

Descriptive List of the Map Collection in the Pennsylvania State Archives. Compiled by MARTHA L. SIMONETTI. (Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1972. Pp. 178. Preface, checklists. \$6.00.)

The *Descriptive List* should prove to be a useful tool for both librarians and for researchers interested in the maps of our state. The list is really a catalogue of the maps in the principal map collection of the Division of Archives and Manuscripts of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. According to the preface, there are other maps and plans stored with related record groups and manuscripts. Some of these groups are mentioned in the preface.

The descriptions of the maps are complete enough to enable the researcher to discover whether or not the particular map described has the information he needs. The range of the collection is impressive. Chronologically the dates range from 1681 to 1976. Geographically all sixty-seven counties are represented, and cities and towns are covered from Adjouqua in the Lackawanna Valley to Zelienople in Butler County. For the three cities, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Erie, there are several maps. Surveys of the cities and ward and street maps are among them.

There are railroad maps, plans of forts, soil surveys and relief maps, as well as the expected road maps. For the historian, there are historical maps and military maps. Some of the city maps show where businesses, churches, firehouses, schools, and hotels are located. Geological maps indicate the location of oilfields and coal lands. For the visitor, parks, recreational areas, and historical sites are located.

The checklists, in eight sections, serve as an index to the *Descriptive List*. They are divided into colony and commonwealth, counties, townships, cities and boroughs, boundaries, topography, geology, parks, transportation, and military and battlefields. The last three checklists are of vignettes of individuals, buildings, and coats of arms found on the maps. The checklisting, although brief, has enough information to enable the researcher to select the entry or entries that he needs.

This fine reference work fills a void in our access to the cartographic holdings of the state archives. While it catalogues only the maps in the main map collection, this is by far the largest and most significant of the state archives map holdings. Researchers should be grateful to have this key to what is available in Harrisburg.

Pittsburgh

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