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PUBLICATION REVIEWS

Editorial Policy

Archival Issues, a semiannual journal published by the Midwest Archives Conference since 1975, is concerned with the issues and problems confronting the contemporary archivist. The Editorial Board welcomes submissions related to current archival practice and theory, archival history, and aspects of related professions of interest to archivists (such as records management and conservation management). We encourage diversity of topics and points of view. We will consider submissions of a wide range of materials, including research articles, case studies, review essays, proceedings of seminars, and opinion pieces.

Manuscripts are anonymously reviewed by the Editorial Board; its decisions concerning submissions are final. Decisions on manuscripts generally will be made within six weeks of submission and will include a summary of reviewers' comments. The Editorial Board uses the current edition of the *Chicago Manual of Style* as the standard for style, including endnote format.

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The Editorial Board

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Hot Topics: Article Subjects in Peer-Reviewed Archival Science and Special Collections Journals, 2011–2021

By Danielle Stoulig

ABSTRACT: While many studies have taken a broad look at topics and trends in library and information science journals, few have focused on archival science and/or special collections journals. This study presents a content analysis of publishing trends in eight archival science and special collections journals published in North America for the years 2011–2021. A total of 746 peer-reviewed articles were examined to determine their primary focus and coded using a classification scheme first developed by library and information science (LIS) researchers in the early 1990s. Topics were gathered for each article surveyed, compiled by publication year for each journal title, and recorded in tabular format. The collected data provide a way to track publishing trends among journals over the 10-year time span. Traditional topics such as instruction, the use of materials, and the arrangement and description of archival collections continued to be popular in the professional literature, but articles focusing on newer topics such as technology and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) were fewer in number. Technology did not occur as a top subject for any journal during any year of the decade, and DEI occurred as a top subject only a few times.

Introduction

It has been said that to move forward, one must first know where they have been. This seems the case when examining a profession's growth through its literature. An article by Daines, Nimer, and Lee suggests that "periodic analyses of the literature of professional organizations [are] an important way of understanding the development and growth of professional communities." Content analysis was first developed and used in the field of mass communication and journalism, and both the quantitative and qualitative aspects of the research method have long been popular techniques of data gathering used in the social sciences. This study began as an informal survey of archives and special collections publishing in the United States over the past decade. Curious about what topics had proven popular and what research gaps needed to be filled, the author's initial investigation into the state of the literature eventually evolved into the current project. In a way, this project became a method of tracking the profession's development by identifying the most popular subjects for peer-reviewed articles over the last decade. The findings should prove beneficial for those who are attempting to narrow down a research topic in the field of archives and special collections and find an appropriate publishing venue.

Richard J. Cox noted in an article as far back as 1987 that "the quality of archival knowledge is mainly attributable to the literature that defines, debates, and refines the

profession's practices and the reasons for these practices." This project sought to discover publishing and research trends in the professional literature that could be determined by examining journal articles from the past decade. What had changed in the profession and how accurately the literature reflected those changes were two factors that were considered during the study. Peer-reviewed articles are not the most accurate way to measure the changes in the profession in "real time" because of the lengthy process of academic publishing and the relatively small number of archivists who actually publish owing to limitations imposed by their employment. Nonetheless, they are typically a good indicator of the type of serious research and writing happening in a chosen academic field and provide a glimpse of current events and trends occurring within the professional landscape.

Assumptions

The key assumption of this study was that most research occurring in the field of archives and special collections in the United States is being published in the professional literature, specifically, academic journals. Thus, it stands to reason that examining such journals would provide a reliable window into the state of archival research in the past decade.

A second assumption of this study was that the topics of the published articles could be determined by examining abstracts, author keywords, and indexed subject terms, thereby dispensing with the need to read entire articles.

A third assumption was that the topics of the research articles would correlate directly to current trends in the profession, thereby crediting recent scholarship as a reliable means to appreciate broader interests and trends among practitioners in archives and special collections libraries.

Research Questions

1) What topics were the most popular over the last 10 years, and 2) were there specific publishing trends that could be identified among the journals surveyed?

Literature Review

Library and Information Science

Content analysis studies of professional literature have historically been a popular research method in library and information science (LIS). One of the most important of these is a quantitative study that examines the subjects covered in articles appearing in 40 peer-reviewed journals between 1965 and 1985. In their 1993 study, authors Järvelin and Vakkari surveyed international journals for popular research topics and analyzed their data-gathering methods. They categorized article topics within a classification system first introduced in a previous study by the same authors in 1990. In the 1993 study, the authors examined each article and placed it into one of 11 categories based

on its topic. When an article covered more than one topic and thus would be spread over multiple categories, the authors took a closer look at the article to determine its main topic and then assigned it to the corresponding category. The secondary topics were not accounted for in the data, so possibly more information could be gleaned from the literature if additional topics were coded as well. Despite the possibility of not accounting for all topics covered in each article, the Järvelin and Vakkari system of categorizing subjects is still a valid technique for organizing data and an easily duplicated research method. One of the reasons both the 1990 and 1993 articles are models for gathering information on frequency of topics is because their method is simple yet effective.

An article published by Maxine Rochester identifies the previous Järvelin and Vakkari studies as sources of inspiration and further explains that developing a list of categories is essential to conducting a true content analysis. The Rochester project examined the literature from two LIS publications in Australia over a 10-year period to identify popular topics and trends. The method involved gathering data and dividing them according to whether the literature was research based or practical/professional in nature. Rochester analyzed only the research articles and placed them into the same topical categories used by Järvelin and Vakkari. The research method of each of the analyzed articles was also noted, which is also akin to the Järvelin and Vakkari works.

Another important article critical for developing a similar research method comes from Blessinger and Frasier's analysis of the trends in publication and citation in LIS journals from 1994 to 2004. In this study, the authors examined "what topics were being discussed within the scholarly communications to see what patterns emerged over the years." In addition, they examined citation patterns to determine author characteristics and most-cited journals. Blessinger and Frasier looked at 2,220 articles appearing within 10 LIS journals, which they chose based on their impact factor. Journals were originally narrowed to 28 titles of which 10 were randomly selected. The subject analysis was determined using subjects in the index list for the Library Literature database. Most of the articles surveyed had multiple subjects assigned to them, so the authors decided to divide the subjects into general categories.

The five major categories listed by popularity were library operations, research in LIS/users, LIS profession, technology, and publishing/publishing studies. The authors determined that the most popular topics in the professional literature of LIS were based on "practical issues facing the profession," not theoretical topics. This particular work proved useful in providing information on how the journals could be chosen for publication studies and how subject categories could be divided. The study was also a useful resource in determining what data to provide via charts and tables that would be the most beneficial to the reader.

Similar to Blessinger and Frasier's work, a content analysis of five "leading research journals of LIS" from 2011 to 2012 was conducted by Piracha and Ameen in 2015. According to the authors, the purpose of their research was "to provide analysis of [the]

latest issues and research trends in LIS." Like Blessinger and Frasier, they examined the subject areas of the articles as well as author information (e.g., professional affiliation, geographical location) and authorship trends. They also indicated that appraisal of the literature provided an "outline of the profession" and an "excellent way to learn more about it." The study surveyed 309 articles, looking at author keywords to determine subjects. In those articles with no keywords provided by the author, Library of Congress (LC) Subject Headings were used to determine the main subjects. Overall, 28 subjects were identified in 6 categories. The idea of using LC Subject Headings to determine the subject of journal articles is an interesting method that initially played an integral part in the present study.

Surveying the authorship of LIS literature was also the goal of Hou, Yang, and Chen, who published an article based on a cocitation analysis study. The work aimed to identify "important changes in the structure of [information science] through its literature." The authors noted that examining results and comparing them to previous studies like an earlier one by Chen (2010) would give an accurate picture of research trends from 2009 to 2016. The study looked at 7,574 articles in 10 "core journals" and determined emerging trends and the newest research areas in information science from 2009 to 2016. It picked up where another study left off in 2008. Although the work was not as helpful as other similar studies, a few aspect proved advantageous, such as the coding/labeling of research articles according to subject.

Citing similar work in the field of science and technology in their article, Liu and Yang explained that there is a "growing interest" in studying research topics in LIS journals. The Liu and Yang study examined 41 LIS journals accessible via the Web of Science database over the span of a decade. The project purposefully included more than just the core LIS journals that have been analyzed in past studies and examined author keywords as its data source.

Winkler and Kiszl used their work to reveal the most common trends and popular topics in international, peer-reviewed LIS journals from 2014 to 2018. They analyzed the literature of these five years by looking at titles, keywords, and abstracts. Citation analysis was used on the most-cited articles published in top-ranked journals, and the journals the authors chose to examine were determined by looking at the LIS category in the *Scimago Journal & Country Rank*. They examined 632 articles from 23 journals in their study. The sample selection was determined by using a "novel methodology," which involved using eight research questions to ultimately "provide a snapshot of the field of LIS showing [what] the most current topics are based on citation, who the most popular authors are, and which institutions provide the highest number of outstanding publications." The authors claimed that the number of published articles in LIS increased during the time surveyed, which is an interesting observation. The process of looking at titles, keywords, and abstracts to determine an article's main subject was a method used in the present study.

Katherine Clark also looked at author data in her content analysis of the journal

Reference Services Review. In addition to author affiliation, the study examined the total number of articles per issue and the format and content focus of each article. The methodology used by Clark was first introduced by Katy Mahraj in her study that analyzed *Reference Services Review* from 2006 to 2011. Clark's categories were based on Mahraj's original scheme and adjusted as necessary. A number of subtopics fell under the main categories originally created by Mahraj, and these Clark expanded if needed. Like the Winkler and Kiszl study, Clark's work determined the article's topic by scrutinizing its title, keywords, and abstract. She explained that the full text of the article was used only when the topic could not be easily determined and/or to verify the topic for coding purposes. Again, this is a very important detail and proved to be a key component in the present study. A notable difference, however, is that Clark's method enabled an article to be coded more than once if it had more than one topic, whereas the present study allowed only one main topic for the sake of simplicity.

Archival Science

Although there have been many similar studies conducted on the professional literature of library and information science journals over the years, very few similar studies are specifically limited to archival science and special collections journals. One of the earliest examples is Richard J. Cox's survey of the overall state of archival literature from 1901 to 1987. Cox did not choose specific journals, but rather examined "anything written and published about the archival profession, its mission, and its technical procedures." Cox thought that reports, case studies, technical guides, and so on are also valid contributions to the professional literature and should also be considered when making assumptions about the quality of research being produced by archival practitioners. In his article, Cox examined literature from 1942 to 1981 and divided it among nine categories according to subject to show what had been published. Although the article seems to be more of a historical narrative and gives a background of archival writing beginning in 1901, it was most helpful in providing a basic framework for surveying archival literature by subject and presenting the findings.

