BOOK REVIEWS


This manual is a revision of an edition published in 1979 by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission as a by-product of three archival workshops funded by an NHPRC grant. The intent of this edition, as that of the first, is to provide basic techniques and economical solutions to problems faced by historical agencies with limited staff and financial resources.

In addressing this growing audience the editor has included a number of revisions in the text. New to this edition is an article by James W. Williams entitled "Space, Storage and Equipment" that provides an excellent analysis of the need for flexibility and suitability in planning such matters. In the constantly changing state-of-the-art brought on by new technological applications and by the development of conservation programs Williams suggests a goal of "optimums" when faced with the difficulty of anticipating future needs. To that end he provides ideas on where to seek advice in the process.

"Phased Conservation for Book and Bound Archival Material" by Lois Olcott Price replaces Jean Gunner's article on bookbinding that appeared in the first edition. Price considers phased conservation the best alternative presently available considering the pervasive deterioration of collections. The phased conservation program is pertinent to the various users of this manual because it is readily adapted to any size repository. In line with the editor's desire for ground-level techniques, Price includes a model conservation survey form and step-by-step procedures for constructing acid-free bookwrappers.

Sarah D. Holland has provided an article that reflects the changes in name and in policies from the Public Committee for the Humanities in Pennsylvania to the less cumbersome Pennsylvania Humanities Council. Harry Whipkey's revised article includes information regarding publications and microfilming efforts by the Historical and Museum Commission. Information on sources of Federal support remains unchanged from the first edition though the level of support from the NEH and NHPRC is uncertain at best. The bibliography is slightly expanded to include a section on grant writing.

Together with the Technical Leaflets of the American Association for State and Local History and the Basic Manual Series of the Society of American Archivists, this manual forms a core of most useful information in dealing with the variety of challenges for properly administering an historical collection.

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

PHILLIP ZORICH


The up-dating (rather than really a revision) of this excellent work was made possible by the publisher's decision to bring out a paperback edition which
would make it more readily available to a wider readership than was reached by the original in 1976.

Although the principal addition to the original work is a forty-page "addendum," listing changes, sometimes losses, of 123 previously included sites, Webster's preface to this edition contains an excellent brief survey of the progress of the preservation movement during the succeeding four years. The author has also added a street index which will be of great service to anyone wishing to visit the sites included in the work.

This work is a classic of the preservation movement, and its appearance in a low-cost format should be welcomed by all those interested in historic preservation or in Philadelphia history.

Glenshaw, Pennsylvania

GEORGE SWETNAM


This study of Lewis Morris's complex and combative career in politics makes a useful contribution to our knowledge of the neglected period. It elucidates aspects of the political development of New York and New Jersey and underscores the importance of an Anglo-American perspective. It is not surprising that the owner of the manor Morrisiana, ironworks and mills, thousands of acres, and more slaves than anyone else in the Middle Colonies ardently espoused the values and promoted the interests of the landed aristocracy throughout his life. He inherited his wealth and developed contempt for merchants and a patronizing view toward other ranks of society. Nor is it surprising that one of the richest men in the Middle Colonies, who also had connections in England, rose rapidly in the political arena. He was, for example, dominant in New Jersey proprietary circles, political manager for Governor Robert Hunter, Chief Justice of New York, and first royal governor exclusively for New Jersey. But what will surprise those unfamiliar with Morris is his amazing inconsistency. The man is a bundle of paradoxes; his vacillations present his biographer with difficulties. Sheridan wrestles with the shifts and motivations and finds them vital to Morris's significance. It lies in his "key role in promoting the ... silent revolution, which greatly altered the nature of the British Empire ... by expanding the powers of the provincial assemblies at the expense of royal authority, and then advanced some proposals for severely curtailing the powers of these assemblies through parliamentary action...." At other times he was a prerogative man. The 1726 portrait of Morris looks to the left on the dust jacket, but to the right on the frontispiece. Though some may think that a printer's error, it's appropriately symbolic.

