

Archival Materials

A. Public Archives of Canada

The Public Archives of Canada is heavily involved in various microfilming projects using portions of their own extensive holdings. These projects have two basic goals: (a) to provide source material for researchers and the general public in a readily useable and renewable form while protecting the original documents; (b) to allow greater dissemination of valuable Canadian source materials. Accordingly, microform copies of some of their collections are deposited in various Provincial Archives.

The Public Archives is not in the business of selling microforms. As a non-commercial source they do not produce a catalogue of their microform collections, nor do they have a price list. A complete title list cannot readily be produced.

Nevertheless, discussions with senior Public Archives staff reveal that most of the material which has been microformed by them is available for sale, particularly to institutions. A number of their collections are available from Micromedia Ltd. For all other collections it is suggested that contact be made directly to the Public Archives of Canada.

Many of the materials microformed by the P.A.C. are important source documents which would support both teaching and research in many of the programmes of the Canadian Studies Abroad Programme. Of particular interest are the collections of Prime Ministers' papers which have been a primary source for much Canadian graduate research in numerous fields.

The project, currently in progress, of microfiching in colour the Canadian Picture Collection is certainly significant. When completed it would allow any library to hold a set of colour fiche, arranged by artist, of Canada's