Another early work is Mary Sue Stephenson's report on 390 articles appearing in *American Archivist* from 1971 to 1990. In her work, published in 1992, Stephenson primarily focused on analyzing the demographics of authors whose work appeared in the journal during the period surveyed and seemingly included a list of article subjects covered as an aside. This approach follows the method used in similar content analysis studies conducted on LIS journals and acts more as a bibliometric study. However, Stephenson did gather data on the three leading subjects observed in the literature during the 20-year period surveyed (general literature, use of materials/historical manuscripts [tie], and repositories), and the article proved a good research model for the present study.

The work that most closely aligns with the present one in scope and research method is a master's thesis by Wakefield Harper at the University of North Carolina. Harper's study is a content analysis of literature from five leading archival journals that looks at

archival research to determine topical focus and popular investigative methods over the past 30 years, along with the author's professional affiliation. Harper drew conclusions based on a sampling of articles from each of the five journals for four specific years during the 30-year period. He correctly predicted that very little change occurred in the information-gathering methods over the time surveyed, but the number of articles dealing with best practices and technology increased. This work was particularly important to the present study because it provided a model for the classification scheme that was adapted for the coding process. The Harper scheme was itself an adaptation of the one conceived by Järvelin and Vakkari in the 1990 study that was cited in the Literature Review. Harper revised the original scheme from 12 to 11 categories more relevant to the archival profession. Additional information on how Harper's scheme was modified for the present study can be found in the Methodology section, and a complete listing of his original categories can be found in Appendix A. Notably, the Harper study was also beneficial for determining what data should be provided in charts and tables to provide the most information to the reader.

Another similar, yet more current, study can be found in an article published by Daines, Nimer, and Lee in 2018. The work, which evaluates subjects/themes in the journal *American Archivist* to analyze trends in the literature from 1938 to 2015, is a corpus analysis and used Voyant Tools, which is an open-use software platform that works to "text mine" the articles to look for common words and phrases. The software produced graphs and charts to show the frequency of terms that appear throughout the literature. The study is a bit technical in nature, and the purpose of the article appears to have been to test the new text-mining technology on a body of archival literature. The authors picked certain terms to illustrate the results (most specifically, "archival theory") but did not present the most popular terms/concepts overall. It was still a beneficial study since it provided an alternative method of acquiring data, and, in the present study, the text-mining technique was attempted at the beginning of the data collection phase before being discarded.

Methodology

What began as a content analysis of author keywords with a text-mining component shifted a bit within the course of research. Upon comparing the text-mining results against a standard content analysis, inconsistencies prompted the author to abandon the text-mining component altogether. The study in its current form is a combination of quantitative and qualitative analysis, the latter of which relied on a form of author observation and an adapted coding scheme to achieve results. It is important to note here that when speaking of the research articles surveyed in the study, the terms "subject" and "topic" are interchangeable.

Criteria

Fourteen academic journals focusing on archival science and special collections were identified from a list originally published by Cheryl Oestreicher in the blog *Publishing in the Archives Profession*. The 14 journals were then evaluated according to a specific set of

criteria set forth by the author. To be considered, journals had to be 1) focused primarily on archival science and/or special collections, 2) general in scope, not specific to any particular format or collection type, 3) current as of 2021, 4) published for the entire period of time between 2011 and either 2020 or 2021, and 5) published in English and based in the United States or Canada. The study was limited to North American journals due to the author's limited knowledge of topics in archival science and special collections librarianship on a global scale. Notably, only research articles were examined for the study, meaning no book reviews, editorials, or essays were included in the article survey. Only 8 of the 14 journals initially identified met the specific criteria put forth by the author and were included in the survey. The eight journals included in the study are *American Archivist, Archival Issues, Archivaria, Journal for the Society of North Carolina Archivists, Journal of Archival Organization, Journal of Western Archives, Provenance*, and *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage*.

Data Sources

A typical content analysis involves "subjective interpretation of the content of text data through the systematic classification process of coding and identifying themes or patterns." The original plan for this study was to analyze author keywords provided in peer-reviewed journal articles to determine the most popular topics published in professional literature for archival science over the past decade. Upon further inspection, it was discovered that only one of the eight chosen journals (*American Archivist*) provided author keywords, and that title did not include keywords for the issues published in 2011 and 2012. The other seven titles did not publish author keywords at all. This discovery made it necessary to choose a second data source for analysis that would supplement the first. After finding similar studies that used catalog or index subject headings as a data source, the decision was made to use the subject terms chosen for each article by Ebscohost during its indexing process.

Initially, the subject terms were used only when needed to fill the gaps left from the absence of author keywords, but it was later decided to abandon author keywords and shift to subject terms as the sole data source for all articles to standardize results. Subject terms proved to be a more reliable source of data since five of eight journals were indexed for the entire 10-year period. For the three journals that were not indexed for the entirety of the decade, two of them (*Archival Issues* and *Journal of Western Archives*) were discovered to have neither keywords nor subject terms in any of the issues, which consequently led to them initially being dropped from the study altogether. For the last journal (*Provenance*), gaps were found in certain issues where articles were not assigned any subject terms at all during the indexing process. Since the data sample of five journals would be too small, this discovery necessitated the development of a third data source, which eventually changed the method of analysis entirely. For the articles that had neither keywords nor subject terms, an analysis of abstracts and/or introductions was performed, and topics were assigned using a coding scheme adapted from a previously mentioned thesis by Wakefield Harper (which, as noted, was based on a classification originally created by authors Järvelin and Vakkari). This final data source made it possible to count *Provenance* among those surveyed and keep six journals in the study.

Once topics were gathered from the various data sources, they were compiled by article and publication year for each title and recorded in a spreadsheet. Subjects for every peer-reviewed article surveyed were initially put into Voyant Tools, a text-mining application, to find the most popular subject terms for that title for that particular year. However, because little to no standardization existed among or within author keywords and subject terms, it was difficult to identify common topics. In fact, because the text-mining application searches for words, and not concepts, the subjects "archive(s)," "archival," "library," and "libraries" were removed from the topic frequency list for each title leaving very few, if any, similar terms. After comparing the results of the text-mining project to the actual keywords and subject terms that were used, it was decided that the results did not accurately reflect the article topics after all. In addition, because the text-mining experiment counted only the number of times a word appeared in a body of text, too many uncertain assumptions had to be made about what the word was referring to in the context of the article.

With the text-mining component of the study abandoned and the similarities among author keywords and subject terms nearly nonexistent, a need to standardize the data across journals and make the results easier to interpret became all too apparent. After comparing the data gathered from all three sources (keywords, subject terms, and classification system), it was determined that the qualitative analysis method using the classification system was the most equitable and accurate way to determine the topic of all articles in the study. Therefore, the articles were reexamined using this system and the results were tabulated. Additionally, because this research method could easily be adapted for use with all journals, the two sources that were previously eliminated from the study (*Archival Issues* and *Journal of Western Archives*) were added once again, which brought the total number of titles surveyed back to eight.

As noted, the classification system used here was adapted from one used by Wakefield Harper in his 2010 thesis. The Harper scheme itself had been modified from the original one created by Järvelin and Vakkari for the library and information science profession and more accurately represented the archival science field. Understandably, changes have occurred in the profession since Harper's study, so three new categories were added outright, and four subcategories were combined with existing ones to better reflect the variations in the field over the past 10+ years.

The first category added was diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), which was used when the article's purpose was to explain a DEI initiative, reparative project, and the like. The second category added was technology, which was used when the article was an overview of a particular technological component or an explanation of a project where the sole focus was a specific technology and not the project (or collection) itself. The last category added was outreach and exhibits, which also reflects the growing use of social media. Subcategories combined with existing categories included acquisition, which was added to appraisal; use, which was added to access; management, which was added to administration; and history, which was added to biography. Notably, despite

the classification scheme being the most consistent method of gathering data, it was also perhaps the most subjective since it relied strictly on the author's observations.

Analysis of Data

The eight journals chosen for the study had a total of 746 research articles that were analyzed from the years 2011–2021. It is worth noting that not only were the number of published articles inconsistent across titles, but no title had the same number of published articles in each issue during a given year. Therefore, the total number of articles for a given year not only varied across titles but also within titles. Additionally, because of the inconsistent way that journals were published in the "Covid Years" of 2020 and 2021, those two years were combined into one data set for the *Journal for the Society of North Carolina Archivists*. *American Archivist* published the most articles during the period surveyed with 205, followed by *Archivaria* with 125 published articles. The journal with the least number of published articles in the years surveyed was *Journal for the Society of North Carolina Archivists* with 41 total articles in the 10-year time span.

Table 1 shows the total number of articles surveyed for the years 2011–2021. As illustrated, 2011 was the most prolific year for publishing among the titles surveyed, with 80 published articles produced. There were three more articles published in 2011 than in 2019, which was the second highest production year. The year that saw the fewest number of articles published was 2020 with 59.

Table 1: Quantity of Articles Surveyed, by Year (746)

Journal	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
American Archivist	21	18	22	21	21	18	15	18	19	14	18	205
Archival Issues	7	6	3	6	6	4	6	3	6	3	3	53
Archivaria	13	11	13	10	11	12	11	12	12	9	11	125
Journal for the Society of NC Archivists	10	4	2	6	5	3	2	3	2	4	--	41
Journal of Archival Organization	12	13	8	5	10	11	11	11	14	16	9	120
Journal of Western Archives	4	2	7	4	5	5	6	5	14	5	7	64
Provenance	4	4	7	4	6	16	2	5	5	3	7	63
RBM	9	10	3	10	6	6	8	6	5	5	7	75
TOTAL	**80**	**68**	**65**	**66**	**70**	**75**	**61**	**63**	**77**	**59**	**62**	**746**

Using the classification scheme explained previously (and detailed in Appendix A), each article examined was coded by the number that corresponded to its main topic. As pointed out during the previous discussion of the Järvelin and Vakkari method, one could make the argument that some articles covered more than one main topic. In that situation, articles were heavily scrutinized, then placed in the topical category that was

the most prominent. This practice was perhaps more subjective since it relied so heavily on a judgment call by the author. Luckily, articles that covered more than one main topic in equal measure were few. After the coding process, the results were tallied for each journal and reported for each year and for the 10-year period overall.