Because Morris was "one of colonial America's most remarkable leaders," Sheridan's focus on the main contribution—politics—makes sense. The nature of surviving papers, which Sheridan tracked down in England and six states, precludes a full-scale biography. The brief character sketch of Morris which precedes the chronological account provides a portrait of the man who loved power, politics, and arguing, played the violin, wrote poetry, read Latin, Hebrew, and Arabic, and enjoyed books on law, literature, politics, history, philosophy, science, and theology in his 3000-volume library. From then on the
focus is politics. At times this is fascinating, such as when Morris worked for the conversion of New Jersey from proprietary to royal colony, sought a separate governorship for New Jersey, acted as Governor Robert Hunter's floor manager in the New York Assembly, and battled Governors Cornbury and Cosby. On other occasions, insight and analysis fade as a deluge of details recount what a governor said, how the assembly reacted, the governor's response, and so on. Those sections seem little removed from accounts in official minutes.

Sheridan conceptualizes political struggles in New Jersey along class lines and in New York between elite groups. And he urges that no simple formula encompasses the complexities of colonial politics. His efforts to revive the importance of a court ideology, at least through Morris (whom he claims is typical), presents problems. A court ideology existed as an alternative to Radical Whig ideology, but the ideological shifts of the "consummate trimmer," suggest that Morris used ideology for his own purposes, not that it helped shape his actions.

The book has little on Pennsylvania and only one collection at the HSP yielded information. The five-page bibliography ends abruptly with advice to see the author's 1972 dissertation for "most of the secondary sources used." That's false economy on the part of the University of Syracuse Press, and weak scholarship. A book (1976), two articles (1973), and a dissertation (1976) in the footnotes apparently represent all relevant scholarship of the last decade. Ideas and insights drawn from recent works in history and the social sciences could enrich this study. Social and economic changes over time could be better developed and related to political developments; likewise, Morris's own socio-economic position seems stagnant and not integrated fully with changes in society and politics. Also, the author uses eighteenth-century labels to describe political groups; such tags can be inaccurate or become so as time passes. Neither roll-call analysis, nor prosopography, nor other techniques verify contemporary descriptions. Admittedly sources set limits; yet the feeling remains that more could be done. The New Jersey Historical Commission awarded this study the Driscoll Prize. For those interested in a neglected colony and its not-so-neglected neighbor in a neglected period, Sheridan's Lewis Morris is worth consulting.

American Philosophical Society


Pastors and People is a monumental undertaking. Though its longer title might lead one to expect a parochial account of limited denominational interest, in fact the work will long remain a central reference volume for anyone interested in colonial life in the Middle Colonies and in eighteenth-century Protestantism both in America and abroad. For students of Pennsylvania history, it takes its place with a small group of essential studies. Certainly every library with a serious interest in Pennsylvania history will find it unmissable.

Volume one is actually an appendix to volume 2 and one wonders why the order of the volumes was not reversed. "The History," volume 2, is an
engagingly written and meticulously researched narrative, enlivened with appropriate illustrations, carefully conceived and well balanced in its presentation. Source material has provided the core of the work; and one feels that, like his forbear Henry Harbaugh, he has been "in garrets and in graveyards." Though one might wish to pursue a minor point here or there, this reviewer was hard pressed to find a significant error in fact or judgment. An evenhandedness in detailing conflicting materials of different denominations never detracts from the sense one has of Glatfelter's own personal involvement in his research. Wide-ranging subjects of potential controversy, for example Moravianism, Pietism, and the American Revolution, are handled straightforwardly and without prejudice. Though focused on Pennsylvania, the author is equally at home with source materials for the neighboring colonies and with the relevant European sources.

"The History" is divided into eight chapters, which in themselves are guides to the book's perspective: "In the Beginning" (1717-1742), "The Great Awakening" (1742-1748), "The Long Generation: Congregations, Pastors, The Pastor and the Parish" (1748-1776), "Politics (1748-1764), "The American Revolution" (1765-1783), and "Adjusting to Life in a New Republic" (1783-1793). So engaging is the account that, as one finishes "The History," one is eager to pick up a "next volume" and embark on the nineteenth century.

