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Red, White, and Boolean: Electronic Resources for American History

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC ESSAY

Red, White, and Boolean: Electronic Resources for American History

BY BETH JUHL

A quarter century ago, Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie predicted that "the historian of tomorrow will be a programmer or he will be nothing."[1] Although the French social historian was no doubt referring to the vogue for the quantitative methodology of the time, he anticipated the increased integration of computing technology into the humanistic disciplines. Far from the lab-coated, number-crunching programmers Ladurie predicts, historians now need little more technical ability that hunt-and-peck typing or point-and-click mousing to use, teach, or even produce an astonishing array of electronic texts, journals, and digital image or sound collections.

Less than a decade ago, the Library of Congress began planning to distribute materials on videodisc and online to students in classrooms throughout the country through the American Memory Project.[2] At the same time, SilverPlatter and H.W. Wilson released the first CD-ROM versions of popular indexing and abstracting tools. A small electronic publisher, Wordcruncher, began distributing a collection of Constitutional documents and *The Federalist Papers* accompanied by their own concordance software.[3] And at Carnegie Mellon, David Miller and John Modell first taught a class using their *Great American History Machine* software that allowed students to map, graph, and analyze historical census and election data.[4]

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Today, students can access the American Memory Project as well as indexes, abstracts and even full text of journal articles, electronic text corpora of varying comprehensiveness and trustworthiness, and historical statistical data from any computer with an Internet connection. It is not programming skills but time-management techniques that historians and librarians now need in order to sift the number and variety of electronic resources for reference, research, and teaching in American history.

This article will attempt to corral the virtual wild West of Web sites and CD-ROMs currently available. In such a rough and tumble environment of publisher shoot-outs and technological twisters, it is impossible to be comprehensive. Instead, this essay attempts to discuss the most representative and outstanding examples in several broad categories. Among the items below are some databases that cost many thousands of dollars a year and a great many that are free. Cost is not necessarily directly proportional to quality, however, and the criteria most selectors will use in evaluating these and other electronic products are not very different from those they employed in the past: ease of access and use, comprehensiveness and authoritativeness, and the importance of the subject area to institutional programs and curricula. The ability to deliver Web-based products outside the libraries and campuses must also be measured against the comparative speed and dependability of a stand-alone CD-ROM. For either format, selectors must consider, together with the service and support issues inherent in any computerized resource, how willing the teaching faculty are to make use of new technologies and to incorporate them into their classes. At more than $16,000, *HarpWeek* is painfully expensive and beyond the reach of many college library budgets. However, if several faculty feel strongly about using this pathbreaking collection in their large survey classes, the cost will amortize out in a few years to little more than the cost of one university press book per student. If, on the other hand, selectors purchase the latest electronic resources for their gee-whiz factor alone, they are wasting precious funds that might be better spent on core monographs and journals. One library's prize bull will be another's bum steer; this article, one hopes, will assist selectors in culling the latter from the former.

Secondary Literature: From Indexes to E-Journals

ABC-CLIO has established itself as the premier indexing and abstracting source for history, and the *America: History and Life on Disc* (53) database is an essential tool for any serious researcher in the field. Indeed, *AHL*'s comprehensive coverage of articles, books, book reviews, and dissertations on all periods and fields of US and Canadian studies have made the CD-ROM version of the database so welcome that librarians and researchers have been willing to overlook a few search interface flaws and the initial lack of retrospective coverage. Since its original release, CD-ROM coverage by *AHL* has been extended back to 1964. However, the search software still runs under DOS and novice searchers still find the use of commas to mean "or," the use of the F10 key to reach pull-down menus, and the distinction between "subject" (really keyword) and "descriptor" (really subject heading) confus-

ing. Although ABC-CLIO has no plans to convert the CD-ROM to Windows, a Web version, planned for 1998, will provide both a friendlier search interface consistent with other Web-based indexes and easy access from outside the library.

Access to *America: History and Life* is vital for graduate students or faculty conducting a thorough literature search, but for beginning undergraduates, the number of citations retrieved on any particular topic can prove overwhelming. For them, *Wilson Humanities Abstracts* (**91**) provides a successful first stop for interdisciplinary coverage of more than 400 English-language journals, such as *Agricultural History* or *Labor History*. Librarians appreciate the wide variety of formats they can choose from to make *Humanities Index* available to students, from CD-ROMs produced by SilverPlatter to OCLC's FirstSearch system to the new WilsonWeb service. Students are even more enthusiastic about the abstracts, added to the database in 1994, and more recently, selected full text from 1995 forward.

At the other end of the scholarly spectrum, advanced researchers now have more options than ever for searching *Arts and Humanities Citation Index* (**58**). Although difficult to use for subject searching, both because of the imprecise terminology of the humanities and the lack of specific subject headings, the Institute for Scientific Information's citation indexes provide unique access to the "footnote trail." *AHCI* can prove invaluable in historiographical or interdisciplinary studies. *AHCI* is now available back to 1975 on ISI's cumulative CD-ROM edition and back to 1980 from OCLC's FirstSearch service. Searchers lose some functionality in the FirstSearch version (such as the ability to follow related references without entering a new search) but may be willing to exchange the more elegant interface for the low per-search price and easy remote access. ISI's new "Web of Science" product also offers networked access to all their databases, as well as a document delivery service.

CARL's *UnCoverWeb* (**47**) offers free searching of the tables of contents for more than 17,000 magazines and journals, but searching is by keyword in article and journal title only, making this source of limited value in subject searching for most historians. Researchers may find that *UnCoverWeb* is an excellent current awareness source. One can either browse the current issues of journals in particular disciplines or subscribe (for a fee) to the UnCover Reveal service that e-mails tables of contents for up to 50 journals as each issue is received.

Scholars soon recognized that ... e-mail and discussion lists provided a natural medium for book reviews.

Indexing and abstracting are all very well but hardly students' or scholars' dreams of having articles delivered directly to their desktops. Several major historical societies, including the American Historical Association (**4**) and the Organization of American Historians (**40**), have a presence on the Internet, but the content is limited. The AHA provides much of the text of its monthly newsletter, *Perspectives* (minus the job ads), back to 1995/96, along with truncated versions of its publications such as *Directory of History Departments and Organizations*, but only table of contents and the occasional selected article is available from *American Historical Review*. Similarly, the OAH provides information about and selected articles from the current issue of its *Journal of American History*, as well as a ten-year index to *Magazine of History* and the full text of its *Newsletter* back to 1995. Both efforts are welcome but hardly satisfy the researcher's need for journal literature online.

