers, directories, gazeteers, and, of particular importance, the annual reports of the Waterloo Historical Society, published continuously since 1913. Each entry includes bibliographic information, a brief physical description of the item, location codes for libraries within the Region of Waterloo, a summary of the contents, and an indication of the time period covered.
In its printed form, the bibliography begins with a twenty-page introduction by the compiler. It provides background information on Waterloo County and on the Waterloo Regional Project, describes the record structure used in the computerized database, and explains the organization of the printed version. Maps showing Waterloo County in 1871 and in 1971 are also included. The numbered references are arranged thematically; there are eight major sections, each subdivided into several subdivisions: General Surveys and Sources (general surveys and descriptions of the whole region; directories and gazetteers; newspapers; other sources including bibliographies), Settlement Processes (prehistory, aboriginal people, and archaeology; pioneer settlement; urbanization and settlement systems), Demographic and Social Structure (general demographic studies; demographic data sources for genealogy, notably cemetery transcriptions and church registers; ethnicity; family history and genealogy; social structure, class, and elites), Economic Development (economic development processes; agriculture and farming; finance, land, and capital; manufacturing industry; transportation and communications; trade and commerce; trade catalogues), Landscapes and the Built Environment (natural landscapes; buildings and architecture; urban environments, including planning policies), Cultural and Social Institutions (schools and education; colleges and universities; literary works; libraries; music and the performing arts; visual arts; folklore; food customs and cookbooks; churches and religion, further subdivided by denomination; sports and recreation; voluntary associations; heritage and historical associations and projects), Government and Politics (definitions of areas and jurisdictions in the nineteenth century; restructuring local government from the 1960s; administration of justice; local government and services; military history; politics), and, finally, Specific Townships and Urban Centres (fourteen in total). Following the main body of the work, imprints of 172 works printed in Waterloo County between 1835 and 1900 are listed chronologically in summary form, with cross-references to the fully annotated entries; this listing was compiled in co-operation with the Canadian Institute of Historical Microreproductions project.

Almost 300 pages of the text consist of indexes: by author (over 1,900 listings), subject (almost 700 headings), place (over 1,000 listings), corporate subject (approximately 4,700 organizations such as businesses, churches, schools, clubs or municipal governments), and personal subject (21,500 individuals). Some attempt has been made to standardize the form of author and personal names, but the compiler notes that this was done cautiously; citations were standardized only when it was certain that variant forms of a name refer to the same person.

The bibliography's title is somewhat ambiguous. While the choice of 1972 as a cut-off date is understandable (since 1973 Waterloo County has been administered as the Regional Municipality of Waterloo), numerous works published later than 1972 and covering time periods into the 1990s are included. However, criticisms of a reference tool of such scope are really quite minor. In terms of book design, pages generally appear congested, due to the narrow margins and limited space between columns (no doubt aimed at keeping the work down to a reasonable length). The use of a different type size or font for the annotations would have made the text more visually appealing and would have helped to differentiate the
entries more clearly. In the entries themselves, thematic codes have been assigned on the basis of the main subject emphasis of the work. For example, a publication on architecture in Galt appears under the heading 'Landscapes and the Built Environment,' but there is no 'see also' reference under 'Galt' in the 'Townships and Urban Centres' section. While cross-referencing can be done through the place index, this can be a tedious process. Also, while extensive lists of index terms are provided in some entries (e.g. no. 713), others simply note that personal names and businesses included are indexed in the WRP database (e.g. no. 4499) and the printed entries themselves give little indication of the full scope of the work. However, such criticisms relate more to the necessary limitations of a bibliography in printed form. Public availability of the bibliography on CD-ROM, with its Boolean search capabilities, diminishes the inherent problem of cross-referencing and promises to provide greater access to the serious researchers.

*Waterloo County to 1972: An Annotated Bibliography of Regional History* will undoubtedly be widely used. The Waterloo Historical Society plans to update the database annually to ensure the currency of data. A companion inventory of primary and archival sources will be eagerly anticipated.

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The merit of this bibliography is its comprehensiveness; its weakness lies in the lack of information given about the many entries. Moreover, despite the large number of citations, many relevant studies have been missed. The book has 7,259 entries of research on Canadian children carried out between 1971 and 1990, including unpublished doctoral and master's theses. I had some difficulty in using the bibliography, however. Checking the subject index for references to 'self-concept,' one finds over 600 entries without any sub-classification. This (and other very lengthy subject listings) could have been avoided by breaking down the subject entry by different aspects of self-concept (self-esteem, self-evaluation, ego-strength, identity, etc.); by a focus on particular types of negative self-evaluation (e.g. self-concept as a scholar, self-concept in sport, etc.); by sex; and by age group (e.g. preschool, elementary, junior high, etc.). Having to make a list of the 600-plus entries on 'self-concept,' and then checking back to the actual entries, is a daunting task.

The student or researcher would almost certainly prefer to do a CD-ROM search of relevant databases, combining descriptors such as 'self,' 'children 10–14,'