The first volume, if taken up first, is apt to leave the reader disappointed. It is a biographical dictionary, followed by a dictionary of individual congregations, and, as such, is an important reference tool but like most dictionaries, not a book to be read like a narrative. It largely replaces the related earlier work of Henry Harbaugh, William Buel Sprague, Frederich Lewis Weis, and William J. Hinke, though the latter's work will never entirely lose its value. The bibliographical notes attached to each entry add importantly to the usefulness of the volume, as do the maps interspersed with the text and the indices at the end of each volume. (One important work should be added to the Otterbein bibliography: J. Steven O'Malley's *Pilgrimage of Faith: The Legacy of the Otterbeins*, Metuchen, New Jersey, 1973.)

The one regret this reader has is the old-fashioned habit of anglicizing proper names. When Glatfelter found a significant variant form of a person's family name he included it. Unfortunately, however, given names are almost always in English. Even if many of the persons involved eventually anglicized their names, it handicaps further research not to provide the original form or forms of name. For example, one does not know if a "John" was originally a "Hans," a "Johan," or "Johannes" or some other variant.

Published by The Pennsylvania German Society, these volumes follow its well-established tradition of physical attractiveness as well as significant content. All lovers of Pennsylvania and scholars of many kinds will long be in debt to Charles Glatfelter and to The Pennsylvania German Society for their most successful endeavor.

*Bryn Mawr College*  
James Tanis

While Elizabeth Ellicott (1793–1858) was born in Maryland, she had many Pennsylvania relatives, attended Westtown School in Chester County, and acquired additional Pennsylvania connections through her marriage in 1812 to Thomas Lea. Settling first in Wilmington, Delaware, the Leas in 1823 moved to Maryland where Elizabeth spent the rest of her life.

Entering married life inexperienced in household matters she looked to books for guidance only to discover that “whilst receipt books for elegant preparations” were readily available, help with the more mundane aspects of the housewife’s craft were hard come by. *Domestic Cookery* was written to fill this void and to spare other brides the difficulties and failures she had encountered. The first edition of 1845 contained only recipes, while two revisions were expanded to include material on other aspects of housewifery. Publication continued until 1879.

The present volume includes a facsimile of the second revision of *Domestic Cookery* copyrighted in 1851. Appended are an introduction, glossary, and bibliography by William Woys Weaver, bringing together his interests in the history of food and of the Quakers.

A brief biographical sketch reveals that Elizabeth Lea was bedridden during the writing and revising of the book and much compiling and editing fell to Rebecca Russell, a nurse and companion. Nowhere does Ms. Russell receive credit for her assistance, so Mr. Weaver has incidentally remedied this omission.

The book apparently was ignored by the Quaker press because, according to Weaver, it contained no plea for dietary reform, a health measure then favored by many Quakers. Rather, *Domestic Cookery* is a compilation of straightforward recipes and suggestions for everyday household management that Weaver considers a folk cultural document of the Middle Atlantic states. He also suggests further researches to which this and by extension other cookbooks might lend themselves. Ethnic and geographic origins of some recipes are discussed and this theme is expanded upon in the glossary which also identifies food items which may be unfamiliar.

Elizabeth Lea’s book is filled with insights into the duties of a woman of her position. Directions range from how “to cure a dozen tongues” to making vinegar to treatment for ague. The ritual of taking down curtains and taking up carpets for summer merits elaborate instructions. Waste is abhorred so we learn how “to Restore Beef that has been kept too long.” Alternating layers of recycled hair stuffing with corn husks will produce two mattresses from one. Corn is dried in an oven still warm from baking bread. Resourcefulness abounds as in the suggestion for making rolls from mush when eggs and milk are scarce. Changed standards of vegetable cookery are apparent. Boiling string beans for two hours seems excessive, even for pre-vitamin days. The limited variety of vegetables is an eye-opener to the present day consumer.

Responsibility to others is stressed. The Golden Rule governs relationships with servants. Savings through economy should go to the poor. Children’s “allowance” money might better succor the aged and afflicted. The neophyte homemaker is taken through a hypothetical day that reads like a cross between *Poor Richard’s Almanac* and “Hints from Heloise.”