Scholarly societies and commercial publishers continue to experiment with delivery mechanisms and pricing structures for electronic journals, but one of the first projects is already a winner. Johns Hopkins University Press's *Project MUSE* (**44**) offers the searchable full text and images from more than 40 of the Press's journals from 1995/96 to the present. Titles available through *Project MUSE* include *American Jewish History*, *American Quarterly*, *Eighteenth Century Studies*, and, especially useful in an online format, *Reviews in American History*. JHU Press is to be praised for their pleasant, easy to navigate interface as well as the reasonable pricing for *Project MUSE* subscriptions, with campus-wide or single titles subscriptions available and deep discounts for those institutions choosing to receive both print and electronic formats. Less affordable for most libraries is *JSTOR* (**31**). A consortial project funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, JSTOR aims to digitize back runs of 100 core journals, including *William and Mary Quarterly* (1892-1991), *Journal of Military History* (1937-1992), *Journal of American History* (1914-1990), and *American Historical Review* (1895-1989). *JSTOR* aims to become a "trusted archive," and the by-product of this impressive storage and preservation effort will be easy browsing and searching through deep runs of significant journal collections.

Not every institution has access to *Reviews in American History* via Project MUSE, but other reviewing sources are available on the Web. Scholars soon recognized that the immediacy and conversational tone of e-mail and discussion lists provided a natural medium for book reviews; one of the first electronic journals in the humanities was *Bryn Mawr Classical Review*. The *H-Net Reviews* site (**29**) has collected and posted in one alphabetical list several hundred reviews and responses, mostly from 1996-97, from the various H-Net discussion lists, such as H-South, H-Rural, and others. Reviews are searchable by author, book title, reviewer, H-list, and subject. *History Reviews Online* (**28**), originally housed at the University of Cincinnati and now at De Pauw, has published three issues a year since 1995. *History Reviews Online* includes many review essays of Internet resources as well as books. Another good source for reviews of computer applications is *Histo-*

ry Computer Reviews (formerly *History Microcomputer Review*), (27) available via the Web site of the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University.

Reference Sources: Encyclopedias, Biographies, Almanacs, and Statistics

For those who spend their days working in the library, many CD-ROM and online reference resources can seem superfluous if not downright unwieldy. In the time it takes to boot up a CD-ROM or connect to a Web page, a good print collection can answer most ready reference queries. Few students and faculty, however, have the luxury of living surrounded by encyclopedias and almanacs, and even a dedicated reference librarian finds nothing so useful as a quick Web search from home to settle a late night wager. Beyond the convenience of 24-hour access to networked resources, even standalone CD-ROM titles can provide searching, printing, and downloading features that make the overhead of mounting, learning, and maintaining them worthwhile. One such recent title is Facts on File's *The American Indian: A Multimedia Encyclopedia* (**55**). Containing the full text of several Facts on File reference titles, including *The Encyclopedia of Native American Religions* (1992), *The Encyclopedia of Native American Tribes* (1988), and Carl Waldman's *Who Was Who in Native American History* (1990), this disc allows students to choose from opening menu topics such as "tribes," "folklore," "biography," or to search for keywords throughout. In addition to more than 800 photographs and illustrations, *The American Indian* offers more than 50 maps, a chronology, a glossary, and a directory of organizations. Like many Facts on File publications, the reading level is more appropriate for high school students or lower-division undergraduates than for advanced researchers but, until the Smithsonian's *Handbook of North American Indians* is online (or at least complete in paper), this is an excellent all-in-one resource for any college collection. Somewhat less engaging is *The Encyclopedia of the American Constitution* (**73**), which is basically an electronic version of Scribner's excellent print resource (1986). Other than the ability to follow hypertext links for concepts, names, and cases, and to search the full text of encyclopedia entries and the Constitution itself, this CD-ROM has little to offer beyond the print version, which has an excellent index.

Scribner/Macmillan has a much better-conceived and executed product in their brand new *Dictionary of American Biography on CD-ROM* (**69**). What a treat it is to be able to browse through the 19,000 biographical essays from the original 20-volume set and supplements 1-10 of this reference classic. Even though much of the information in *DAB* will be amended and updated by the forthcoming *American National Biography* from Oxford, the ability to search by keyword, occupation, birthplace, and birth or death year will make this CD-ROM invaluable for most reference collections. *DAB* features a search interface that uses Netscape 4.0, whose "look and feel" resemble a Web browser; it will no doubt prove popular with students, who quickly grow impatient with any electronic resource that is not as easy to use and search as the average Web engine. Hot links throughout the essays allow one to jump to related entries; one only wishes the publisher had considered adding some portraits, but that is a small quibble, given the quality and number of the essays included. ABC-CLIO has announced a much more limited *American Leaders CD-ROM* for 1998 (**57**), which will include only 1,200 biographies. How does one find historical figures omitted from *DAB* but most likely profiled in some of the other biographical sources owned by the library? Gale's *Biography and Genealogy Master Index CD-ROM* (**59**) provides a quick and easy "meta index" for hundreds of biographical collections by allowing one to search by name, place, or occupation.

Several electronic biographical sources emphasize specific time periods or topics. *Encyclopedia of Frontier Biography* (**72**) on CD-ROM allows users to search Dan Thrapp's exhaustive four-volume compilation of more than 5,700 entries by name, keyword, or categories such as occupations or ethnic group. University of Nebraska Press has also added 270 portraits to the original text. A recent, and welcome, addition to the Chadwyck-Healey databases available on the Web is *African American Biographical Database (AABD)* (**1**). Drawing on the rich and sometimes rare materials indexed and published on microfiche in Chadwyck's *Black Biographical Dictionaries: 1790-1950* (1987), this database offers biographical or directory information for more than 30,000 persons from historical compilations, yearbooks, and church registries. *AABD* presents the full text from the microform set, adding illustrations and allowing searching by name, place of birth, birth or death date, occupation, and religion. Chadwyck plans to increase the database to more than 40,000 entries by the end of 1998. Because it includes the full text of so many ephemeral and obscure resources, *AABD* would be a useful addition to any collection supporting research in African American history.

Genealogists use the various manuscript census schedules as a matter of course, but many history students may never encounter this sort of historical document unless they find themselves working in local history or related studies. Various indexing and digitization projects used in the Family History Centers of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints now provide fast searching of personal names in census, Social Security, and other federal records, as well as state and local birth, death, and marriage records. Broderbund software now distributes many of these indexes as inexpensive CD-ROMs with their *Family Tree Maker Index* (**75**) genealogical software. Although the Family Tree Maker software is not an obvious purchase for any academic library, those institutions owning manuscript census microfilms or extensive local history collections may want to visit Broderbund's home page to view some of the titles that are available. One bargain is an 11-disc CD-ROM set listing last and first names, soundex codes, state, county, locality, year, and census page numbers for

more than 31 million names from the 1790-1880 censuses—all for less than $200. Broderbund's home page also offers a searchable name index to all their CD-ROM titles.

