

much information about books that the individual codex becomes lost.

For instance, because the catalogue places such weight on texts, it does not treat the *illustrated* codex in an integrated fashion. The separation of identifications of text from subjects for images within the catalogue may reflect traditional disciplinary divisions (literary history versus art history), but it violates the experience that a reader turning the pages of an illustrated book has. Pictures are embedded in texts, and modern researchers like medieval readers before them, need to understand their relation. Shailor's identification of subjects for illustration is buried among the physical description in close proximity to analyses of artistic style, as though that were the primary information one would wish to know about pictures. I suspect that it would have been more useful to the general reader of the volume if the identification of subjects for illustration had been integrated into the description of the text so that readers could easily see how pictures focus attention on particular texts, either reinforcing or, in fewer cases, rearranging the reader's experience of the written word. Such concerns are no longer simply the focus of art historians; increasingly historians and literary theorists are taking illustration of individual manuscripts into account when interpreting the text.

My few criticisms about the treatment of visual material in Shailor's catalogue should not detract from its value. This book is a solid piece of scholarship which attempts to introduce the Beinecke collection to a broad audience. Its thorough catalogue entries provide a wealth of information that scholars will mine for many years.—Anne D. Hedeman, *School of Art & Design, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*.

Preservation Microfilming: A Guide for Librarians and Archivists. Ed. by Nancy Gwinn for the Association of Research Libraries. Chicago: American Library Assn., 1987. 212p. \$40 (ISBN 0-8389-0481-5). LC 87-10020.

As preservation is becoming recognized as an important function of libraries and

archives, microfilming is assuming a role as an integral part of preservation in a growing number of institutions. *Preservation Microfilming: A Guide for Librarians and Archivists* fills an important gap in library and archival literature by providing an excellent in-depth introduction to the subject. Heretofore it was difficult to obtain a good overview of preservation microfilming. *Preservation Microfilming* pulls together and integrates information that was only available before from a variety of sources, and it contributes new information as well.

Preservation Microfilming achieves its purpose and scope as they are set forth in the preface:

You can approach this book in many ways; as an overview of the whole process of preservation microfilming, as a detailed—but not exhaustive—guide to each step of the operation, as a reference book to other documents or programs to meet your specific needs, as a fact book, as a checklist, as a place to find sample forms or photos—in short, as a helper to keep right behind your desk. Read it through, then go back as needed for specific facts and referrals. You won't find in detail every procedure that you will require—many of them must mesh with local priorities and conditions—but the critical issues are all covered. We hope the book will end up being well-thumbed.

Preservation Microfilming is the work of several people. Different authors wrote the first drafts of the chapters; these cover all phases of preservation microfilming, from the selection of materials for microfilming to the bibliographic control of microforms. The first chapter presents an overview of administrative decisions and serves as "an extended abstract of the entire manual." Rigorous editing has minimized the overlap from chapter to chapter, and the careful attention of many reviewers has ensured the accuracy of the information presented.

One of the most impressive things about *Preservation Microfilming* is the emphasis maintained throughout on placing microfilming within the broader contexts of the preservation program, the institution, and the national agenda. This treatment begins with the introduction, which provides a historical context and examines the

environment in which local microfilming programs operate, and is continued in all the chapters. For instance, the chapter on selection of materials for microfilming stresses the variety of options that exist in a comprehensive preservation program and defines microfilming's niche within such a program. The afterword points out the need for preservation microfilming to be given the same attention as other critical library or archival functions.

This is not to say that *Preservation Microfilming* emphasizes the theoretical at the expense of the practical. For example, the manual can serve as a checklist to ensure no important step or consideration in a microfilming program is being omitted. It can guide a reader through the decision making required for preservation microfilming, including how to determine when microfilming is the best preservation option. It can help a reader become a more effective advocate of microfilming within the organization and better understand his or her responsibilities vis-à-vis those of curators and bibliographers, scholars and faculty members, conserva-

tors, and catalogers. Finally, in addition to providing answers, the book suggests what questions should be asked in order to build a preservation microfilming program consonant with the goals and procedures of the institution.

The book's clear organization; excellent index; and abundant references, footnotes, and lists of suggested readings make it useful as a reference manual. The appendixes contain citations to published standards and specifications and information on how to obtain them, a sample contract for microfilming services, a glossary, and a listing of institutions and organizations that can be contacted for more advice.

The authors and editor of this volume deserve to be congratulated for the clear and thorough way in which they have captured the issues and steps involved in preservation microfilming. *Preservation Microfilming: A Guide for Librarians and Archivists* is already well on its way to becoming a classic in the field.—Connie Brooks, *Stanford University Libraries, Stanford, California*.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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- American Short Story Writers, 1880-1910*. Dictionary of Literary Biography, V.78. Ed. by Bobby Ellen Kimbel. Detroit: Gale, 1989. 402p. \$98. (ISBN 0-8103-4556-0). LC 88-30994.
- Audiovisuals*. Ed. by Malcolm H. Brantz and Lynn White. Farmington: Lyman Maynard Stowe Library, Univ. of Connecticut Health Center, 1988. 430p. \$28.
- Bell, Arthur H. *Complete Manager's Guide to Interviewing*. Homewood, Ill.: Dow-Jones-Irwin, 1989. 206p. \$24.95 (ISBN 1-55623-109-1). LC 88-29963.
- Books to Help Children Cope with Separation and Loss*. V.3. Ed. by Joanne E. Bernstein and Masha K. Rudman. New York: Bowker, 1989. 532p. \$37.95 (ISBN 0-8352-2510-0). LC 88-7591.
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- Classical Sparta: Techniques Behind Her Success*. Ed. by Anton Powell. Norman: Univ. of Oklahoma Pr., 1989. 210p. \$32.50 (ISBN 0-8061-2177-7). LC 88-20748.
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- Consultants and Consulting Organizations Directory*. Ed. by Janice McLean. Detroit: Gale, 1988. 2,727p. 2v. \$380/set (ISBN 0-8103-2231-5).
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