



Best Bibliographies in History

RUSA History Section, Bibliography and Indexes Committee

Each year, the Reference & User Services Association (RUSA) History Section's Bibliography and Indexes Committee continues its project to honor outstanding book-length English-language bibliographies in the field of history. It is our goal to encourage both the work of scholars in the bibliography of history and the publishers who support this important activity. This year's titles were published in 2004 and 2005.

All members of the library profession are invited to submit titles to the committee for consideration. For 2006, the committee will review works published in 2005 and 2006. Nominated titles can be from any period of history. The focus is on first editions, but a subsequent edition will be considered if there is substantial revision. Titles for consideration, with appropriate bibliographic information should be sent to Janalyn Moss, 100 Main Library, Iowa City, IA 52242-1420. The next submission deadline is **October 31, 2006**.

Bier, Lisa. *American Indian and African American People, Communities and Interactions: An Annotated Bibliography.* Bibliographies and Indexes in American History, no. 48. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2004. 266p. \$54.95 (ISBN: 0-313-32347-X).

Bier's bibliography covers contact between African Americans and Native Americans in the United States and Canada from the eighteenth century to the present day. Works cited include books, periodical articles, dissertations, Web sites, and videos. Topics covered include geographic regions, tribes that had lots of contact with African Americans, the West, the Military West, and the Buffalo Soldiers. A combined subject and author index provides helpful access to the entries, which are descriptive but not evaluative.

Changing vocabulary can make searching for information on racial groups challenging; Bier's work reduces this burden. This bibliography is a needed tool for a topic of growing interest. Well-researched and well-written, this work would be an asset in all libraries.—*Lisa Scharnhorst, Seattle Public Library, Washington*

Fischel, Jack, and Susan M. Ortmann. *The Holocaust and Its Religious Impact: A Critical Assessment and Annotated Bibliography.* Bibliographies and Indexes in Religious Studies, vol. 54. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2004. 335p. \$64.95 (ISBN: 0-313-30950-7).

This annotated bibliography provides the reader with a comprehensive survey of writings about the Holocaust and the religious response: the impact of Christian anti-Semitism on the Holocaust and the Holocaust's impact on Christianity. It includes excellent, critical, and helpful annotations to literature in both journals and books. The essays at the beginning of each of the sections are very useful. A glossary plus author and subject indexes are included. Unfortunately, there are also some significant lacunae in the glossary, such as the German word, "Judentum." This volume provides coverage not found even in standard indexes, including the *Index to Jewish Periodicals* and *ATLA Religion Index*. It is highly recommended for public and academic libraries.—*Jennalyn Tellman, University of Arizona Library, Tucson*

Contributing members: Shelley Arlen; Michelle Baildon; Laura Dale Bischof; Janalyn L. Moss, assistant editor; Priscilla Munson; Eric Novotny; Jenna Rinalducci; Lisa Scharnhorst, editor; Jennalyn Tellman; and Paul Wartenberg

Kelsey, Marie Ellen. *Ulysses S. Grant: A Bibliography.* Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States, no. 18. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2005. 475p. \$119.95 (ISBN: 0-313-28176-9).

This bibliography is part of the excellent series *Bibliographies of the Presidents of the United States*. It is the most comprehensive bibliography on Ulysses S. Grant to date, covering every facet of the president's life. Kelsey has compiled more than forty-two hundred entries including monographs, articles, dissertations, government documents, and more. Its twenty chapters are arranged logically with chapters dedicated to manuscript and archival sources, Grant's published writings and speeches, and biographical publications in addition to chapters on his childhood, military career, and presidency. Kelsey also surveys historiographical materials, iconography and dramatic media, and historic sites and organizations. Each entry includes a brief annotation that is generally descriptive rather than evaluative. Author and subject indexes are included. It is recommended for both public and academic libraries.—*Janalyn L. Moss, University of Iowa Libraries, Iowa City*

Lengel, Edward G., and Martin Gordon. *World War I Memories: An Annotated Bibliography of Personal Accounts Published in English Since 1919.* Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow, 2004. 334p. \$50 (ISBN: 0-8108-5008-7).

Lengel and Gordon examine personal accounts by soldiers and civilians of the First World War published in English, including translations, and focusing on direct accounts—memoirs, letters, diaries—passing over sources by people not directly affected by the war. Entries are organized by country and then by author. Each entry gives citation and annotated review, and many describe that author's wartime activities and views of the war. Lengel and Gordon cover postwar writings both to avoid the propagandizing during the war itself, and because other works such as

Loleta Dawson's *European War Fiction in English, and Personal Narratives* (1921) covered wartime publications. What Lengel and Gordon do, and the detailed way they write it, makes this bibliography a necessary resource for anyone researching military history, early twentieth century, and personal histories.—*Paul Wartenberg, Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville*

Marshall, Julie. *Britain and Tibet 1765–1947: A Select Annotated Bibliography of British Relations with Tibet and the Himalayan States Including Nepal, Sikkim and Bhutan.* London; New York: Routledge, 2005. 607p. \$115 (ISBN: 0-415-33647-3).