On the Internet, one can find hundreds of other sites promising biographical information, but where can one locate authoritative and reliable information without plowing through 10,000 or more AltaVista hits? Campuses that have chosen to subscribe to *Britannica Online* (**14**) will find there more than 23,000 entries in "Britannica's Lives," a fun interface to the biographical articles that allows one to browse entries by birth or death day or year. Probably the most comprehensive free biographical site is that of the Arts and Entertainment Television series *Biography* (**12**). It offers, in addition to feature stories from the series, a database of more than 20,000 sketches drawn from David Crystal's *Cambridge Biographical Encyclopedia* (1994). Even here, one must watch for some errors or typos (e.g., Meriwether Lewis was born in "Charlotteville," [sic] Virginia). A much more specialized biographical source is *Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System*(**16**) from the National Park Service. Planning eventually to provide a name index and basic regiment and battle information, this database currently offers approximately 230,000 entries for black troops.

One can find biographical information in MIT graduate student Charles Isbell's *Black History Database* (**13**), but its chief purpose is to provide a searchable chronology of significant events in African American history, with links to related internet sites. *The History Channel* (**27**), *The Discovery Channel Online* (**18**), and *PBS Online* (**43**) all offer this sort of "Today in History" feature, with *PBS* providing historical information in greatest depth in modules devoted to particular documentaries from *The American Experience* series, Ken Burns films, or other programming. Like PBS Online, Dorling Kindersley's publications are intended for a general rather than academic audience, but their clean, bright graphics and illustrations make them an irresistible if slightly guilty pleasure. DK's *Chronicle of the 20th Century* CD-ROM (**62**), modeled on the book of the same name (1994), offers more than 3,000 photos, plus several dozen audio and video clips, presented in a day-by-day newspaper format. Users can also go online to visit the *Chronicle* Web site to keep their material up to date, but the lack of any free-text searching makes this CD-ROM a candidate for the home, rather than reference, collection.

Perhaps as far as one can travel from the frivolity of DK's *Chronicle* is the sober Cambridge University Press version of that reference standby *Historical Statistics of the United States on CD-ROM* (**80**). Cambridge has produced all the chapters and tables from the 1976 version in its "Electronic Book" format, which allows full Boolean and proximity searching of chapter and table headings, sources and footnotes, and narrative sections. The search feature adds limited value over the print format, which is well-indexed, but scholars will find the ability to export tabular data to Lotus 1-2-3 and other spreadsheet software a real bonus. *The Great American History Machine* (**78**) contains much of the same information in county level maps, with presidential and congressional elections also included. For those new to statistical terminology and concepts (e.g., "break points" or "frequency distribution"), this program will take some time to learn to use successfully. However, *GAHM* was designed to allow undergraduate students to manipulate and compare historical statistics and, once students master the finer points of map plotting and histogram interpretation, they will enjoy this "hands-on history lesson." Much easier to use is *Historical, Social, Economic, and Demographic Data from the U.S. Decennial Census* (**24**), county-level data from the 1790-1860 censuses made available on the Internet through Harvard University's Instructional Computing Group. This site could not be easier to use; one simply selects population, education level, income, or other variables, chooses to view state or county-level information, and—shazam!—a table appears. These extremely useful data are augmented by an introductory essay explaining the history of the census; the site belongs in the bookmarks of any historian of the antebellum period. Although they do not contain nearly the same level of statistical data as can be found in *The Great American History Machine*, both the University of Oregon's *OSSHE Historical and Cultural Atlas Resource* (**41**) and *American Studies @ The University of Virginia* (**6**) offer map series tracing territorial expansion, sectional conflict, slavery, and other topics.

CD-ROM titles can provide ... features that make the overhead of mounting, learning, and maintaining them worthwhile.

One new publication that straddles the categories of reference tool and primary resource is Guild Press's *Civil War CD-ROM* (**65**). This disk must be one of the best buys in any publishing medium, since it contains not only all 127 volumes of *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies,* but also Frederick H. Dyer's *Compendium of the War of the Rebellion*, William Fox's *Regimental Losses of the American Civil War*, *Military Operations of the Civil War*, and Alan and Barbara Aimone's *User's Guide to the Official Records*. From the opening screen, users can choose to browse through a particular text, but most will prefer to search through all texts for a particular keyword, name, or place. A quick search on "Custer," for example, instantly yielded more than 300 hits; perhaps half that number could have been located by laborious review of the various printed indexes by name, regiment, or battle. Although the search feature does not display the total number of hits found or allow printing of just the short citation list, at this price, one can't complain.

From Reference to Research: Catalogs of Primary Materials

Surely one of the greatest gifts of information technology to students of history is the power to search by subject or title keyword through massive catalogs of printed publications and manuscripts from other eras. Even with the inherent imprecision of searching historical titles, the ability to limit by date, language, and other criteria in most online catalogs finds prizes that printed bibliographies and card catalogs would never yield. Most academic libraries offer end-user or mediated searching of either the RLIN or the OCLC bibliographic utilities, and the more recent records of the Library of Congress catalogs can be searched from LC's Web page (**32**), but several specialized CD-ROM titles provide fast, convenient searching of specialized collections along temporal or topical lines. Many of these catalogs index titles in major microform sets and, for libraries owning those sets, the CD-ROM format may be a less expensive (if less "transparent") means of providing access to those collections than purchasing or inputting cataloging records into the local online catalog. For US history, probably the most useful of these databases are *Catalogue of Early American Imprints* (**61**), which corresponds to the Evans series (1640-1800) of the Readex collection; *The Sabin Collection Catalog* (**89**), listing more than 14,000 titles from Joseph Sabin's *Bibliotheca Americana*, covering both US imprints and books about the US from the 15th through the 19th centuries; and *Goldsmiths'-Kress Library of Economic Literature Catalog* (77), which lists approximately 60,000 British and US monographs and 500 serials, primarily published in the 18th and 19th centuries in the fields of economics, agriculture, politics, and commerce. Although they list for the most part works from Great Britain, both *Wing's Short-Title Catalog, 1641-1700* (**92**) and *English Short-Title Catalogue on CD-ROM, 1473-1800* (**74**) offer many titles for the student of Colonial America and Anglo-American culture, since they attempt to record all books printed in English on either side of the Atlantic. The *Nineteenth Century Short Title Catalogue* project (**85**) has the admirable aim of continuing this universal bibliography through the age of mechanized printing. However, at these steep prices, libraries that have not already invested in the earlier printed version of *NSTC* may wish to consult either RLIN or OCLC as less costly alternatives. Two premier subject collections, the New York Public Library's Schomberg Center for Research in Black Culture and Radcliffe's Schlesinger Library of the History of Women in America, offer CD-ROM versions of their catalogs. *Black Studies on Disc* (**60**) includes both catalog records and citations from the *Index to Periodical Articles by and about Blacks* series, while *Women in the U.S.* (**93**) provides one convenient search interface for both published and manuscript collections.