The potential for reproducing many of the recipes successfully, coupled with *Domestic Cookery’s* glimpses into lifestyles of the time and Weaver’s analysis

Michael Nash begins with two questions: "What, if anything, will persuade workers to vote for socialism?" and "Why, during the early years of the twentieth century, was the United States the only industrialized nation in the world without a powerful Socialist movement?" The answer of consensus historians that socialism was irrelevant because, among other things, America was a land of opportunity, Nash dismisses out of hand. Clearly opportunity was limited, he asserts, because "workers rarely rose into the ranks of the middle and upper classes." He fails to consider that laborers may have measured "success" in terms other than rags-to-riches.

To answer his questions, Nash examines the relationship between industrial warfare and voting patterns among two groups of workers—coal miners and steelworkers—from 1890 to 1920. After briefly sketching the development of socialist thought, Nash outlines the economic factors that shaped the coal and steel industries and laboring conditions in each. The balance of the book is devoted to strikes and labor violence in those industries, immediate increases in votes for socialist candidates in the strike-torn communities, and the subsequent withering of socialist sentiment as the memory of violence faded. Included are the bituminous strikes of 1894, the anthracite strike of 1902, steel strikes in 1909 and 1910, and coal strikes in 1912. The two most important steel strikes of the era, Homestead and the 1919 strike, are only mentioned. Although Nash covers familiar ground, his narrative is fresh. He has carefully reworked the primary sources with an eye to revealing comments of workers.

Nash's most important contribution is his analysis of socialist voting trends in communities subjected to repressive violence. The pattern was repetitive: following a violent strike, votes for Populists (1894) or socialists (1902–1920) increased markedly in the affected communities. In a few instances Socialists were elected to local offices. These changes did not last. Within a year or two workers once more were voting for regular party candidates.

One might well question Nash's unspoken assumption that socialism naturally appealed to workers, given the harsh conditions under which they lived and worked. In fact, his findings reveal how little chance socialism had in the period under consideration. While violence raised class consciousness to the level where a significant number of workers in strike areas voted against the prevailing system, Nash demonstrates that even the most violent strikes rarely resulted in socialists attracting more than twenty-five percent of the votes. For socialists to win a lasting majority in strike-torn communities presumably would have required more violence than occurred, and violence that would continue for years. So much for the dream of voting socialism to power.

Unfortunately for socialism, class consciousness disappeared almost as soon as violence ended. Nash attributes this to the skill with which employers reached accommodation with their employees. In the coal industry, unable to crush the
United Mine Workers, the operators worked with, and in effect co-opted, the union. By contrast, the steel magnates eliminated unions from their industry and used welfare capitalism to wean their workers from socialism. This argument is not wholly convincing. Workers were not unaware of the processes at work, and they were not particularly taken in by welfare capitalist schemes. At the same time, they did not regard socialism as the answer to their problems. When elected to office, Socialists governed essentially the same as Republicans or Democrats. Something—perhaps "Americanism" (both a loyalty and a way of doing things)—had deeper roots than socialism among workers.

Because much of the action occurs in the Commonwealth, this book will interest students of Pennsylvania history. Although labor historians will not be surprised by Nash's conclusions, they will find many useful insights and quotations from workers. Those interested in socialism will find the troubling question of why the movement failed even among workers still unanswered.

The Pennsylvania State University

GERALD G. EGGERT


The notion that American workers have enjoyed a higher standard of living than their European counterparts has long been accepted as an article of faith by many historians. Affluence seemed to explain worker disinterest in radical politics and revolutionary ideology. Labor's adherence to the American Federation of Labor and its conservative "business unionism" also appeared to be rooted in material gratification. The alleged affluence of American labor was often used to justify the rigors of the workplace. Sacrifices made by industrial workers yielded fat pay envelopes. The worker, no less than the entrepreneur, enjoyed the fruits of industrial capitalism, or so it seemed.

Peter Shergold questions the presumption that American workers were materially better off than European labor. Citing a paucity of evidence to support such a conclusion, he presents a formidable array of economic data which he uses to dispute the presumed material superiority of American labor. His study focuses upon the working classes of Pittsburgh and Birmingham, England, comparable industrial communities in which workers experienced both prosperity and depression during the years 1899–1913. As might be expected, steel workers play a central role in the study, but Shergold presents comparative statistics on wages and working hours for a wide variety of industrial and nonindustrial occupations. He also assembles a price structure for expenditures on food, clothing, shelter, fuel, and amusements. Appropriately placed caveats are testimony to both the author's care in interpreting evidence and his desire to avoid overstatement. He readily acknowledges that differences in culture, taste, and preference are elusive but important determinants of economic activity which make precise quantification difficult.