As seen in Table 2, the most popular topic covered overall was arrangement and description, with 107 of the 746 articles featuring that particular subject (14.3%). Next were articles that highlighted a specific environment or collection (88), followed by those that focused on access and use (71). Fifty-five of the 746 articles surveyed featured DEI topics (7.4%), which made it the sixth most popular article subject for the 10-year period. Interestingly, the number of articles specifically addressing technology were much lower in number (17) than originally hypothesized.

Table 2: Number of Published Articles across All Journals, by Topic (2011–2021)

Topic/Subject	Articles (%)
Category 1 - Education	68 (9.1%)
Category 2 - Appraisal/Acquisition	56 (7.5%)
Category 3 - Arrangement & Description	107 (14.3%)
Category 4 - Access/Use	71 (9.5%)
Category 5 - Administration/Management	27 (3.6%)
Category 6 - Environments/Collections	88 (11.8%)
Category 7 - Special Formats	68 (9.1%)
Category 8 - Ethics/Politics/Legal Issues	50 (6.7%)
Category 9 - Preservation	28 (3.8%)
Category 10 - Professional Issues	41 (5.5%)
Category 11 - Biography/History	31 (4.2%)
Category 12 - Technology	17 (2.3%)
Category 13 - DEI	55 (7.4%)
Category 14 - Outreach/Exhibits	39 (5.2%)

While Table 2 shows the topical count for articles across all journals, it was also necessary to track article topics for each specific journal to get a sense of publishing trends for each title. Figure 3 shows the top three topics covered by research articles from 2011 to 2021, listed according to journal. The total number of articles published that pertain to the subject/topic are listed as well. If more than one subject/topic shared one of the top three places, all of them were listed. Numbers for the remaining 11 topics can be seen in the graphs in Appendix C, which give the complete distribution of all topics by journal for the 10-year period.

Table 3: Top Three Most Popular Subjects Overall, by Journal (2011–2021)

Journal	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
American Archivist	Special Formats (25)	A & D; Access/Use (22)	Education; Collections; Profession (20)
Archival Issues	Education; Appraisal (7)	Collections; Formats (6)	DEI; Outreach (5)
Archivaria	Special Formats (16)	A & D; Collections (15)	Appraisal; Ethics (13)
Journal for the Society of NC Archivists	Education (8)	Access/Use (7)	A & D; Collections; Ethics (4)
Journal of Archival Organization	A & D (36)	Collections (16)	Access/Use (12)
Journal of Western Archives	Collections (13)	DEI (12)	A & D (8)
Provenance	A & D (12)	Collections (9)	Special Formats (6)
RBM	Education (15)	Outreach/Exhibits (11)	Access/Use (9)

As expected, the most popular topics/subjects for articles varied across journals. For example, according to data in Table 3, articles with DEI as their focus were more likely to have been published in *American Archivist*, *Journal of Western Archives*, or *Archivaria*. The fact that education was the most popular subject for articles appearing in *RBM* is not surprising since the journal is published by the Rare Book and Manuscript Section of the American Library Association (ALA). Readers and authors of the journal are most likely part of special collections departments at academic libraries where instruction is a major focus.

Some journals did not publish any articles from a specific category or topic for the entire 10-year period, an important observation for potential authors to help identify appropriate journals for their research. For example, *Journal of Western Archives* did not publish any articles with ethics or preservation as the primary subject. *Journal for the Society of North Carolina Archivists* did not publish any articles featuring the topic of appraisal/acquisition and joined *RBM* in not publishing any articles specifically covering a certain technology. *Journal of Archival Organization* did not publish any articles devoted to professional issues.

Interestingly, while arrangement and description of archival materials was the top article subject across all journals (see Table 2), it did not appear as one of the top three subjects in either *Archival Issues* or *RBM* over the past decade. This discovery served as further proof that an examination of article subjects by year as well as by decade was the only way to get a true sense of topical publishing trends. In addition, some journals have themed issues, and looking at the topical distribution for a certain title for a particular year usually made the theme evident and provided a method of accounting for higher numbers in certain subjects.

Notably, the sample size for some of the journals during specific years was too small to show a clear pattern. In addition, some smaller journals that published a limited number of articles in a small number of issues had no single popular article topic for certain years and instead had several topics that were covered by the literature in equal measure. Table 4 shows that most journals had multiple subjects sharing the top spot at least once during the decade. Again, for a complete distribution of all topics by journal for the entire 10-year period, see the graphs in Appendix C.

Table 4: Most Popular Subject for Each Journal, by Year (2011–2021)

	American Archivist	Archival Issues	Archivaria	Archival Org	NC Archivists	Western Archives	Provenance	RBM
2011	Profession	A & D; Formats	Formats	A & D	Education	Appraisal; Access; Admin; Collections	Appraisal	A & D; Admin
2012	Appraisal; Access; Formats; DEI	Education; Appraisal; Collections; Preservation; Bio; DEI	A & D	Access/ Use	A & D	Collections; Profession	Admin	A & D
2013	A & D; Access; Profession	Education; Appraisal; Ethics	A & D	A & D; Collections	Collections; Preservation	Collections	Admin; Profession	DEI
2014	Appraisal; Collections; Profession	Access; DEI; Outreach	Appraisal; Ethics	A & D	Access/Use; Ethics	Bio/ History	A & D	Formats
2015	Collections; Formats; Ethics; Profession	Appraisal; Admin; Collections; Formats; Profession; Outreach	Appraisal; Collections; Ethics; Profession	A & D	Collections	DEI	Outreach	Education; Appraisal; Access; Admin; Collections; Outreach
2016	Formats	Education; A & D; Formats; DEI	Collections Ethics; Preservation	A & D	Access; Preservation; Profession	A&D; Access; Admin; Collections; Profession	A & D; Collections	Access/Use
2017	Formats	Collections	Bio/History	A & D	A & D; Ethics	Collections	Collections; Profession	Appraisal; Ethics
2018	Education	Education; Appraisal; Preservation	Appraisal; Collections; Preservation	Education	DEI	A & D; Outreach	Collections	Tech
2019	A & D	Technology	DEI	A & D; Collections	Ethics; DEI	DEI	A & D	Education
2020	Access	Formats	Appraisal	Collections	Outreach	Collections	A&D; Access; Ethics	Education; Ethics; Profession; DEI; Outreach
2021	A & D; Formats	Education; Appraisal; Collections	DEI	Access; Collections	--	Education	DEI	Education

Surveying articles published during a shorter time frame provided an easier way to trace the published literature to current practices and judge its relevancy. Examining research articles for a specific year proved a more accurate method of both learning what was occurring in the profession during that time and identifying research patterns and publishing trends that reflected these current events and specific happenings in the field. For example, according to Table 4, popular research subjects in 2011 and 2012 included professional issues and administration/management topics for half the journals examined. This is not surprising considering the staff layoffs and archival repository closings as a result of the economic turmoil of 2009–2010.

Other examples of research following trends in the profession include the mainstream popularity of More Product, Less Process (MPLP) and Encoded Archival Description (EAD) that most assuredly influenced the arrangement and description projects being written about in the early part of the decade, and the popularity of ArchivesSpace likely kept arrangement and description among the most popular research topics for the latter part of the decade as well. DEI topics in the literature appear to be more widespread throughout the journals when articles were examined by year. The earliest instance of DEI being a top subject in research articles is 2012 when *American Archivist* and *Archival Issues* combined to publish four articles on the topic. The year that featured the most DEI articles out of the years surveyed was 2019, when it was the most popular subject for three of the eight journals with a combined total of 11 articles. A plausible explanation for this could be that it was a direct result of the growing social justice and Black Lives Matter movements at the end of the decade, which prompted DEI initiatives across the board. This is yet another example of how recent events may have influenced the research projects of archival practitioners.

Finally, a look at popular research subjects for the last two years of the decade provides a glimpse of the latest trends in the profession and perhaps establishes an agenda for the future direction of scholarship. For the years 2020 and 2021, articles that highlight specific collections or projects outnumber other topics in three of the eight journals examined (37.5%), with a total of 16 articles. In addition, access/use also appears as the top subject in three of the eight journals surveyed with a total of 12 published articles. In each of these cases, the numbers reflect the fact that the global pandemic identified a need for better access to archival materials and ensuing projects attempted to address the issue. Education also proved another top subject during this time with 14 total published articles. This is most likely due to the increasing demand for more collaboration with academic partners and a need to standardize training for a new generation of archival professionals.

Conclusion

This study identified the most popular subjects being published in the field of archives and special collections librarianship in the United States over the last 10 years and identified publishing trends in the eight journals selected for review. It found that more traditional subjects such as archival arrangement and description, access, and instruction

were still the most popular topics published in archival journals, although the last few years have seen an increase in the number of articles covering newer subjects such as DEI. Moving forward, it will be interesting to see how many articles featuring DEI topics are published after the social justice movements of 2020 brought the systemic silencing of Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) voices to light.

The study also found that technology, though still an important part of daily archival functions, is no longer the sole focus of research in the field. In fact, published articles of the past decade tended to look at technology as a "given," a necessary component to most processes, but something that resides more on the periphery of the actual project itself. In other words, the focus for most articles in these cases is the project itself and not necessarily the technology that was needed to complete the project.

Although the present study is a good place to begin, a valuable addition to the project might be collecting data on what types of research methods were used to produce the published articles surveyed. Perhaps an added component of the study that examines essays, book reviews, conference proceedings, and so on could be particularly helpful since, as there is no delay due to peer review, they may address the most current happenings in the field.

Another angle to consider could be whether open access has helped increase the number of published articles and the frequency of journal publication. A similar study involving a survey of one journal's published article topics for the entirety of its existence (similar to previous studies that measured the publishing trends of *American Archivist* across decades) or even tracing one subject and noting its prevalence in either one, several, or all journals, would be an excellent follow-up to this present study as well (much like the DEI topics since 2020 suggestion already mentioned). An evaluation of article topics in international archival journals not published in North America is yet another way to expand the project.

Regardless of how the present study is used in further research pursuits, it provides a baseline of information for both new researchers and practitioners in the archival field. It does, indeed, show where we, as a profession, have been over the last 10 years and provides a path for moving forward.