Of course, the most authoritative catalog of manuscript collections throughout the US has long been *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections* (**36**). Through the Library of Congress Web page, one can run a search of the more recent NUCMC records in RLIN's Archives and Manuscripts file. Chadwyck-Healey's *ArchivesUSA* (**9**) database offers the full NUCMC online—more than 75,000 collection-level records—in addition to an updated version (with e-mail and URL addresses) of *Directory of Archive and Manuscript Repositories in the United States* (1988). But the real boon of the ArchivesUSA database will be the inclusion, over time, of digitized finding aids from Chadwyck's *National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United States* (*NIDS*) microform set. Although the database already includes more than 42,000 collection-level records from the NIDS indexes, the added finding aids will revolutionize remote access to manuscript materials at the piece level. In the meantime, special collections all over the country are mounting collection descriptions, finding aids, and even digitized collections on the Web; an excellent gateway and guide to manuscript collections on the Internet is Sarah Spurgin Witte's *Archives and Manuscripts Collections outside Columbia* (**8**) page at Columbia University.

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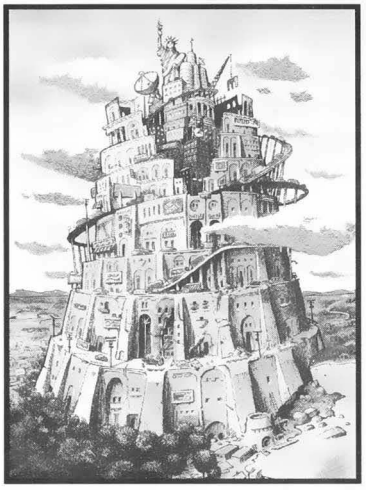

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Like the *NIDS* finding aids collection, the *Congressional Masterfile 1789-1969* (**67**) database from Congressional Information Service is unique. Containing records from various printed CIS publications, *Congressional Masterfile I* (1789-1969) indexes House and Senate documents from the cumulated Serial Set, as well as published and unpublished committee hearings, committee prints, and Senate executive documents. Since so many executive agency and departmental reports in the 19th and early 20th centuries were printed in the Serial Set as House or Senate documents, this CD-ROM acts as a cumulative index to almost 200 years of historical government publications. Libraries that have the Serial Set and the funds will find that the *Congressional Masterfile I* disc improves the understanding and increases the use of older government publications. For archival, as opposed to printed, federal records, the National Archives and Records Administration offers both *Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives* and the NARA Archival Information Locator (NAIL) on their home page (**35**), as well as links to various presidential libraries. Although the NAIL database is far from complete, it can be used to locate records by subject, in particular formats (e.g., photographs, maps, or film), or from specific agencies.

One of the greatest gifts of information technology ... is the power to search by subject or title keyword through massive catalogs.

There are numerous catalogs, or more often gateways with links, to electronic texts on the Internet. *ALEX* (**2**), an early effort originally in gopher format, migrated to a Web version and then, unfortunately, was suspended because of lack of funding. Although it does not generally index documents of less than book length, *The On-Line Books Page* (**39**) at Carnegie Mellon provides more than 5,000 links to accurate English-language texts, including many titles of interest to historians.

Primary Periodical Literature: Indexing and Full Text

Until very recently, researchers who make use of the rich periodical and newspaper literature of the 18th and 19th centuries could only look with envy at the proliferation of electronic indexes for contemporary secondary literature. Any student who has, for example, researched postbellum attitudes towards China and Chinese immigration or newspaper coverage of the War of 1812 knows the sensation of being surrounded by volumes of *Poole's* or reels of microfilm. In 1990, Don Baumgartner founded Computer Indexed Systems in an effort to make the University Microfilms collection *American Periodicals Series* more accessible to all levels of researcher. The latest version of his *Index to American Periodicals of the 1700's and 1800's* (**81**) contains more than a million citations, indexing all titles in the APS I series (1700-1800) and bringing the coverage through reel 535 of the APS II series (1800-50) and through reel 102 of the APS III series (1850-1900); regular updates add approximately 50,000 new citations with each release. Users can search by keyword in title, browse through word lists, or limit searches to specific journals and date ranges. The *Index* attempts to regularize spelling of names and adds occasional enriched subtitles, though it really provides keyword-in-title access, not a controlled search vocabulary. Although the search interface and display and printing functions take a few minutes to master, users soon find that they can perform complex searches using Boolean logic and truncation to locate articles that are almost impossible to find in Poole's printed index; one looks forward to the planned Web version of this database.

Chadwyck-Healey's *Periodical Contents Index* (**87**) covers both European and US periodicals,1770/71-1990/91, with an emphasis on scholarly and literary journals. *PCI* is available in CD-ROM, Web, and magnetic tape versions; on the Web version, the fill-in-the-blank search screen is especially easy to use. However, as Robert H. Kieft noted in his review (CH, Apr'97), *PCI* suffers from a lack of descriptive subject headings: broad subject headings (e.g., "humanities") are added to entire journals but not to individual articles. By contrast, from the founding of the *Weekly Register* in 1811, Hezekiah Niles and the editors who succeeded him compiled a detailed index of the persons, places, issues, and events discussed in what was essentially the nation's first national journal. Jack Nagy's Accessible Archives has enhanced the original 19th-century indexes by regularizing entries and the sometimes "bizarre and idiosyncratic subject headings." The resulting CD-ROM version of *Niles' Register Cumulative Index, 1811-1849* (**84**) offers fast, simple searching for much of the antebellum period. Because *Poole's* indexed only a small number of *Niles Register* volumes, this disc should be considered by any library that owns the complete run of the journal.