Shergold's conclusions are provocative. He believes that comparisons of wage rates and family income in Birmingham and Pittsburgh suggest that claims of American affluence must be qualified. The author found little difference between the standards of living enjoyed by the great mass of unskilled workers
on either side of the Atlantic. Pittsburgh’s skilled workers earned much higher wages than their opposite numbers in Birmingham. All Pittsburgh laborers tended to work much longer hours than the Britons, and enjoyed less leisure time. The greater participation of Birmingham’s women in the labor market tended to bring the family income of households headed by unskilled workmen up to American levels of affluence. According to Shergold, the chief characteristic of the American labor force was not comparative income superiority, but a greater inequality of wage distribution. The wage differentials which separated skilled and unskilled Pittsburghers were far more pronounced than the range of wages found in Birmingham.

The author’s concept of a dual labor market in Pittsburgh should be of interest to students of Pennsylvania’s labor movement. He documents the existence of two classes of blue-collar workers in the city, separated by immense differences of skill, income, ethnicity, and attitude. Genuine inequities, and not simply the depression or the charisma of John L. Lewis, account for the emergence of Pittsburgh as a bastion of CIO strength. Of equal importance is Shergold’s discussion of working-class consumerism in Pittsburgh. The author discusses the relationship of the city’s retailers with its blue-collar consumers in a manner which clearly reflects the complexity of that dimension of working-class life.

Shergold’s book is well written and his arguments are tightly constructed. His work is representative of the new labor history, and quantification constitutes the core of his methodology. He does, however, blend traditional sources into his work and thereby spares the reader the rigors of a bland statistical abstract. Shergold has broken new and important ground for the study of labor in the Commonwealth. Working Class Life will be compulsory reading for labor historians and students of Pennsylvania history.

New Kensington Campus, The Pennsylvania State University

CARL I. MEYERHUBER, JR.


Lives of Their Own is a fascinating and significant book that deserves wide attention not only from historians but from all of those concerned with how ethnicity has shaped American society. The result of the collaboration of a trio of scholars who have individually made significant contributions to our understanding of ethnic and urban history, the book displays a mature grasp of the issues involved in the historical study of ethnicity, covers a long period of time with great sensitivity to change, and combines a variety of methodologies—including quantitative analysis and oral history. By focusing their attention on three distinct groups and comparing their varying experiences, the authors develop a much broader understanding of the interaction between ethnicity and the wider society in the lives of individuals than a study focused on a single group would have. Each of the groups studied—blacks, Italians, and Poles—had a distinct experience in Pittsburgh, an experience that was shaped both by the customs and traditions they brought with them to the city and the conditions they
encountered there. Bodnar, Simon, and Weber have captured this complex interplay between ethnic tradition and social context very nicely and have presented their findings in a readable way.

Pittsburgh is a most appropriate and important city for any study of ethnicity. Its heavy industry provided a large number of semi-skilled and unskilled jobs that were well suited to the new arrivals’ lack of familiarity with American society. Further, the topography of Pittsburgh encouraged the formation of neighborhoods, which developed and maintained ethnic identities. Pittsburgh had, by 1900, become a major symbol of the new industrial America and had attracted the attention of social scientists, as evidenced by the Pittsburgh Survey, a pioneering social science survey of industrial life. Because of the prominence of Pittsburgh in American industrial history, there is a rich context within which to place the experience of the groups studied here and the authors use this material very well.

The first chapter provides a very useful background on the city, its industrial development, and the make up of its population. The following chapter gives comparable background for the three groups, outlining the general forces that brought them to Pittsburgh. The seven chapters that comprise the body of the book are organized topically, dealing with a variety of topics over the sixty-year period studied. Each chapter combines both quantitative data on the experience of the group as a whole and material from oral history interviews that add the dimension of individual reaction to the general trends the quantitative data reveals. While this is neither the first, or only, book to combine these two types of analysis, it is a further indication of developing links between them, a connection that is, and will continue to be, mutually beneficial.