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APPENDIX A Coding Schemes

Current Scheme

1. Education in archival studies and instruction for classes
2. Archival appraisal and acquisition
3. Archival arrangement/description (includes discussion of processing and provenance)
4. Archival access and use of material (digital collections, finding aid accessibility, user studies)
5. Administration/planning/management
6. Special archival environments and collections (archives in a particular country or context, projects featuring a specific collection or repository)
7. Special archival formats (such as digitally born materials, microfilm, photographs, audio)
8. Archival ethics, political and legal issues
9. Preservation/conservation (digital and physical materials)
10. Professional issues (for instance, surveys on the archival profession, reflections on the archivist's role, etc.)
11. Biography or history (biographical profiles or historical topics in archives)
12. Technology (highlights a specific technology or application)
13. Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI)
14. Outreach and exhibits (including social media)

Harper Scheme

1. Education in archival studies
2. Archival appraisal
3. Archival arrangement/description (includes discussion of processing and provenance)
4. Archival access (user services, instruction, public displays)
5. Administration/planning/management
6. Special archival environments and collections (for instance, archives in a particular country or context)
7. Special archival formats (such as digitally born materials, microfilm, photographs)
8. Archival ethics, political and legal issues
9. Preservation/conservation
10. Professional issues (for instance, surveys on the archival profession, reflections on the archivist's role, etc.)
11. Biography

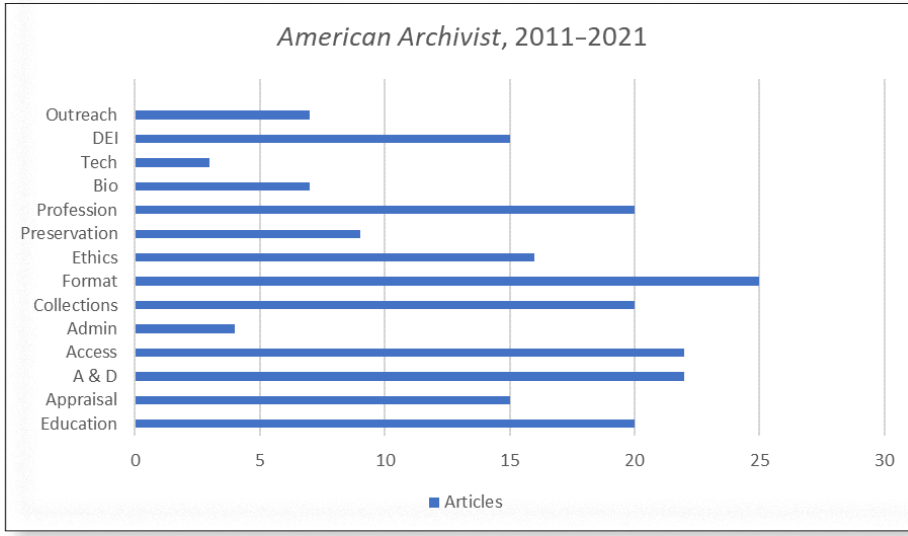
APPENDIX B Järvelin and Vakkari Classification

Library and Information Science Topics

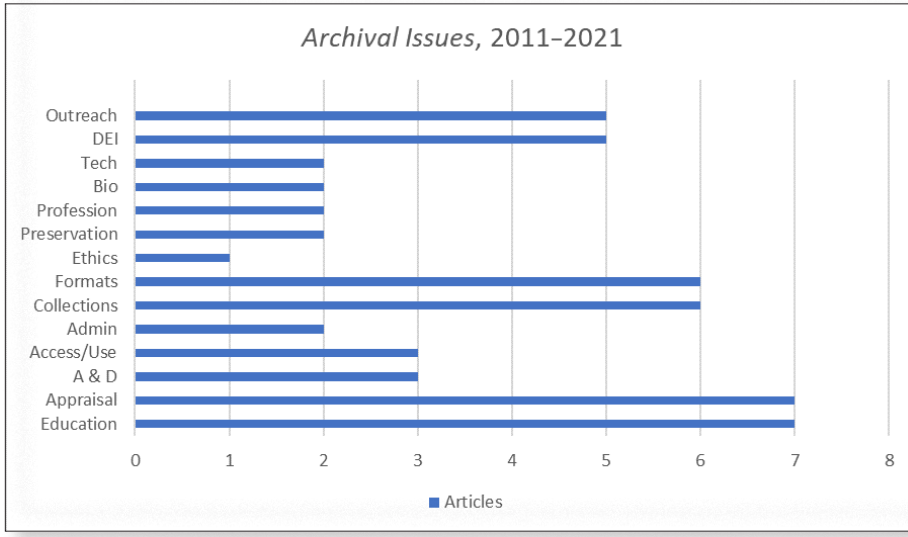
- 01 Professions
- 02 Library history
- 03 Publishing and book history
- 10 Education in LIS
- 20 Methodology
- 30 Analysis of LIS
- 40 Research on Library & Information (L & I) service activities
  - 41 Study on circulation or interlibrary loans
  - 42 Study on collections
  - 43 Study on information or reference service
  - 44 Study on user education
  - 45 Study on buildings or facilities
  - 46 Study on administration of planning
  - 47 Study on automation (except when concerned with some particular activity, 41–46)
  - 48 Study on other L & I service activities
  - 49 Study on several interconnected L & I activities
- 50 Research on information storage and retrieval
  - 51 Cataloging study
  - 52 Study on classification and indexing
  - 53 Study on information retrieval
  - 54 Study on bibliographic databases or bibliographies
  - 55 Study on other types of databases
- 60 Research on information seeking
  - 61 Information dissemination study
  - 62 Study on the use or users of channels or sources of information
  - 63 Study on the use of library and information services
  - 64 Study on information seeking behaviour
  - 65 Information use study
  - 66 Study on information management, IRM
- 70 Research on scientific and professional communication
  - 71 Study on scientific or professional publishing
  - 72 Study on citation patterns or structures
  - 73 Study on other aspects of scientific or professional communication
- 80 Study on other aspects of LIS
- 90 Other study (other disciplines)