Accessible Archives has made the thoughtful publication of original newspaper sources in electronic formats into something of a mission. One of their earliest titles, a CD-ROM version of the *Pennsylvania Gazette* (**86**), provided full text searching of transcribed stories, as well as images of those stories from the printed paper, for the most widely distributed Colonial-era newspaper. Soon to be complete in four disks, covering 1728-1800 (Folio IV, 1784-1800, will also include *The Federalist* papers and other early national documents), each disk offers both free-text searching and 20-30 broad subject categories, such as "Native Americans" or "Crime." The *Pennsylvania Gazette* is a superb tool to introduce students to the use of primary documents. Its only drawback as a research tool is the omission of some categories of reporting—such as the reprinted news from London—and the lack of a mechanism to view entire composited pages and thus see the relationship of articles to one another in the original newspaper. *The Civil War: A Newspaper Perspective* (**64**) has the same disadvantages; it includes more than 11,000 transcribed articles about the war selected from the *Charleston Mercury, New York Herald*, and *Richmond Enquirer*, together with some 700 battlefield maps and illustrations. Accessible Archives's newest project, *African-American Newspapers: The 19th Century*

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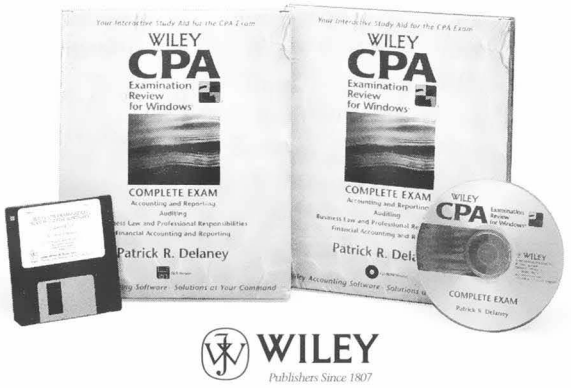

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(52), will offer the complete, fully searchable text from more than 50 newspapers, but no images. This series will excite students and scholars, whether or not their institutions already own some of these titles on microform. The first disc contains *The Freedman's Journal* (1827-30), *Colored American* (1827-40), *National Era* (1847-48), and Frederick Douglass's *North Star* (1847-49). Scholarly Press and Accessible Archives have recently announced a Web-based subscription service <http://www.accessible.com/> that offers combined access to all these and other periodical collections (transcribed text, but not page images). Depending, as always, on Internet traffic, searching the *Pennsylvania Gazette* combined with other papers takes only a few seconds, and the individual subscription rate is a real bargain for scholars whose institutions may not be able to afford a campus-wide subscription.

At almost $17,000, no one could call *HarpWeek: The Civil War Era, 1857-1865* (79) a real bargain. Yet it is the most fully realized marriage of technology and primary text to date. *Harper's Weekly*, with its wood engravings of Civil War battle scenes, Matthew Brady portraits, and Thomas Nast cartoons, combined with news reporting, editorials, biographical profiles, sheet music, literature, and (particularly fascinating for those studying popular culture and the domestic arts) advertisements, was the "multimedia" of its day. Rather than providing simple keyword access to text and image captions, the editors of *HarpWeek* have chosen the intensely laborious route of careful subject indexing for the more than 7,000 pages of this initial installment. (A second volume, covering the Reconstruction era, is in development). The result allows extremely precise searching by topic or name, place, occupation, time period, and literary genre of both text and images; for example, one can search for illustrations by artist or topic ("cartoons about women's clothing") and for advertisements by product, manufacturer, or brand name. Indexing terms point to full page images, which can be viewed as thumbnail or full screen, with zoom capability. The images are incredibly sharp (and much easier to work with than smeary microfilm or crumbling paper) and can be printed, downloaded, or saved for incorporation into software presentations. *HarpWeek* is simply thrilling to use; it is a product that will offer new possibilities in teaching, as well as for research. Libraries that can make the capital and equipment investment (and who have faculty willing to invest their own energy and effort in incorporating such a tool into their teaching) will see its use extend beyond the History Department into disciplines from art and architecture to women's studies.

Text and Image: Collections and Archives

Almost three generations of faculty and students have consulted H.S. Commager's *Documents of American History* (1st edition, 1934) as a convenient compendium of the central texts of our past. Facts on File's

CD-ROM *Landmark Documents in American History* (**82**) provides an engaging "e-Commager," with 1,200 documents augmented by 250 biographical sketches, 200 photographs (almost all from the National Archives), and a few video clips. Users can search documents by time period, person, topic, or keyword. Beyond the expected texts such as the Stamp Act or "Letter from Birmingham Jail," there is a high proportion of comparatively recent documents, such as the *Roe* v. *Wade* decision and candidate Jimmy Carter's 1976 *Playboy* interview, that will make this disc popular for undergraduate speech and other research assignments. At peak term paper time, students will love the ease of printing and downloading. With only 300 texts, Oryx Press' *Famous American Speeches* CD-ROM (**76**) is far less inclusive and aimed more at a secondary school audience.

Of course, the Web offers a bewildering number of text archives; it takes only minutes to find a copy of King's "I Have a Dream" speech, but wary students may want to take a few more minutes to verify the accuracy and provenance of the text before quoting it in their research papers. An excellent motto to keep in mind when combing the Internet for documents and images is "Don't touch that unless you know where it's been." Probably the premier Web sites for unimpeachable historical texts are those provided by the federal government. As mentioned in the introduction to this essay, the Library of Congress's *American Memory* project (**5**) has been a decade in the making. The materials now available on the Internet as part of the Library's National Digital Library Program were chosen for their popular appeal to the K-12 curriculum and for their ease of conversion into self-contained digital collections. The results range from the essential to the oddly eclectic, including images and texts from the Continental Congresses, portraits of the presidents and first ladies, high points from the Manuscript Division, baseball cards, Farm Security Administration photographs, panoramic views of US cities, and WPA oral history interviews, among others. Under construction are new modules from LC and from participating libraries granted digitization funding from the LC/Ameritech Awards. Students can browse, search, or, via the "learn" option, follow tutorials on various topics. Other government collections of note include the National Archives'(**35**) *Online Exhibit Hall* and the National Park Service's *ParkNet* system (**42**). Through the Smithsonian Institution's home page (**46**), one can view rotating exhibits from various Smithsonian museums, including the National Museum of American History, the National Museum of the American Indian, and the National Portrait Gallery.

HarpWeek ... is the most fully realized marriage of technology and primary text to date.

The historical sections of armed services branches also provide historical essays, chronologies, bibliographies, and other documents online; particularly rich are the materials available at the Army's *Center of Military History* (**15**) and the Navy's *Naval Historical Center* (**37**).

