ONTARIO HISTORY INDEX 1973-1992

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Preface

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The Index to the Publications of The Ontario Historical Society 1899-1972 has been very useful. However, almost twenty years have elapsed since it was published. It therefore seems appropriate to issue a supplement to the index, dealing with Ontario History from 1973 to 1992.

The Ontario Historical Society is fortunate that Dr Elizabeth Bloomfield was willing to supervise the preparation of the supplement. A member of The Ontario Historical Society and of the Editorial Advisory Committee of Ontario History, she combines expertise in historical research and in information technology. We are most grateful to her for her work in planning and organizing the project, and in carrying it through to a successful conclusion.

We also acknowledge with thanks the support that The Ontario Historical Society receives from the Ministry of Culture, Recreation and Tourism and from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Jean Burnet,
Editor, Ontario History
INTRODUCTION

The Ontario Historical Society has actively encouraged the publication of research and primary source materials for nearly a century. The contents of Ontario History from 1947 to 1972 and of its predecessor, the Ontario Historical Society, Papers and Records (since 1899) were indexed in the Index to the Publications of the Ontario Historical Society 1899-1972 which was published by the Society in 1974.

Scholarly research and writing about Ontario have been multiplied in quantity and variety in the past 20 years. Ontario History has continued to publish 10 to 12 full-length articles a year, as well as shorter research notes and increasing numbers of book reviews since 1978. In all, nearly 770 items published in Ontario History between 1973 and 1992 are indexed here.

The present index provides guidance to the contents and scope of the journal during the years 1973 to 1992 inclusive. Computerized methods developed to create research tools for Wellington and Waterloo Counties have been adapted here, allowing the tasks of indexing and formatting to be completed in about four months. The bibliographic database, from which camera-ready pages were produced for this printed guide, can also be searched electronically.

Users of the index are indebted to Linda Foster of Cambridge, Ontario, who undertook the main labour of reading and indexing all the articles, notes and book reviews and then entering bibliographic details into the computer with relevant subject headings. As in her earlier role as a librarian-bibliographer for the Waterloo Regional Project, Linda has demonstrated the accuracy, consistency and thoroughness which are essential in an enterprise of this kind.

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1 A detailed account of this methodology was published as "Building a better bibliography: computer-aided research tools," Canadian Library Journal 46, 4 (1989): 239-249. The regional research tools that illustrate the procedures were published as Guelph and Wellington County: a bibliography of settlement and development since 1800 (1988), Inventory of primary and archival sources: Guelph and Wellington County to 1940 (1989, 628 p.) and Waterloo County to 1972: an annotated bibliography of regional history (1993).
This index has four parts:

a) A Table of Contents for each volume and number of Ontario History from 1973 to 1992, with all articles, notes and reviews listed in the order in which they were printed in each issue of the journal. The reference to each item includes details of the author(s), title and pages, and each item is numbered in chronological sequence to match the subject headings in the subject index.

b) An Author Index for all articles and reviews published in Ontario History between 1973 and 1992, with full references to the year, title, volume and page numbers.

c) An Index to Books Reviewed in Ontario History from 1978 when the practice of reviewing books began. References include details of names of authors and titles of the reviewed books, with volume, year and page numbers of the reviews in the journal.

d) A Subject Index, including personal, corporate, geographical and topical subject headings merged together. The thesaurus of topical subject headings used here was based partly on subject headings in the Index...1988-1972, but also on the National Library's Canadian subject headings and on the Waterloo Regional Project's thesaurus for regional and local history. The design of this index differs from the subject index compiled for Ontario Historical Society publications in having a string of numbers following each subject heading. The numbers refer to the items listed and numbered in chronological order in the Table of Contents.

Elizabeth Bloomfield
Guelph, Ontario

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