APPENDIX C Topical Distribution by Journal, 2011–2021

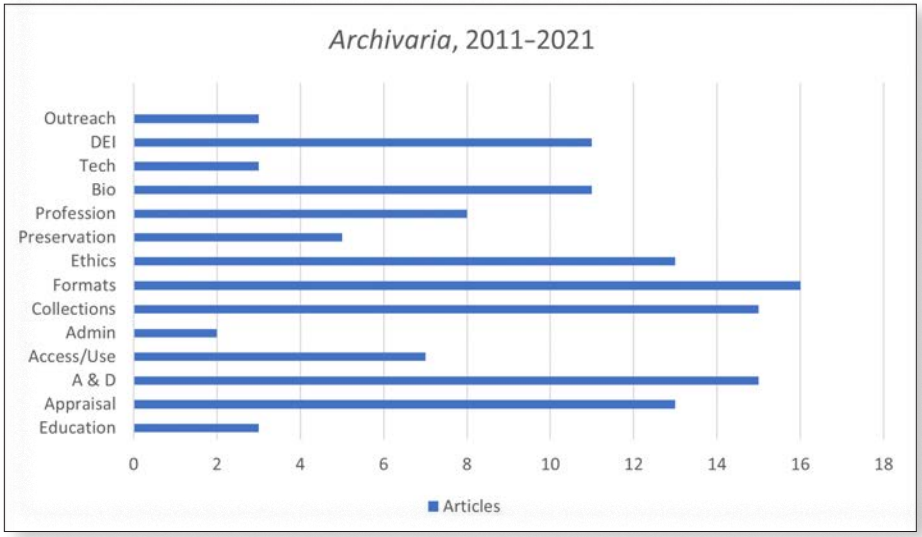
C.1 American Archivist



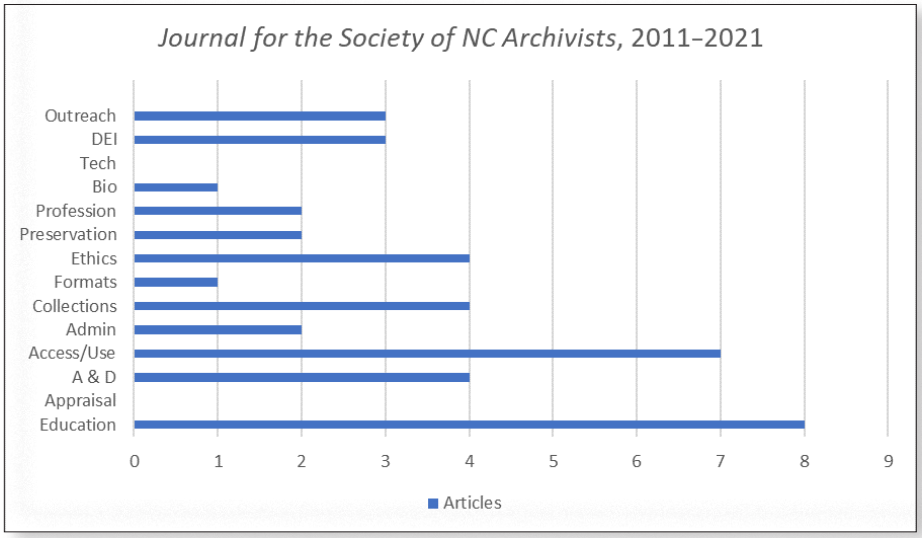
C.2 Archival Issues



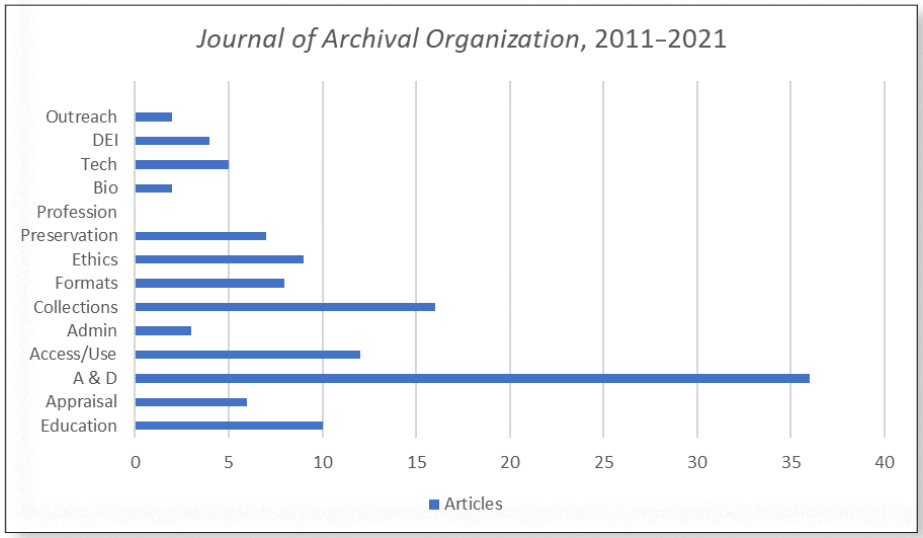
C.3 Archivaria



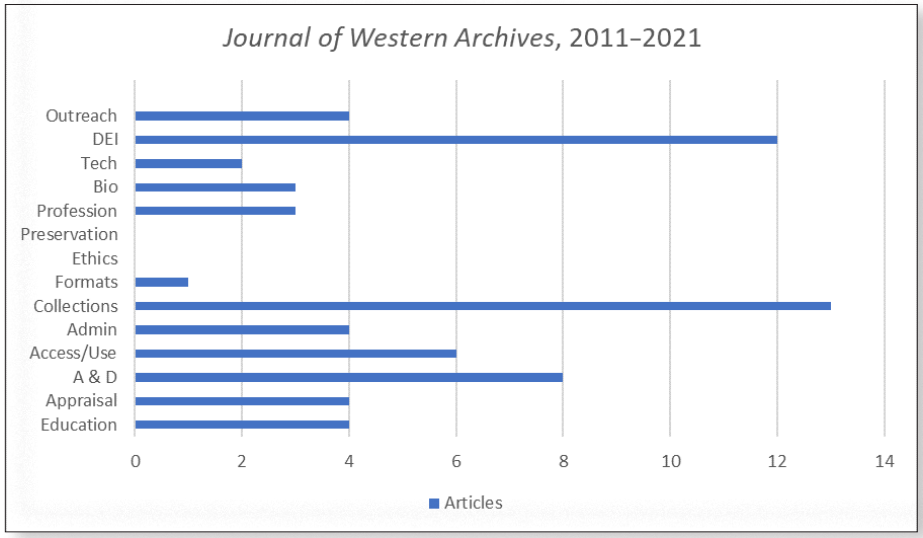
C.4 Journal for the Society of North Carolina Archivists



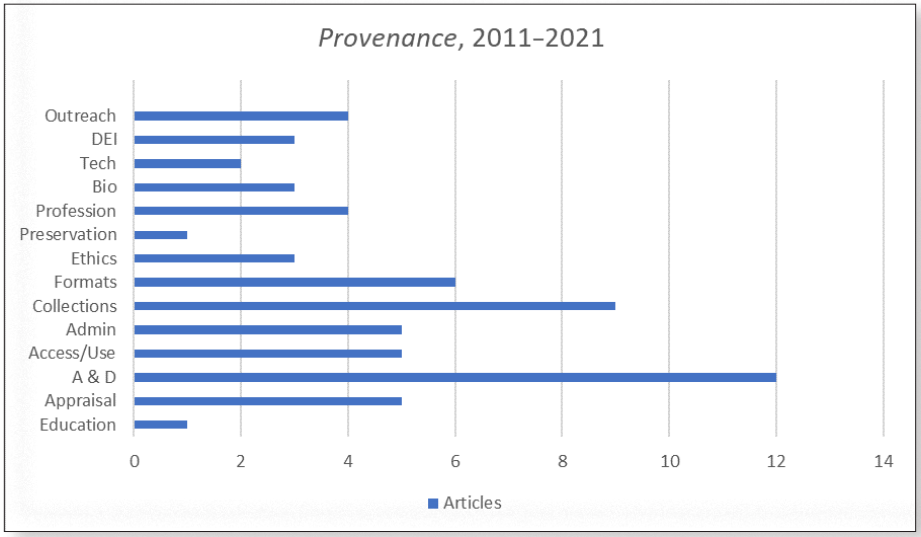
C.5 Journal of Archival Organization



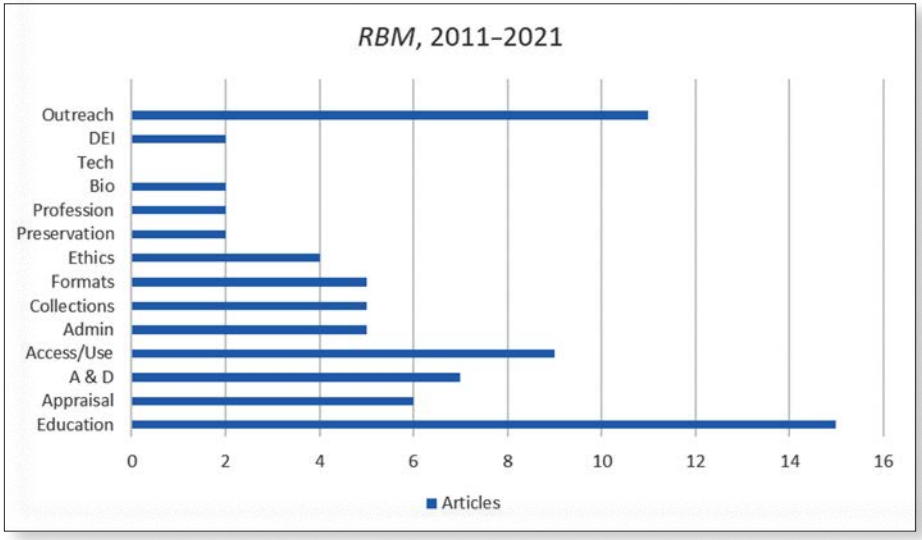
C.6 Journal of Western Archives



C.7 Provenance



C.8 RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage



NOTES

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11. Ibid., 156–58.
12. Ibid., 158.
13. Ibid., 166.
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48. Harper, "A Content Analysis of Archival Journal Literature," 17.
49. Järvelin and Vakkari, "Content Analysis of Research Articles," 418–21.
50. Harper, "A Content Analysis of Archival Journal Literature," 17.
51. Järvelin and Vakkari, "Content Analysis of Research Articles," 418–21.
52. The original scheme and Harper's modified one are listed in Appendices B and A, respectively.

***Archiving Caribbean Identity: Records, Community, and Memory*. Edited by John Aarons, Jeannette A. Bastian, and Stanley Hazley Griffin. Abingdon, Oxon; New York: Routledge, 2022. 264 pp. Hardcover. $127.50. eBook. $39.71.**

Archiving Caribbean Identity: Records, Community, and Memory centers on the archival heritage of a region that is most likely unfamiliar to most US-based readers and that, in the popular imagination, is more often abstractly associated with vacation destinations than with the rich history, memory, and culture of its diverse Indigenous population. Like many other areas across the Global South, the Caribbean has been colonized for hundreds of years and was a major nexus of the Atlantic slave trade before some nations gained their independence in the mid- to late twentieth century.

It is no secret that archives rooted in colonialism largely tell the story of the powerful at the expense of the marginalized, and the archives of the Caribbean are no exception, as the textual recordkeeping practices brought by European colonizers to the region came to eclipse the traditional oral-based recordkeeping methods of the region's Indigenous peoples. This may leave many to ask where the culture and memory of the Caribbean peoples lie after so many years of colonization, oppression, and archival erasure.

Archiving Caribbean Identity: Records, Community, and Memory seeks to answer this question with 15 chapters based on presentations originally given at "Unlocking Caribbean Memory, Uncovering New Records: Discovering New Archives," the first Symposium on Archives and Records held by the Department of Library and Information Studies at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, in 2019. While the symposium focused largely on exploring ways to move Caribbean archives away from traditional and colonial archival practice, the chapters in *Archiving Caribbean Identity* have evolved to prioritize evidence of the "dynamic cultural life and lived experience of the region" (p. 1).

The book takes us to the nations and territories of Antigua, Barbados, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Trinidad, and Tobago not only to decolonize the archives of these Caribbean islands, but also to uncover their diverse cultures and historical memory. It provides examples of how we can view archives in a different light, offering insights into how we can read between the lines to expose the narratives and livelihoods of those typically left out of the traditional historical record. Additionally, the book presents suggestions on how to use nontraditional archival methods to highlight cultures and histories of those who have long been ignored. Editors Aarons, Bastian, and Griffin argue that the Caribbean archive is composed not just of the textual records created by European colonizers, but also of the oral, performative, intangible, and tangible products of the Caribbean peoples.

Archiving Caribbean Identity is laid out with an introduction from the editors as well as 15 chapters exploring Caribbean archival heritage in seven different nations and territories. The chapters are contained within two parts, *Tangible and Intangible Formats* (part 1) and *Collections through a Caribbean Lens* (part 2), both of which explore the use of traditional and nontraditional archives in the documentation and persistence of Caribbean memory and identity. Indeed, the chapter authors point to a wide variety of examples that can be used and considered part of the archive of Caribbean memory, including art, carnivals and festivals, dance, music and songs, landscapes, maps, memorials and headstones, postal

stamps, religious institutions and ecclesiastical records, resistance, social media, sports, and telegrams.

The chapter authors excel at pulling together subject matter from their areas of expertise to bring new types of archival evidence to life outside traditional methods. While certain resources such as church records, memorials, and headstones may be more familiar to readers, particularly those practiced in genealogical research, more often readers will find themselves immersed in Caribbean history, culture, identity, and memory via experimental and highly interdisciplinary archival concepts. That said, a major distraction while reading the book are the numerous typographical and grammatical issues throughout. At times, sentences must be read repeatedly to understand an author's intent. Such editorial oversights take away from the otherwise engaging and innovative ideas presented throughout the text.

Nevertheless, *Archiving Caribbean Identity* stands out for bringing to the forefront the archival heritage of the Caribbean from the perspectives of the Caribbean peoples and not those of their colonizers. In attempting to show what memory, identity, and culture look like for the peoples of the Caribbean today, the authors drive home the message that identity and culture are not stagnant. In addition, the editors of the book, John A. Aarons, Jeannette A. Bastian, and Stanley H. Griffin, are seasoned archivists respected in the field with many publications to their names, and to see all three serve as editors in this publication was an added bonus.

This is a great book for any archivist hoping to expand their knowledge of archival memory practices. It would also be appropriate for any reader who has an interest in Caribbean history and folk and cultural heritage studies. This book is especially important to those working with populations that have been historically marginalized, providing readers with ways to think outside the box and tell stories that may have never been told before. Any reader of this book has much to learn from the research and experience of its contributors.

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***Metadata for Digital Collections: A How-To-Do-It Manual*. 2nd ed. By Steven Jack Miller. Chicago: ALA Neal-Schuman, 2022. 536 pp. Softcover. $69.99.**

The second edition of Steven Jack Miller's *Metadata for Digital Collections: A How-To-Do-It Manual* is replete with significant updates throughout, including "a fully revised and greatly expanded" chapter on linked data (p. xxii). While the basic principles of metadata for digital collections have remained largely unchanged since the publication of the first edition in 2011, the rise of linked data and the corresponding need for metadata interoperability have greatly influenced this edition. Miller is senior lecturer emeritus at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee School of Information Studies, and his expertise as both a lecturer and a practitioner are evident in this volume.