Among numerous efforts to replicate the scope of *American Memory* at the regional and state level, a noteworthy example is the Library of Virginia's *Digital Library Project* (**33**), a cooperative effort where one can find Colonial records, historic photographs, and, in the coming year, histories, photographs, and maps from the WPA's *Virginia Historical Inventory*. A remarkable regional effort can be seen at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill's *Documenting the American South* (**19**), which presents more than 70 diaries, memoirs, travel accounts, and slave narratives; another aspect of this project is the digitization of important southern literary texts. The *Making of America* project (**34**), based jointly at the University of Michigan and Cornell University, offers one of the richest collections of electronic texts: more than 4,000 volumes of books (1,600 titles) and serials (50,000 articles from a dozen journals such as *Appleton's, De Bow's*, and *Overland Monthly*) from the 19th century, with full text searching capability. The searching and browsing feature of the Michigan site is delightfully easy to use and navigate; the Cornell page, which offers only three journals to date, is much less so. Both sites offer full-page images of texts, with a growing number of texts also available in transcribed versions.

Making of America aims to provide a comprehensive digital library of 19th-century America, but many Web archives contain selected historic documents arranged by time period or around a specific theme. *U.S. Historic Documents* (**49**), which offers about 500 texts from the 15th to the 20th century, and *Historical Text Archive* (**25**),which provides a gateway to documents throughout the Internet, are two of the most comprehensive and longstanding archive collections. *Avalon Project at the Yale Law School* (**11**) aims not only to provide original documents for US political, legal, and diplomatic history but also to add hypertext links to definitions and related texts. The University of Virginia's American Studies page (**6**) offers a growing corpus of both literary and historical texts, also with hypertext links, including Jefferson's *Notes on the State of Virginia,* the Lewis and Clark *Journals,* and Parkman's *Oregon Trail.* One can find an annotated *Constitution* on the GPO Access service (**17**) and inaugural addresses from Washington to Clinton at Columbia University's Project Bartleby (**30**)

No list of Internet collections by time period can aspire to absolute comprehensiveness, but two outstanding sites for Colonial and early national documents are *Archiving Early America* (**10**) (which has only a few texts but offers well-produced images of portraits, newspapers, and maps) and *From Revolution to Reconstruction* (**22**) (which covers all periods in US history but offers an especially compete collection of primary sources from the 16th to the 18th centuries). Lloyd Benson's *19th Century Documents Project* (**38**) at Furman University places "special empha-

sis on those sources that shed light on sectional conflict and transformations in regional identity." Documents are arranged in chronological and topical sections such as "The Dred Scott Case" or "The Election of 1860" and are rich in contemporary newspaper editorials. Steven Mintz of the University of Houston has placed almost 50 slave narratives on the Web (**20**); a smaller selection of texts from the *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation* series can be found on the home page for the *Freedmen and Southern Society Project* (**21**). The University of Nebraska Press is working with the National Archives to provide a searchable database of photographs of the old west in *Gallery of the Open Frontier* (**23**). Tom Zwick, a graduate student at Syracuse University, has taught hundreds of visitors the complexities of a neglected topic in American history though his *Anti-Imperialism in the U.S. 1898-1935* page (7), which provides original texts, essays, oral histories, and cartoons. At the other end of the 20th century are *The Sixties Project* (**45**) at the University of Virginia and *The Wars for Vietnam* (**51**) at Vassar College.

Noncommercial Web sites are by and large labors of love and the products of enthusiasms, fads, and hobbies. Some days, it appears that the Internet consists of equal parts *Star Trek*, stock market reports, soft-core pornography—and Civil War sites. To locate all those regimental histories, battlefield diagrams, firsthand accounts (and reenactor organizations), one can consult the comprehensive gateways provided by *U.S. Civil War Center* (**48**) or *American Civil War Homepage* (**3**). However, one Web site devoted to the Civil War era offers a truly exceptional package of primary documents and images: *The Valley of the Shadow: Living the Civil War in Pennsylvania and Virginia* (**50**). Edward Ayers (University of Virginia) originally conceived *The Valley of the Shadow* as a traditional print project comparing two communities at either end of the Shenandoah Valley before, during, and after the war. Instead, with the support of Virginia's Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities (IATH), Ayers has led members of the *Valley* team in drawing together and digitizing local and national newspapers, census schedules and tax records, maps, and manuscript collections from Augusta County, VA, and Franklin County, PA. *The Valley of the Shadow* has evolved over the years from a fairly straightforward narrative framework to a more "Web-like" presentation that allows users to choose "rooms" with labels such as "Maps and Images," "Letters and Diaries," "Church Records," "Military Records," or "Reference Center." The result is a dynamic environment in which students can take a guided tour, search newspaper editorials or census schedules by name or topic, view the digitized images of those documents, follow hypertext links to other documents and rooms, and consult reference sources or historical overviews for more information. *Valley* is one of the best conceived and executed humanities sites on the Internet, validating IATH's goal to "expand the potential of information technology as a tool for humanities research." One can only wait eagerly for future IATH projects and further installments of *The Valley of the Shadow*, which currently covers only the period to the outbreak of the war. Norton plans to release a CD-ROM version of *Valley* in early 1998.

The Textbook Electric: Multimedia and Beyond

If treasures such as *The Valley of the Shadow* and *Making of America*—produced largely through voluntary collaboration, institutional support, and cash infusions from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and other granting agencies—are available free on the Web, then surely wonders must await those willing to pay for commercial products. Alas, although there is certainly a wide variety of titles to choose from (the 1997 *Multimedia and CD-ROM Directory* lists more than 500 titles in the history section), multimedia, more than any other electronic format, should most certainly be selected with caveat emptor in mind. Two major criteria to consider when reviewing possible multimedia purchases are audience appro-

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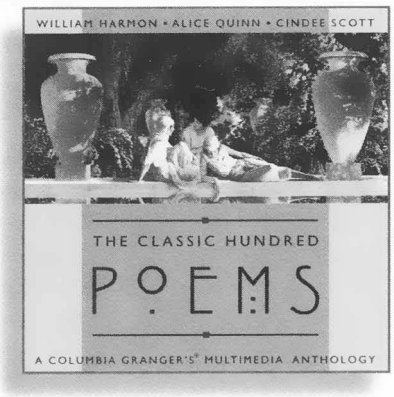

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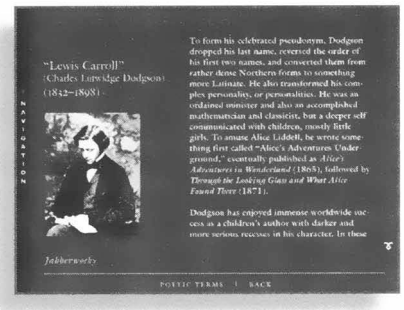

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priateness and institutional programs. The great majority of multimedia titles in American history are intended for the K-12 curriculum or home market. Even those titles that do contain college-level content resemble nothing so much as hypertextbooks; for many academic libraries, textbooks fall outside the usual collection parameters. The prices for individual multimedia titles are often reasonable or even cheap, but in these days of limited book budgets, even one such purchase should be prefaced by careful consideration of the infrastructure needed—both in technology and the teaching curriculum—to ensure that the product will be a useful, and used, addition to the collection.