Britain and Tibet 1765–1947 taps into the revived interest in Tibet. Marshall began her research more than thirty years ago with the 1977 first edition of this work. An intrepid researcher, she traveled extensively for this book. This edition expands on the earlier work to include recent sources with an emphasis on published works (that is, monographs, periodicals, dissertations, pamphlets). Most entries are annotated. Chapters are divided by chronology, geography, and events. A historical background introduces each section. The collection would be difficult to duplicate in traditional searching. It is an essential resource for anyone studying the region and trying to make sense of a complex topic. Recommended for all academic libraries with political science/international relations programs.—*Jenna Rinalducci, Savannah College of Art and Design Library, Georgia*

Moser, Harold. *Daniel Webster: An Annotated Bibliography.* Bibliographies of American Notables, 4. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2005. 707p. \$119.95 (ISBN: 0-313-28308-7).

This exhaustive treatment lists primary and secondary works documenting the life of the famous orator and politician Daniel Webster. The author's Herculean effort (there are more than five thousand entries) will be of tremendous benefit to

future scholars. He has provided a guide to a wealth of historical materials, including contemporary periodical articles, manuscripts, pamphlets, and diaries, which would otherwise be difficult and time-consuming to find. Webster's own writings are usefully organized into categories such as book reviews, poetry, and speeches. Scholars will appreciate the chapters on archival collections and methodological issues. This work is enthusiastically recommended for libraries supporting advanced research in nineteenth-century U.S. history, including nationalism, slavery, the tariff, Indian affairs, the Constitution, and Western expansion.—*Eric Novotny, University Libraries, Pennsylvania State University, University Park*

Rasor, Eugene L. *English/British Naval History to 1815: A Guide to the Literature.* Bibliographies and Indexes in Military Studies, no.15. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2004. 875p., \$120 (ISBN: 0-313-30547-1).

Rasor, an emeritus professor at Emory and Henry College, has authored several works combining historiography and a comprehensive bibliography; this work, a companion to his 1990 *British Naval History Since 1815*, covers a period from Celtic and Roman times to Nelson's death. Twenty-one topical chapters and 4,124 annotated entries cite the most important works in Western languages on strategy, exploration, officers, the "lower deck," piracy, Admiralty courts, monuments and museums, replicas, nautical archaeology, and fiction, among others. Rasor adds a useful survey of gaps and research needed and includes official publications and dissertations, author and subject indexes and is a significant contribution to the field. Recommended for students, scholars, and any collection strong in military history.—*Shelley Arlen, Smathers Libraries, University of Florida, Gainesville*

Sypolt, Larry N. *Civilian Conservation Corps: A Selectively Annotated Bibliography.* Bibliographies and Indexes in American

History, no.52. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2005. 228p. \$89.95 (ISBN: 0-313-31313-X).

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) operated from 1933 to 1942, but its legacy endures in our state and national parks and forests. Sypolt's comprehensive listing of nearly twenty-two hundred items identifies books, articles, theses, government publications, films, and maps, along with the locations of photograph and oral history collections and CCC museums. Fewer than 10 percent of the entries receive annotations, but they generally describe longer works rather than brief articles and pamphlets. Arrangement within the History and Work Projects categories by the CCC's nine original corps areas permits identification of works on individual states. Other topics include African Americans, Native Americans & Minorities, and Education & Training. A personal author index is supplied. Essential for researchers interested in the New Deal era or United States conservation history.—*Priscilla Munson, Clemson University Libraries, South Carolina*

Thomas, Marcia L. *John Wesley Powell: An Annotated Bibliography.* Bibliographies and Indexes in American History, no. 49.

Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2004. 256p. \$92.95 (ISBN: 0-313-31942-1).

John Wesley Powell (1834–1902), cartographer, ethnographer, Civil War veteran, and amputee, led the first successful passage through the Grand Canyon in 1869. He later became director of the U.S. Geological Survey and the Bureau of Ethnology at the Smithsonian Institute. Powell carefully documented his groundbreaking explorations, and his geographical and anthropological studies are essential to the study of the history of the American Southwest and the Native peoples there. This generously annotated and clearly organized bibliography includes primary, both published and unpublished, and secondary sources ranging from articles in magazines to scholarly monographs, dissertations, and Internet resources. This bibliography is especially useful in its organization of Powell's writings in their many venues: from government reports and Congressional hearings to newspaper articles, speeches, correspondence, and conference proceedings.—*Laura Dale Bischof, University of Minnesota Libraries, Twin Cities*

Wood, James E., Jr. *Church and State in Historical Perspective: A Critical Assessment*

and Annotated Bibliography. Bibliographies and Indexes in Religious Studies, no. 55. Westport, Conn.: Praeger, 2005. 645p. \$129.95 (ISBN: 0-313-25603-9).

Researchers inspired by current events to study the relationship between religion and civil authority throughout history would do well to turn to this guide. More than twenty-three hundred well-annotated entries describe monographs, collections, and journals dealing with religion and the state from the ancient through modern world. Although the emphasis is on Christianity and the Biblical world, Wood also includes a chapter on other major world religions, in addition to chapters on topics transcending particular groups, such as religious tolerance and freedom, civil disobedience, patriotism, nationalism, human rights, religion in international affairs, and interfaith relations. Seven concise, footnoted introductory chapters contextualize the bibliographical survey. The guide includes author and title indexes and a brief subject index. Recommended for a general academic audience.—*Michelle Baildon, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries, Cambridge* ■