Chapters are scaffolded to support readers and help them to create metadata in real time. Each new concept is richly illustrated with examples and illustrations. In fact, the book includes 139 figures and over 70 tables to give students plenty of practical examples. Miller's intended audiences for the book include practitioners, students, and instructors. The book is organized in such a way that it could easily form the basis of a semester-long course, and Miller even suggests that "the last chapter might be a source for a final class project for students" (p. 22). It also works well for practitioners who are new to metadata or are setting up a digital collection for the first time. The acronym glossary is very helpful even to more advanced metadata creators. *Metadata for Digital Collections* is a useful reference tool for those learning about metadata for the first time or those evaluating metadata for an existing digital collection.

In chapter 1, Miller introduces the terms *metadata* and *digital collection* and the importance of metadata in making resources "findable and identifiable." After explaining the different types of metadata and the importance of metadata standards, a section on metadata sharing, harvesting, and aggregating helps readers to understand the need for metadata that can work across institutions and repositories. According to Miller, "the key thing about metadata is what it is intended to *do*" (p. 24). In the second chapter, Miller talks about resource description and introduces the concept of metadata as data rather than simply text, which sets up a later conversation about interoperability.

In the next several chapters, Miller examines Dublin Core, MODS, and VRS element sets in detail. In the introduction, he explains that, rather than provide an overview of several metadata schemes, he focuses on these three so that "those who work through the entire book will be well equipped to engage in concrete metadata work and prepared to enter the professional marketplace; as well, they will be ready to learn additional metadata topics and schemes" (p. xxiii). This approach gives readers the opportunity to understand the structural and philosophical differences between three of the most commonly used metadata schemas that many students will use in their careers. Numerous real-life examples help to illustrate how elements are implemented. Many of Miller's examples are from CONTENTdm digital collection management software, which is especially helpful for the many who use it.

As mentioned previously, the additions of content on interoperability and linked data are the most significant changes in this edition. Chapter 10 introduces the topic of interoperability and emphasizes the importance of planning for both short- and long-term sharing, harvesting, and aggregating. An example of original locally created metadata is compared with the same metadata harvested by a statewide consortial repository as well as in the OAIster database. This approach of explaining abstract concepts with examples is extremely helpful for readers who would not otherwise have the ability to compare harvested metadata. This discussion flows smoothly into the chapter on "Linked Data and Ontologies," in which Miller takes the approach of linked data "as a major building block of the larger Semantic Web" (p. 325). Once again, Miller explains the concept of linked data and provides detailed examples. While Miller acknowledges that "most digital collections metadata professionals do not deal with linked data in any hands-on, practical way" (p. 387), he makes the point that it is increasingly essential to understand its importance for the field.

The final chapter covers how to design a metadata application profile. This chapter brings together the content from previous chapters on basic resource description, standard metadata schemas, controlled vocabularies, and linked data to provide a step-by-step process on how to make decisions for creating an application profile for a particular cultural heritage collection. For practitioners who have a basic familiarity with metadata and are creating a new digital collection, this chapter is especially helpful.

In his discussions on metadata creation, Miller emphasizes the need for consistency, particularly in light of the fact that metadata creators frequently include not only library and archives professionals, but also student workers or volunteers. A discussion of inclusive metadata practices and reparative description approaches would be an important addition to the next edition of this book. Miller cautions metadata creators to be objective when describing materials but does not go as far as to discuss the structural challenges that exist within systems that are rooted in bias. As Stephanie Luke and Kathryn Slover point out, "historically the archivists and librarians who create metadata have not held the perspectives of the people they described."[1] Such a caution about the need to reach out to communities for inclusive metadata creation would have been an instructive component for Miller to include in his discussions on metadata creation. Another topic that could be examined more thoroughly is metadata remediation. Metadata remediation using OpenRefine and other methods is discussed briefly, mostly in the context of fixing errors in controlled vocabularies and dates. This section could be broadened to include a conversation on addressing harmful or insensitive metadata.

Overall, however, Miller accomplishes his goal of providing "a practice oriented approach to learning about and applying metadata" (p. xxvii) in this second edition of *Metadata for Digital Collections: A How-To-Do-It Manual*. The updated volume keeps the basic how-to approach to metadata while adding important concepts of interoperability and linked data. Miller's detailed explanations, tables, and examples make it easy to follow along as though the reader is creating a digital collection. While *Metadata for Digital Collections* would be an excellent textbook choice for information science students, it is also a handbook for practitioners who are new to metadata or who have not worked in a digital collection context.

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NOTE

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***A Time to Gather: Archives and the Control of Jewish Culture.* By Jason Lustig. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022. Index. 288 pp. Hardcover, eBook. $80.00.**

Jason Lustig's book, *A Time to Gather: Archives and the Control of Jewish Culture*, offers a historical account of how the idea of creating centralized and comprehensive repositories of Jewish records—communal and individual alike—shaped the establishment of Jewish archives in Germany, Israel, and the United States throughout the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. The title, *A Time to Gather*, is not merely a quote from the preeminent Jewish historian, Cecil Roth, made as he participated in postwar discussions on archiving European Jewish records looted and destroyed during the Holocaust. Exemplifying Lustig's elegant prose, masterful command of his sources—written in German, English, and Hebrew—and sophisticated dialogue with them, the title is the succinct articulation of the very idea at the focus of the narrative. *Mutatis mutandis*, it guided Jewish intellectuals to identify, recover, and assemble records into all-encompassing collections in support of the study of Jewish history. For them, it also meant "to take control over Jewish culture."

Lustig's work is an immersive and educative read. It compels the reader to ponder questions that emerge from the specificities of the Jewish archival experience yet are relevant universally and especially to our day. What are the stakes to control one's cultural heritage and data enclosed in archival documents? How do archival documents contribute to a community's memory and historical consciousness? What political and cultural responsibilities are archives entrusted with, and what tasks do they take on voluntarily when becoming stewards of historical documents? The answers to these questions arising from Lustig's analysis open a window to the modern Jewish experience, reflected in the political attempt at emancipation beginning in the late eighteenth century and continuing with the rise of Jewish nationalisms in the late nineteenth century and, to a certain extent, with the struggle for state formation in the twentieth century. Scholars also recognize modernity in the integration of historical thinking into Jewish thought and of Western academic research methods into Jewish learning. Lustig emphasizes that, from the early 1900s, in support of various political discourses about Jewish communal sovereignty, citizenship, and statehood, Jewish archives have aimed to secure access to the past and erect a monument to it. These archives aspired to create historical continuity in the face of historical ruptures, the most horrific of which being the Holocaust.

Lustig's exploration of the significance, power, and mission historians, archivists, politicians, and communities ascribed to Jewish historical collections begins with the establishment of the Gesamtarchiv der deutschen Juden (German Jews' Total [Comprehensive] Archive) in the early twentieth century. Seated in the former Prussian and, from 1871, the unified German capital, Berlin, this archive set the tone for concomitant collecting activities with the scope of establishing comprehensive archives for historical research on all aspects of Jewish history and culture. The Gesamtarchiv mirrored the young German nation-state's vision of national and cultural unity that found disapproval from scholars and communities, who argued for the primary importance of provenance and opposed the removing of documents from municipal or communal archives or whole collections from the locale and congregation that produced them. The Berlin scholars' project also opened continuing discussions about the archival and historical significance of originals versus

copies, that is, the meaning of the historicity and materiality of documents as objects and carriers of content.

The history of the Gesamtarchiv, in operation in Berlin until 1943, continues in chapter 2, reconstructing the efforts of archivists and historians in Jerusalem, most of them German emigres, to establish comprehensive archives documenting the lives of Jews as a people and a nation, before and after the establishment of the State of Israel. In the aftermath of the Holocaust, they saw the nascent state as the sole heir and rightful steward of the exterminated communities' (and all others') records. Like the Gesamtarchiv's national focus on Germany, they claimed all Jewish records across the diaspora.

German Jewish archival practices prior to World War II largely shaped Jewish archives-building efforts in the United States, on both the ideational and professional-practical levels. The work of historian Jacob Rader Marcus (1896–1995), a graduate of the University of Berlin and founder of the American Jewish Archives at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, is the focus of chapter 3. His prime interest in copies as opposed to originals, the preservation of which he thought was time consuming and expensive, emanated from his "dogmatic empiricism" (p. 103)—an approach to historiography based on recorded facts—and dedication to document the "greatness" of America's Jewry (p. 89). He was committed to making Cincinnati "Jerusalem on the Ohio" (p. 85), the center of American Jewish historical study and also of the systematically collected records of those communities in the Atlantic region that presided over the establishment of the first Jewish congregations in the North American British colonies. Furthermore, amassing copies, he established branches of the archives in New York, Los Angeles, and Jerusalem, providing unlimited access on an international level. Lustig also points out the fascinating philological continuities between the archival visions of Jerusalem and Cincinnati; both Marcus's notion of "omniterritoriality" and the phrase "gathering the exiles," which Israeli archivists often reference to describe the scope of their collecting, have Talmudic roots and reinforce the historiographical importance and historical continuity that the archives stands for.

Chapter 4 takes the narrative to the reparations negotiations in postwar Germany. It focuses on the talks conducted about the relocation of communal Jewish records previously not included in the Gesamtarchiv to Jerusalem, some of which had been deposited in non-Jewish archives. Archivists (former colleagues of Israeli scholars) and politicians in Germany, former German citizens, members of the congregations whose records were under discussion living in the United States and Israel, and Israeli scholars debated whether provenance or pertinence, or both, should govern the future custody of these Jewish communal records. Where Berlin failed, Jerusalem succeeded in acquiring, for example, the records of the congregations of Worms and Hamburg. They could build a more comprehensive German-Jewish historical collection in Jerusalem in support of their archival and political vision, occasionally against the will of former members of those communities.

The final, fifth chapter highlights the continuing ambition of establishing comprehensive archives in the digital age. The Center for Jewish History in New York, for example, serves five archives gathered under one roof to "make the entire spectrum of Jewish history accessible in one place," as one of its founders, the German Jewish historian Ismar Schorsch noted (p. 150). Two of the participating archives—the Leo Baeck Institute, formed by

German Jewish intellectuals in 1955, and YIVO, established in Lithuania and, in the late 1930s, moved to New York with a branch created in Buenos Aires—launched individual digital projects in partnerships with third institutions. Like the Israeli archivists extending the Gesamtarchiv and aiming to go beyond the reconstruction of the prewar collection, YIVO continues to broaden its collections, for example, through the digitization of books and documents recovered from Lithuanian state archives. Finally, the Friedberg Geniza Project exemplifies yet another long-standing, transnational archives-building effort. It offers free online access to records described as, but not necessarily stemming from, the Cairo Geniza (a storeroom of discarded texts accumulating since the eleventh century in the Ben Ezra Synagogue in Fustat, a suburb of Cairo, Egypt), today dispersed across archives in Europe and the United States. The Friedberg project also reunites document fragments, taking "gathering" to the next level and, as Lustig stresses in connection with the other archives, creating new items in support of historical reconstruction.