Many multimedia titles intended for the secondary school market are tempting to college teachers, perhaps because of their coverage of specific periods and topics. Publishers such as Queue (**88**), Clearvue (**66**), and MultiEDUCATOR (**83**) offer CD-ROMs covering topics such as the industrial revolution, Colonial America, Jacksonian democracy, and the Great Depression. The majority of these CD-ROMs include a mix of narrative overview, chronologies, original source documents and images, biographical sketches, maps, and games to form what MultiEducator terms "textbooks for the twenty-first century." The hyperlinked images, sound, and video are frequently fun; but though most titles are labelled "grade 6 to adult," the simplicity and lack of sublety in much of the interpretive material make them peripheral purchases at even the most basic college level. Beyond an overall lack of challenging complexity, some products contain outright errors that make their utility dubious in any curriculum; for example, the opening menu of MultiEducator's *New Nation: America 1787-1820* offers the choice of exploring the "Lewis and Clarke [sic] Expedition."

One title intended for the school market that college instructors seeking illustrations and images to enliven their lectures should investigate is *The American History Videodisk* on CD-ROM (**54**). Although many multimedia products contain a familiar set of images from the National Archives and other public domain sources, *American History Videodisk* offers more than 2,500 illustrations, photos, portraits, and maps licensed from the British Library, Smithsonian, and other collections, as well as almost 70 video clips ranging from Teddy Roosevelt to Bill Clinton. Because these unique materials are under copyright restrictions, the program does not allow exporting or printing. Instead, it is designed to allow instructors to incorporate images (and to import additional images and texts) into custom-built lesson plans for class lectures or for individual consultation outside class. Material is presented in ten chronological sections (with voice-over narration by the late Charles Kuralt) from prehistory to contemporary America, with fairly detailed indexing of picture contents. Both the CD-ROM and the videodisc contain the full-image database; those without a videodisc player will find the images still stunning when viewed on a large computer monitor or digital projector.

Although designed for the home, rather than the library, market, several recent popular titles have something to offer students of history. Corbis (**68**), Bill Gates' new venture formed from the purchase of the Bettmann Archives and other image collections, has produced two handsome and inexpensive compilations: the award-winning *FDR* and *Critical Mass* (a history of the creation of the atomic bomb). Both offer an appealing array of documents, photographs, and film clips and, at this price, any library with the requisite equipment and faculty interest should consider them for purchase. American Heritage's *The Civil War* (**63**) is less useful to libraries. Half war game and half multimedia text based on Bruce Catton's *American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War* (1960), this two-disc set is beautifully designed, with the look and feel of a 19th-century manuscript page. The "topics" disk offers a time line, biographies and memoirs, campaigns and battles, and cultural and political themes, while the "military" disk provides sections on uniforms, rank and regalia, interactive battlefield maps, and a "strategy game." Because there are few contextual hot links in the textual material and limited searching capability, and because almost all the material presented on these two discs is readily available in several printed reference sources, *The Civil War* is best left to the game-playing home computer.

In contrast, Gale's *DISCovering U.S. History* (**70**) and Primary Source Media's *Documentary Archives: Multicultural America* (**71**) are clearly designed for the library setting, specifically the high school or junior college level. Gale's title offers more than 2,000 essays and 1,500 biographical sketches with about 100 original documents and firsthand accounts and almost 400 photographs and portraits, arranged along a time line or searchable by name, topic, place, or time period. *DISCovering U.S. History* is easy to use and full of hypertext links to related entries, although one sometimes retrieves troublingly unexpected results: a link to Samuel Adams's forebear, Henry Adams, points instead to his cousin John's descendant; a subject search for "reconstruction" retrieved only one tangential reference, while a full-text search found a major article on "Reconstruction of the South." The emphasis leans toward popular culture, social history, and the 20th century, with documents such as Langston Hughes' "Weary Blues" and entries for the Oklahoma City Bombing and the Million Man March. *Documentary Archives: Multicultural America* provides more even coverage of all periods, and its opening screen of the Library of Congress Reading Room and careful pop-up bibliographic citations for all quoted documents gives it a more scholarly feel than the Gale title. As its title implies, the *Documentary Archives* series aims to present primary source materials, and this first CD-ROM in the series offers an eclectic selection of 450 documents and 440 images, including a Cheyenne's firsthand account of the Ghost Dance and a Chicago *Defender* editorial on the "yellow peril." Augmenting the original materials, which are searchable by time period, subject terms, or keyword, are 12 thematic essays by historians (e.g., Columbia's James P. Shenton) on topics such as labor and legal history. For coverage in greater depth of specific ethnic groups or time periods, Primary Source Media also offers the "American Journey" series (**56**), which includes titles on Hispanic, Asian, and African Americans. Intended primarily for the secondary school market, the *American Journey* CD-ROMs have more interpretive framework, written at a less sophisticated level, than the newer *Documentary Archives* disc.

The multimedia CD-ROM that perhaps best exemplifies what the thoughtful application of new technologies to historical sources can produce is not new at all. Originally published in 1993, *Who Built America? From the Centennial Celebration of 1876 to the Great War of 1914* (**90**), like *The Valley of the Shadow*, was conceived and constructed by historians rather than a publisher's marketing department. A collaborative team of historians affiliated with CUNY's American Social History Project, Roy Rosenzweig (now at George Mason University), Steve Brier, and Josh Brown based their CD-ROM on the two-volume textbook *Who Built America: Working People and the Nation's Economy, Politics, Culture, and Society* (1989-92). Several thousand documents, images, audio and film clips, maps, graphs, and charts are presented in an "expanded book" format that allows users to follow hypertext links from narrative overviews, to search by document type, subject, or time period, or to follow "excursion" presentations on various topics or scholarly debates (e.g., a discussion of C. Vann Woodward's *Strange Career of Jim Crow* or a description of the place of the crossword puzzle in the history of journalism). Undergraduates will love the ease of navigation and inclusion of primary gems such as the silent film "Great Train Robbery," or the Wobbly anthem "Hallelujah, I'm a Bum"; faculty will appreciate the overall tone that captures attention without ever condescending and the thorough coverage of often neglected (and sometimes controversial) topics in labor, social, and political history. There are few US history surveys that would not benefit from supplementary presentations, readings, or assignments based on this disc. *Who Built America?* was one of the first titles issued by the Voyager company, and its interest in the artifacts of popular culture (newsreels, songs, posters) is apparent in other Voyager discs. Other Voyager titles of interest to historians range from *Our Secret Century*, Rick Prelinger's ultrahip compilation of documentary and commercial films from the forties, fifties, and sixties, to the more somber *J. Robert Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb*. But no multimedia title, from Voyager or any other publisher, approaches the scholarly rigor and technological verve of *Who Built America?* One can only hope that future commercial and nonprofit e-projects offer as much for academic libraries.

