Archival Theory and Practice in the United States: a Historical Analysis

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and a comprehensive index to names, places, and subjects appears at the back of this model for other historical societies to follow.


As the head of the University Archives and Manuscript Division at the University of Washington, the author is well-qualified for this synthetic study. He discusses the two traditions that have dominated the collecting and control of manuscript collections—the public archives tradition and the historical manuscript tradition, the latter, rooted in librarianship, was dominant until about 1960 when the emphasis changed from concentrating on papers of remote vintage to an emphasis on those of recent origin. But the amalgamated systems now pose problems which are discussed in this book—required reading by professionals and those recently interested in archival methodology.


This is the fourth in a planned six-volume series produced by the staff of the National Historical Society under the direction of William C. Davis, a noted civil war historian and prolific writer. The foremost scholars of the era have been assembled to write essays for the text that accompanies the hundreds of photographs, many reproduced in duotone in this volume for the first time. With the publication of this series, long-overdue credit has been given to some of the most enterprising photographers to ever follow armies with their cameras. No library should be without this series.

—MDG