

category. It is difficult to ignore the fact that the one essay with a blatant tone of being an afterthought is that of the close personal colleague of the editor of this volume².

Further tainting the impact of this collection is the fact that each of the essays refers to others in the same volume. For instance, Craig Robertson, in his "Mechanisms of Exclusion" writes 'the previous essays by Durba Ghosh and Jeff Sahadeo highlight other ways [...] Horacio Roque Ramirez's chapter provides a critical example [...]' (p. 69). It appears as if a stipulation to being published in this collection includes a passing mention of at least two other authors and *their* essays. Did the editor mail each of the essays to each of the authors so that these cross-references could be made prior to *Archive Stories* going to press? This peculiar practice is especially annoying when an essay is referenced out of order and has not yet been read.

The value of this collection lies primarily in its ability to enlighten the reader to the actual experiences researchers have within varying archives and in a few instances, to the singular personalities that have molded specific records. However, it is the reader's job to mine for the few useful gems in the collection.

Holly Stevens³

Guardians of Memory. Essays in remembrance of Hella Jean Bartolo Winston, [Rabat, Malta], National Archives of Malta, 2008, xxviii+474 p.

Guardians of Memory. Essays in remembrance of Hella Jean Bartolo Winston was edited in 2008 by Charles J. Farrugia from the National Archives of Malta and unfortunately it marks the passing away of one of the best specialists of the above mentioned organization.

Considering that scientific activity was a major concern for Hella Jean Bartolo Winston the editors thought that it would be proper and in conformity with her wish to edit a volume of studies and articles as a possibility for the people whom have known her to express their sorrow. This volume should also fill a *hiatus* of the Maltese archival theory.

Hella Jean Bartolo Winston became interested in records management after she graduated a training course in United States and obtained a Master's degree in Records and Archives Administration at University College in London.

She applied her expertise working at Central Bank of Malta or in her own company, the first of such locally managed company in Malta. She also was a deputy chair of the National Archives Advisory Committee, first president of Friends of the National Archives and a lecturer of records and archives management for the Diploma for Information Studies at the University of Malta or member of Maltese National

² Andrea Lynn, *Journal of Women's History finds new home at University of Illinois*. "News Bureau". Available from <http://www.news.uiuc.edu/NEWS/04/0830journal.html>. Internet; accessed March 24, 2008.

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Commission for UNESCO. She also was the first Maltese Archivist to become a member of the UK's Society of Archivists.

The volume contains four sections: Personal Reflections (p. 3-21); Exploring archival holdings (p. 25-154); Archives based historical research (155-306); The world of the Archivist (p. 307-442).

While the first section evokes the spirit of the one who passed away, the second section includes a study (p. 83-105) of Hella Jean Bartolo Winston entitled *A guide to selected records on Malta in the National Archives, UK*, which presents the richness of the archival material pertaining to the former colonies preserved by the Public Record Office from Kew, UK. Most part of the documents chosen to be presented was created by the Colonial Office and is systematized in a guide useful for the researches, following the British model.

The guide has three sections: *Administrative histories* (p. 88-94), containing a brief history of the departments from which the record emerge; *Class descriptions* (p. 95-100); *Alphabetical index for I and II* (p. 101-103).

In this section is also placed the study of Charles J. Farrugia, *Archival Sources for the study of the Role of Malta during the Second World War in UK repositories* (p. 107-119), which begins with a short presentation of Malta's political-administrative status before the Second World War, marked by the increased British influence.

Subsequently the author presents the main archival sources from UK pertaining to the role and participation of Malta in the world conflagration.

According to the importance we may distinguish The National Archives (ex-PRO), where several types of documents were identified. Among these:

- CO (Colonial Office) 258 – correspondence;
- CO 355- registers;
- ADM (Admiralty) 236 – naval information;
- ADM 237 – convoys;
- ADM 207 – Fleet Air Arm;
- CO 980 – the question of internees;

Important documents were traced at:

The Imperial War Museum: about 140 units containing journals or information on Operation Pedestal, the most important convoy providing supplies for Malta during the war.

The Photograph Archive: contains images pertaining to the Maltese war contribution and the British troops from the island.

At National Film and Television Archive we may find documentaries on Malta during the Second World War and life footage of visits, air raids, etc.

Also, the author is shortly presenting the information from: The Royal Commonwealth Society Association, The British Library (including The Newspaper Library), Post Office Archives and Record Centre, BBC Archives and many others, plus portals of a general nature.

Through his work, Charles J. Farrugia tried to offer a comprehensive image of different sources regarding Malta from that time which can be studied in all these archives and libraries from UK. The study may also be a useful guide for those unfamiliar to British archival sources.

The section also contains the studies signed by Michael Ellul (*Some rare Architectural Books at the National Library of Malta*, p. 25-33); Joseph Bezzina (*The major archives of Gozo*, p. 35-50); Noel d'Anastas *The Music Archives at the Gozo Cathedral*, p. 51-73); Joseph Cassar (*Fideicommissa and Ordinance No. 11 of 1868*, p. 75-82); Hella Jean Bartolo Winston (*A List of Thirty files on Malta from CO 926*, p. 121-136); and Frederick Cauchi Inglott (*Military Service Records of Maltese Soldiers into the British Army*, p. 137-154).