Lustig's work, perceiving collecting as the crucial archival work that primarily aims to enable historical research, likely reads differently for historians and archivists. It rarely references processing and other tasks archivists carry out before (and after) researchers can access documents. It does record that German archival practices continued in Palestine and Israel (p. 49), as well as in Marcus's work. As "historian in chief," Marcus rearranged materials the archives received according "to his own conception of its proper categorization . . . creating . . . his own research repository" (p. 108). Equally accentuated is the Center for Jewish History's online catalog based on a synchronized vocabulary of all five participating archives established in distinct cultural and political contexts further reinforcing the center's service for Jewish historiography.

Told from the perspective of the historian, notwithstanding, Lustig's narrative elucidates the archives' contribution to historical knowledge production. In addition, it offers a fresh look at German Jewish transnational history and liaison with postwar Germany, reinforcing the German paradigm of Jewish modernity. Most important, it is a welcome addition to a recently growing bibliography about Jewish collections (for example, Laura Jockusch's *Collect and Record! Jewish Holocaust Documentation in Early Postwar Europe*, Joshua Teplitsky's *Prince of the Press: How One Collector Built History's Most Enduring and Remarkable Jewish Library*, or Marat Grinberg's recently published *The Soviet Jewish Bookshelf*). Whether established in the early modern period or in the twentieth century, private and public collections of books and documents reveal the material value and ideological and political roles assigned to Jewish texts at the communal, regional, state, and international levels alike.

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***"All Shook Up": The Archival Legacy of Terry Cook.* Edited by Tom Nesmith, Greg Bak, and Joan M. Schwartz. Chicago: Society of American Archivists in collaboration with Association of Canadian Archivists, 2020. 538 pp. Index. Softcover. $39.00.**

Most readers of this journal, myself included, were likely assigned one or more articles by Terry Cook during their graduate education, or perhaps are even poring over one now. This volume, edited by Tom Nesmith, Greg Bak, and Joan M. Schwartz, contains 13 of his articles and speeches published between 1979 and 2013, before his untimely death. These works, arranged chronologically, are paired with companion reflections by fellow archival scholars, friends, and colleagues who were deeply impacted by Cook's work and saddened by the loss of a dear friend. While Cook's prolific output extends far beyond the works included in this volume, the editors have chosen 13 significant pieces that "shook" the field, and the companion reflections from contributors discuss the historical context of the works and how they influenced both the archival profession and the contributors' personal careers. Regarding this approach, Ian Wilson in his forward remarks:

> There is much value in bringing them [the articles] together here where they can be a focal point for discussion of Cook's legacy, an entry to the broader archival literature to which he contributed, and, most importantly, a bellwether for the intellectual impact he had on the profession and beyond. (p. xi)

In their introductory essays, Nesmith and contributor Nancy Bartlett introduce Terry Cook's journey as an archivist and his deep love of learning. Both pieces showcase Cook as a scholar who sees connections in everything from provenance to the legendary singer Elvis Presley's lyrics. Nesmith provides the bulk of Cook's biography with a heavy focus on his doctoral dissertation on the life and ideas of Sir George Parkin (1846–1922) and how his experience researching with archival materials led to his initial interest in pursuing what would become a substantial career. Barlett introduces a different side of Cook that sought a deeper meaning in literature, articles, music, and art, and their implications for and connections to archives (pp. 17–18). Both essays show Terry Cook as a deeply thoughtful scholar who pulled from muses outside traditional archival theory and practice to challenge and refine his views and opinions.

Arranged chronologically, the works included in this volume outline the evolution of Cook's ideas, while their many themes reflect his significant contributions to several aspects of archival theory, such as macro-appraisal, records management, media and digitization, and continuum thinking. In their companion pieces, contributing authors provide context to Cook's works as well as reflections on how they pushed both the archives profession and their personal careers forward. Ala Rekrut begins with comments on Cook's frustration at his own institution, the Public Archives of Canada (PAC), and further traces the trajectory of Cook's critique of PAC within articles he published in *Archivaria*. Jennifer Douglas reflects on her first impressions of the "archival turn" introduced through Cook's debates with Hugh Taylor and George Bolotenko across several articles in various publications, and how he welcomed such debates in the field and encouraged others like Douglas herself to do the same and to continue questioning their ideas and assumptions.

Barbara L. Craig focuses on Cook's argument to look within the recordkeeping profession as a system in which records reflect a small piece of the larger "archival turn." Chris Hurley reflects on Cook's influence in Australian archives and records management through a focus on his work on macro-appraisal, which pushed Australian archivists away from being "modest practitioners" (p. 105). Fellow Australian archivist Anne J. Gilliland underscores Cook's influence on the Australian archival theory through his ideas relating to continuum thinking—a model that emphasizes the relationship between recordkeeping functions, which are conceptualized as dimensions, and accountability, which is conceptualized as activities. Moreover, Michael Piggott highlights Cook's fourth dimension of continuum thinking, which considers the impact and influence that records and users have on each other. Geoffrey Yeo looks at Cook's influence on archivists to look at record groups and description methods, a much smaller scale than macro-appraisal, and credits the influence Cook's critique of past traditions had on a younger generation of archivists.

While many of Cook's published works in this edited volume focus on his influence on archival theory and practice, Joanna Sassoon writes about his attention to using archives as a means for justice and his evolving role from scholar to scholar-advocate. Last, archivists Eric Ketelaar, Heather MacNeil, Randall C. Jimerson, and Andrew Flinn reflect on Cook's final works focusing on the history of archives, the relationship of archivists and historians, and the future of archival theory.

The epilogue by Verne Harris best encases the deep friendship Cook's colleagues experienced with him across the world, aptly expressed by the authors of this volume. Reflecting on the unexplainable drive, or "madpiggery," that propelled Cook and some of his colleagues, Harris writes, "He had to sacrifice the central intellectual (and arguably spiritual) challenge that life posed him in his writing to the industry that he felt contingency (and love) required him" (p. 480). This statement best encapsulates the juxtaposition of Cook's articles over a decades-long career and reflections upon those articles by colleagues and peers.

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Managing Business Archives. **Edited by Sarah A. Polirer. Chicago: Society of American Archivists, 2022. 182 pp. Softcover, eBook. $69.00.**

In *Managing Business Archives,* Sarah A. Polirer has skillfully edited an insightful compilation of detailed discussions, across seven chapters from eight business archivists, into a much-needed resource for archivists and information professionals across this multifaceted subfield within the archives profession. Arranged in accordance with the guidance of the "Academy of Certified Archivists Role Delineation Statement," each chapter discusses one of the particular functions in the unique context of a business archives, including selection, appraisal, and acquisition; arrangement and description; reference services and access; preservation and protection; outreach, advocacy, and promotion; professional, ethical, and legal responsibilities; and managing archival programs.

Polirer's preface and introduction explain the impetus for the creation of the book and comprise a brief distillation of the chapters that follow, wherein the contributing authors expound upon the "practical application of archival theory and principles to business archives in the twenty-first century" (p. 1).

The chapter authors make it clear that no two business archives are the same and no clearly prescribed way exists to navigate each role with which an archivist may be charged. The surveys, interviews, and case studies conducted by the authors, along with charts providing detailed tools, meaningful steps, and other helpful recommendations, are exceptionally valuable educational resources for the reader.

The unique role of the corporate archivist is well described in Ryan Donaldson's discussion on the importance of selection, appraisal, and acquisition. "An effective corporate archives program," Donaldson notes, "collects the essential records that communicate and validate key heritage stories" and can help to amplify the brand (p. 9). Cultivating relationships across company departments with various records creators can aid in embedding the archives and allow for the development of a more robust archives collection. In return, the utilization of the archives can then help to build the value of the organization.

Use-driven arrangement and description is at the crux of Paul Lasewicz's chapter, which places access and use as the most important factors in the success of a business archives. As the role of the business archives is to provide for its various users, maintaining flexibility and focusing on access rather than traditional archival standards in arrangement and description is key. Lasewicz expertly details the many continuums (i.e., technology, intellectual arrangement) that should be considered when determining the best use-driven arrangement and description route that an archives can employ to better serve its stakeholders.

Marie Force details how reference services and access in the corporate archives setting can help to integrate the historical record into the company via storytelling, marketing, and other communications to promote its value to the corporate heritage and brand. "Reference services provide access to the institutional memory" and can be presented in a variety of ways, such as DAM systems, oral histories, tours, and exhibits (p. 62). Force also notes the importance of setting out clear policies regarding levels of access, use, and loans to better assist the archivist in responding to reference requests.

Scott D. Grimwood's very pragmatic and practical discussion of the challenges that can arise when preserving and protecting collections lays out a strong basis for any archivist to rely on and includes thoughtful and illustrative case studies highlighting preservation practices and challenges at three distinctly different institutions—The National Association of REALTORS, Nationwide Insurance, and SSM Health and Franciscan Sisters of Mary Archives.

Linda Edgerly and Sam Markham's presentation of resources and tools for the marketing of a business archives adeptly demonstrates the unique capability of business archives to promote their parent organizations' marketing and communications strategies and amplify their distinct corporate cultures through the use of websites, social media, exhibits, and so on.

Recognizing one of the most significant and potentially consequential aspects of a business archives, Menzi L. Behrnd-Klodt's chapter on professional, ethical, and legal responsibilities discusses the importance of compliance, privacy, and copyright.

The final chapter from Jamie Martin on managing archival programs draws on many of the themes discussed throughout the text while candidly describing the many challenges associated with successfully establishing and maintaining a thriving archives within a corporate organization.

The chapters in *Managing Business Archives* dovetail seamlessly, providing the reader a strong informational framework for understanding the role of the business archives within its parent organization. The extensive footnotes and bibliography offer additional context and further reading suggestions. It is evident throughout the text that business archives don't always function as one might expect and that business archivists may not always be able to follow traditional archival norms and standards. That said, a common thread across the book's insightful chapters is that business archivists should support their organizations' mission and vision while promoting the company culture and that adaptability, responsiveness, practicality, and creativity are critical to keep business archives functioning and to demonstrate their indispensable value to their parent organizations.