This is one of the ways in which the book succeeds. Another is its topical organization that reinforces its comparative goals. By treating the common experiences of the groups studied in a way that makes the comparisons a natural part of the flow of the argument as it develops rather than as either an appendage or an artificial amalgam of disparate strands of the argument, the points made are sharper and more persuasive. The approach to this subject, in the broadest sense, that the authors have chosen is one all scholars should carefully examine and consider. To an impressive degree, they bring together what decades of specialization and increasing methodological sophistication have torn asunder. At a time when historians lament their declining audience, this book suggests ways to reintegrate what we do.

One minor criticism is the mechanical and artificial way in which photographs have been used. It is puzzling that a book that succeeds so admirably in melding its diverse methods and concerns is content to group a small selection of photographs together in isolation from the text and the argument. Historical photographs deserve the same analytical attention as other sources for understanding the past. This is a minor point and should not distract too much from an appreciation of a superlative accomplishment.

Central Michigan University

WILLIAM H. MULLIGAN, JR.

Scholars mining Pennsylvania's rich lode of transportation history have generally limited their efforts to railroads and canals in the nineteenth century. They have all but ignored the subject of aviation. This book takes a giant step toward correcting that imbalance.

Trimble shows that while aeronautics was principally a twentieth-century phenomenon, its roots go deeper in the Commonwealth's past than those of railroads and almost as deep as those of canals. Hot-air ballooning began shortly after the Revolutionary War and remained a popular amusement through the 1800s, especially at county fairs and other festive gatherings. In the late nineteenth century, a few serious technologists—most notably Samuel P. Langley of Pittsburgh's Allegheny Observatory and Coatesville's George A. Spratt—turned their attention to heavier-than-air flight but failed to contribute much to its eventual achievement.

Aeronautics in Pennsylvania in more modern times encompasses a multitude of topics, and Trimble tries to touch upon all of them: the evolution of manufacturers such as Piper and carriers such as US Air, the impact of visionaries like Lytle S. Adams and Frank Pisecki, and the regulation of flying by state and federal agencies, to name just a few. He contends that Pennsylvania's influence on aeronautical design and construction was greater in the realm of components—Lycoming engines, for instance, or Hamilton Standard propellers—than in the production of complete aircraft. Indeed, aviation manufacturing was among the first industries to leave the Commonwealth for so-called sun-belt states. Airlines, on the other hand, found conditions more to their liking. Besides US Air (formerly Allegheny Airlines), Pennsylvania gave birth to three other large carriers. Eastern Airlines grew from Bryn Athyn-based Pitcairn Aviation, the Pennsylvania Railroad was a founder of Trans-World Airlines, and Pennsylvania Central Airlines in the 1950s became Capital Airlines (later taken over by United). Pennsylvania also played a key role in the development of air mail service after World War I, although Trimble cites evidence to show that flying the mail between New York and Cleveland does not appear to have been a particularly risky business. The designation "Graveyard of the Alleghenies" that is often given in this context to the central part of the state seems to rest more on a kind of local pride than on fact.

Having to deal with so many topics only loosely related to one another results in a narrative that occasionally lacks a unifying theme and tends to become too encyclopedic. And for all the author's attempts to be comprehensive, he says virtually nothing about the growth or impact of aeronautical engineering curriculums at Pennsylvania's institutions of higher education. Some parts of his discussion should be placed against a broader background, as well. In explaining the reasons for Piper's economic troubles in the 1960s and 1970s, for example, Trimble neglects to mention that they also stemmed from the fact that competitor Cessna (of Wichita, Kansas) simply built a better airplane, class for class.

These faults are minor. Overall, the book contains a wealth of information, neatly organized and conveyed in an easy-to-read style. Trimble makes no claim to having written the last word on any of his topics. Let us hope, with him, that this book will inspire many more words. It is a pioneering work in the history of aviation technology and business and will appeal to an audience far wider than professional historians. That is presumably the reason for the soft cover. The
publisher would do well to offer a hardback version, for this is likely to be a standard work for many years. *High Frontier* is a pioneering book in another sense, too. It demonstrates what can be achieved by scholars who are able to break free of the fixation that so many Pennsylvania historians have with the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

*The Pennsylvania State University*  
Michael Bezilla