In the next section, *Archives based historical research*, we distinguish the article of George E. Camilleri, *19th Century dentists in Malta* (p. 237-251), where the author describes in detail the evolution and the status of a dentist, starting with physicians and surgeons, *bassi chirurghi*, barber surgeons, phlebotomists, tooth drawers, so called quacks and charlatans, etc.

According to the sources the author mentions the first dentists, the British-natives Thomson (1832) and Sparks (1833).

Shortly after this the first Maltese-native dentists, Antoine Isouard (1837) and Carlo Casolani (1838), are mentioned. Even so, the continental dentists are in majority and they frequently carried an advert stating in the local papers of that time. The author says that the first mention of the title of *surgeon dentist* is from an amendment to Police Laws 1874. At the beginning the dentists took their licenses for practice on the mainland, but there are evidences that after 1874 they obtained the licenses consequently to an examination by a govern commission and since 1901 by the University.

We salute Mr Camilleri's endeavor to bring to the historians' attention a subject seeming exotic and pertaining to social history which is considered necessary for an adequate perception on every historical period.

The articles: Maroma Camilleri (*The Chancery of the Order of St. John. 'Una delle officine più importanti del Nostro SAGR'Ordine'*, p. 157-191); Stanley Fiorini (*Medical practitioners in Malta: A freelance surgeon at Birkirkara in the early XVth century*, p. 193-206); William Zammit (*The order of St. John and its control over reading matter 1700-1798*, p. 207-235); Albert Ganado (*The origins of the records of the Comitato Generale Maltese*, p. 253-284); Henry Frendo (*1921 in Malta*, p. 285-294); Josephine Zammit (*The Central Bank of Malta's Numismatic Collection and Exhibition*, p. 295-306), are in the same section.

In the fourth section, *The world of the Archivist*, we may find the article of Gabriella Ivacs, *Reconnecting the past: The role of digitization in archives* (p. 405-412). Using few relevant examples she emphasizes on the massive role of internet in daily information, the positive and negative of *collective intelligence* (on one hand the mistakes that might sneak in Wikipedia, and on the other hand the anonymous contributions to the effort of digitalization of rare books within the CAPTCH program). The author asks herself how the Archives should react to this new environment where the education, the knowledge and the technology are so tidely connected.

It is obvious that they will need a new look, but if someone things that they are no longer useful one should only consider the guarantee of authenticity which the Archives could offer to an information in a virtual environment.

The personal expertise of the author gained at Open Society Archives within several projects as *1956 Digital Archives* support the opinion that digitizing paper records

is a necessity considering that the internet is for many of us a main source of information presenting the advantage of a huge capacity of dissemination but also the disadvantage of a less organized content and low credibility.

We may also find in this section the articles: Faustino Avagliano (*Mauro Iguanez: monaco ed archivista di Montecassino*, p. 309-334); Ann Williams (*'L-istorija ta' Malta: X' futur?' Thirty five years later*, p. 335-342); Theresa M. Vann (*The Malta Study Center 1995-2007*, p. 343-352); John Azzopardi (*A microfilming project by the Benedictines of Minnesota for Malta*, p. 353-390); Lillian Sciberras (*Malitensia in the Twenty First Century*, p. 391-404); Patrick Cadell (*Lonely but not necessarily alone: archivists and international co-operation*, p. 413-421); Victoria Borg O'Flaherty (*Establishing a Context: Archives in St Kitts, West Indies*, p. 423-433); Joseph Schirò (*Guilty of Omission or Commission?*, p. 435-442).

At the end the paper has an index (p. 463 ff.), tool which is added to the various contents in order to accomplish this substantial volume.

Radu Stancu

Florentina Nițu, Științe auxiliare. Geografie și demografie istorică. Numismatică și arheologie [Sciences auxiliaires. Géographie et démographie historique. Numismatique et archéologie], Bucarest, Ministerul Educației și Cercetării, 2005, 134 p.

En 2005, le Ministère de l'Éducation et Recherche a initié un projet pour l'enseignement rural dans incluant un programme post-universitaire de conversion professionnelle pour le corps professoral du milieu rural. Dans le cadre de ce Programme on a publié/édité un manuel de "Sciences auxiliaires. Géographie et démographie historique. Numismatique et archéologie" dont l'auteur est Florentina Nițu, docteur en histoire et maître de conférence à la Faculté d'Histoire de l'Université de Bucarest.

Le manuel comprends six chapitres ou unités de contenu: introduction; sciences auxiliaires: définitions et classifications; sciences auxiliaires principales et sciences de frontière / marginales; sciences auxiliaires secondaires spécifiques à la recherche dans les archives; sciences auxiliaires mineures spécifiques à la recherche dans les musées. L'auteur précise dans l'introduction que le manuel est structuré de telle manière afin de couvrir la plupart des éléments qui se retrouvent dans l'enseignement de l'histoire à la secondaire et aussi les approches thématiques et méthodologiques les plus récentes dans le domaine. Le cours est structuré par thèmes assurant l'acquisition de connaissances qui aident le stagiaire à se faire une image d'ensemble sur les instruments de travail spécifiques aux sciences auxiliaires de l'histoire (p. 1).

L'organisation du manuel suit le principe de la relevance scientifique, c'est-à-dire la sélection des thèmes qui ont la plus grande relevance pour l'ensemble des sciences auxiliaires et le principe de la mise en accord avec le curriculum obligatoire et le curriculum prévisionnel.

L'ouvrage bénéficie d'une structure conforme aux exigences méthodologiques, comprenant des définitions et des explications détaillées et des travaux pratiques, testes