Managing Business Archives offers thorough and well-considered perspectives on the myriad roles and challenges business archivists may encounter, providing a sound architecture for archivists already situated within a corporate environment or those considering work in a business archives setting. It also serves as a much-needed foundational text on the complexities of managing business archives in the twenty-first century while calling for more detailed research and literature on this particular topic.

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***What Primary Sources Teach: Lessons for Every Classroom*. By Jen Hoyer, Kaitlin Holt, and Julia Pelaez. Santa Barbara, CA: Libraries Unlimited, 2022. 170 pp. Softcover. $38.50. eBook. $34.65.**

It's been more than 35 years since Ken Osborne advocated in "Archives in the Classroom" for archivists to serve not just as the keepers and managers of history, but as its educators.[1] Today, it's accepted that archivists and repositories are responsible for both preserving the past and sharing it through educational outreach and partnerships. Soon after Osborne's article was published, public school education in the United States underwent a sea change with the legislative battle to adopt national curriculum standards, ultimately resulting in the development of the Common Core State Standards Initiative. One outcome of these historic developments is a useful guide for archivist educators during the current decade.

Jen Hoyer, Kaitlin Holt, and Julia Pelaez's *What Primary Sources Teach: Lessons for Every Classroom* is a straightforward sourcebook of lesson plans that archivists at institutions of all sizes can use. The authors, an experienced trio who have worked in various capacities with the Center for Brooklyn History at the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL), inspire archivists to engage K–12 students with the primary source materials in their own repositories. Their book expands on a previous case study on research questions for the Society of American Archivists' Case Studies on Teaching with Primary Sources series.

What Primary Sources Teach imparts its lessons over 15 chapters across an easily digestible 170 pages. Chapters cover topics such as analyzing historic maps and political cartoons, developing research questions, citing sources, and understanding bias. Each chapter includes examples of local historical materials from the BPL's collections that highlight key concepts. Archival educators can use the BPL's resources or similar ones from national repositories like the Library of Congress or, better yet, can identify similar materials from their own archives that are relevant to their school community.

At the end of each chapter, the authors show how a lesson aligns with the SAA-ACRL/RBMS Guidelines for Primary Source Literacy and with Common Core State Standards. The idea is that archivist educators can use the book to tailor lessons to those standards and topics that K–12 teachers and students need to cover. Archivist educators in the many states, districts, and territories that never adopted, reversed, or have modified Common Core standards will want to check their local and state standards when adapting these lessons.

Throughout the book, the authors give a lot of thought to adapting their lessons for students of different abilities. This may be most helpful for well-resourced institutions with multiple staff devoted solely to educational service, but it is a heavy lift for staff at smaller, resource-strapped repositories. Some assumptions might have been stated more carefully; the assertion that "many students today cannot read cursive" (p. 85), for example, might be more accurately phrased as "many students today have limited exposure to cursive." In addition, some of the suggestions in the chapters "Choosing Sources: Teaching with Your Collections" (chapter 2) and "Understanding Bias in Historic Sources" (chapter 7) may require differentiated approaches. In chapter 7, the authors share a worksheet with questions drawn from New York State curriculum; however, it isn't clear where they derived the definitions used for an accompanying set of vocabulary matching cards. It may be

that the authors were intentional in crafting their own definitions, but instructors might choose to adapt these cards to include terminology used by their own state's curriculum, or supplement the cards with terms provided by additional sources.[2]

Still, the book does a good job of showing how lesson plans can be differentiated by learning levels and according to whether educators assign group or individual projects. The questions for classroom educators in chapter 1 provide a helpful menu for lesson planning, as does the advice on how to differentiate in the moment. Throughout the book, the authors make salient points about the need to consider engaging students with different abilities. Readers can then begin to consider how to implement differentiation using their own collections.

In the short notes on assessing lessons, the advice tends to focus on how to demonstrate that students have absorbed content—a judgment perhaps better left to classroom teachers—and less on how archivist educators can ensure their content hits the mark. The latter would seem to be of particular importance for the book's intended audience.

On a practical note, many of the lessons seem to require more than 45 minutes, the standard length of a K–12 class in the United States. Unless your archives or school district has funding to bring students on-site for several hours, some plans will need adapting for classroom visits working against an unforgiving school bell.

The advantage of the book is that lesson plans are flexible; readers can pick and choose what works best for their collections and most appeals to their K–12 community. Each chapter includes worksheets, answer sheets, or forms, all of which are easily adapted. The book's practical suggestions will get you thinking about how to involve all archival staff, not just those with educational responsibilities, in identifying opportunities for lessons. What materials and collections, especially related to architecture and the built environment, should be prioritized for online use? What lessons best highlight materials while complementing the school curriculum and appealing to potential funders? How can we effectively teach students to use finding aids? What topics will engage students and teachers, launch further conversations at home, and hopefully result in more visits to and engagement with the institution? Those are all lessons well worth learning and applicable to all archivists and educators.

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NOTES

1. Ken Osborne, "Archives in the Classroom," *Archivaria* 23 (January 1986): 16–40, https://archivaria.ca/index.php/archivaria/article/view/11364.
2. Possible resources include the Society of American Archivists "Dictionary of Archival Terminology," the American Bar Association's Implicit Bias Toolbox (Glossary), and the Anti-Defamation League's Education Glossary Terms.

***Documenting Rebellions: A Study of Four Lesbian and Gay Archives in Queer Times*. By Rebecka Taves Sheffield. Sacramento: Litwin Books, 2020. 282 pp. Softcover. $35.00.**

Rebecka Taves Sheffield's *Documenting Rebellions: A Study of Four Lesbian and Gay Archives in Queer Times*, part of Litwin Books' Series on Gender and Sexuality in Information Studies, is a critical addition to the literature on the frequently overlapping topics of queer and community archives. The first section of the book comprises case studies of four significant lesbian and gay archives in North America, including ArQuives: Canada's LGBTQ2+ Archives in Toronto, The ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives in Los Angeles, the June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives in West Hollywood, and the Lesbian Herstory Archives in Brooklyn. In these case studies, Taves Sheffield is concerned with the establishment and development of each institution, which she investigates via a mix of primary source research and interviews.

The second section of the book explores several themes pertaining to the operations of community archives and analyzes how these themes factor into the histories and futures of the four queer archives in question. The first chapter of this section explores sustainability strategies, focusing on the ArQuives and the Lesbian Herstory Archives. The second examines what Taves Sheffield calls "the human dimensions of archives" (p. 169), particularly archival workers' roles (Taves Sheffield breaks them down into Founders, Champions, and Volunteers); the social and labor dynamics of volunteering; and the political role these archives play in the context of political opportunity theory, which "suggests that the relative and changing vulnerabilities in these structures either prevent or allow for collective action to succeed in its demand for change" (p. 170). The final chapter probes the pressures on community archives to be subsumed by traditional archival institutions, like university archives and special collections.

Documenting Rebellions will resonate with a variety of audiences. Community archivists seeking to ensure the longevity of their collections will benefit from the rich, detailed discussion of the inner workings of these community archives. Meanwhile, archivists in more traditional repositories may nonetheless find Taves Sheffield's discussion of the theoretical approaches of community archives applicable to their own work. Finally, anyone interested in queer history will find much of value in Taves Sheffield's exploration of the historical development of the four archives she profiles and her adept demonstration of their standing as key cultural and community centers in their own rights.

The book also provides a deft investigation into the material conditions that have impacted the archives at the center of her case studies. Taves Sheffield dives deep into funding, storage, legal tangles, and, perhaps most vitally, the interpersonal dynamics and power struggles that form the core of what community archives ultimately collect—and whether they "survive." That said, the question of what, precisely, constitutes survival is germane, and it's one that Taves Sheffield takes on in chapter 7, "From Radical Archiving to Special Collections."

In addition, Taves Sheffield does an excellent job of historicizing the conditions under which these four archives formed. A sampling of the broader societal trends she addresses include the rise of gay and lesbian print culture (p. 30); increasing historical interest in the treatment of queer records during the Third Reich, which sparked an interest in

uncovering gay history (p. 32); the way that New York City's urban history affected the development of the Lesbian Herstory Archives (p. 122); the impact of the AIDS crisis on the archives' labor base and donations (pp. 159, 162); and the rise of "lesbian chic" in the 1990s (p. 164). Archives, like any other social and cultural institution, are influenced by political conditions. Giving these political conditions space makes a substantive series of case studies and draws a compelling thread among these four contemporaneous archives, even though their case studies are largely presented separately.

Throughout, the reader may get the sense that Taves Sheffield views the book itself as a sort of archive, which is confirmed in the conclusion, where she writes, "This study is an archive of sorts, capturing, processing, and preserving a record of the organizational histories of these four organizations" (p. 228). Taves Sheffield records in detail her own experiences with the archives and their stewards, and her own evolving intellectual position throughout the course of her research. In doing this, she is rectifying—for this book (or book-archive), at least—one of the laments of *Documenting Rebellions*, which is that archives are just as prone to losing their institutional histories as any other organization. Given this, I appreciate that Taves Sheffield incorporated the many real-life conversations she had throughout the course of her research (33 formal interviews, per the appendix, and countless conversations with colleagues). Storytelling, and especially intergenerational storytelling, is a fundamental element of queer cultural transmission. Taves Sheffield elucidates both the stories of the archives and the story of how the book came to be—and, not for nothing, the story of her development as an archivist and scholar.

One final point to consider, astutely raised by Taves Sheffield, is the double-edged sword that is the power that archives hold. Being represented in the archive is itself a form of power. Indeed, much of what these four archives have had to grapple with throughout their histories is who they have excluded, especially women, nonwhite people, and trans people. Another sort of power, though, is the power that archives have to imply an ending or death, including the ending of an institution or a movement. At one point, regarding the ArQuives, Taves Sheffield notes that "although the collections themselves contain contentious materials, including erotica and pornography, corporate donors assume that history is benign or, at the very least, respectable" (p. 242). According to her, that the ArQuives is considered respectable is "remarkable, given that its founders were a 'rag-tag group of Lefties,'" but that perspective elides the power archives have to insinuate the closing of a chapter. That the "contentious" material is in the archive at all might imply that it lives in the past, thus softening the material's subversive impact. However, this is a minor quibble in a book that otherwise considers power nimbly.

Overall, *Documenting Rebellions* is an engaging, worthwhile read, and it is clear that an enormous amount of time and care went into the project. The end result is an enlightening history for queer and community archivists, and anyone interested in their products.

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MAC midwest archives conference