Notes

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A note about hardware and software requirements:

Following are the *minimum* requirements for most products listed below. Any additional hardware or software needs are noted in individual entries. Although many of these products are available for both Windows/DOS and Macintosh platforms, only the Windows/DOS versions were evaluated for this article. All reviewed products were tested on both Windows 3.1 and Windows 95 platforms where possible.

PC/DOS: 386 or better; 640K RAM; DOS 3.1or better (5.0 or better recommended in most cases); VGA or better color monitor; 1-10 MB free hard disk space for program files. For CD-ROM products, CD-ROM player with MS-DOS Extensions.

PC/Windows 3.X: 486/66 or better (Pentium/100 or better recommended); 8MB RAM; DOS 3.1+; Windows 3.1+; VGA+ color monitor; mouse; 1-10 MB free hard disk space for program files. For CD- ROM products, CD-ROM player and MSDOS Extensions (2X speed recommended).

PC/Windows 95: 486/66+ (Pentium/100+ strongly recommended); 8 MB RAM (16 MB strongly recommended); Windows 95; VGA or better color monitor; mouse; 1-10 MB free hard disk space for program files. For CD-ROM products, 2x CD-ROM player.

Macintosh: 68030 or better; 8MB RAM; System 7 or better; VGA or better color monitor; mouse; 1- 10 MB free hard disk space for program files. For CD-ROM products, Apple compatible CD-ROM drive.

Printers: To print graphics satisfactorily, most of the programs reviewed below will require a laser printer.

Web Browsers: Although some sites can be viewed and navigated with a text-based browser, such as Lynx, most users will be frustrated unless they navigate with a graphical browser, such as Netscape 2.0+ or Microsoft's Internet Explorer. For this article, Netscape versions 2.02, 3.01, and 4.0 were used.

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47. *UnCoverWeb.* CARL, Inc. <http://uncweb.carl.org/>. (Coverage varies for each journal; most from 1989/90- . Searching is free; "Reveal" table of contents e-mail service is $25 year for individuals; institutional pricing also available; document delivery prices vary according to turnaround time requested and copyright fees.)

48. *U.S. Civil War Center.* Louisiana State University. <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu/>. David Madden, Center Director; Scott Hoppe, Web Manager.

49. *U.S. Historic Documents.* MidAmerica Nazarene University. <http://www.mnu.edu/us_docs/>. Compiled by Frank E. Johnson (formerly by Lynn Nelson); formerly at University of Kansas).

50. *The Valley of the Shadow: Living the Civil War in Pennsylvania and Virginia.* University of Virginia. <http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/vshadow/vshadow.html>. Compiled by Edward L. Ayres. (CD-ROM forthcoming in 1998 from Norton.)

51. *The Wars for Vietnam: 1945 to 1975.* Vassar College. <http://www.vassar.edu/vietnam/>. Compiled by Robert Brigham.

■ CD-ROM Sources

52. *African-American Newspapers: The 19th Century.* Accessible Archives, 1997- . Compiled by Jack Nagy. (Also available on the Internet through *Accessible Archives Online.*) Annual subscription to CD-ROM, $3500; subscriptions to *Accessible Archives Online*: $59.95 for individuals; institutional pricing based on enrollment.

53. *America: History and Life on Disc.* ABC-CLIO, 1964- . ISSN 1084-080x. Basic subscription (1982-present): $4,250 standalone; $4,500 networked, 1 user; $5,500 networked, 2-6 users. Expanded subscription (1964-present): $5,250 standalone; $5,500 networked, 1 user; $6,500 networked, 2-6 users. Contact ABC-CLIO for site and consortium pricing. (Internet version forthcoming; also available as a file on the Dialog/KnightRidder Information system.)

54. *The American History Videodisk.* 2nd ed. Instructional Resources Corporation, 1996. ISBN 0-92389516-8 (set). CD-ROM alone: $95 one-time; CD-ROM and videodisk package: $495; lab pack pricing available. (Requires sound card and speakers; SVGA graphics; for video disk, a video disk player and monitor.)

55. *The American Indian: A Multimedia Encyclopedia.* Version 2.0. Facts on File, 1996. ISBN 0-8160-3613-6 (Windows). $149.95 one time; network and lab pack pricing available. (Requires sound card and speakers; SVGA graphics.)

56. American Journey: History in Your Hands. Primary Source Media, 1994- . Includes: *The African-American Experience,* 1996 (ISBN 0-8923-5161-6); *The Asian-American Experience,* 1996 (ISBN 1-5780-3047-1); *The Immigrant Experience,* 1997 (ISBN 1-5780-3046-3); *The Hispanic-American Experience,* 1995 (ISBN 0-8923-516400); *Women in America,* 1996 (ISBN 0-8923-5158-6); *The American Revolution,* 1995 (ISBN 0-8923-5163-2); *The Civil War,* 1996 (ISBN 0-8923-5160-8); *Westward Expansion,* 1994 (ISBN 0-8923-5159-4). $149 each disk; all 8 titles for $735. (Requires sound card and speakers, SVGA graphics ; for Macintosh, a 68040+ processor.)

57. *American Leaders CD-ROM : American Political, Social, and Cultural Leaders.* ABC-CLIO, 1998. $129 standalone or $299 networked; lab packs also available. Tim O'Donnell, managing editor. (Requires SVGA graphics.)

58. *Arts and Humanities Citation Index.* Institute for Scientific Information, 1995- (covers 1975-). ISSN 1060-9202. 1997 annual subscription $6575; 1980-89 cumulation $11,960 one-time; 1975-1994 cumulation $15,600 one time; contact ISI for "Web of Science" pricing. (Also available on ISI's *Web of Science* on the Internet, online through Dialog/KnightRidder Information, OCLC's FirstSearch and EPIC systems, and DataStar; magnetic tapes can be purchased through ISI.)

59. *Biography and Genealogy Master Index CD-ROM.* Gale Research, 1993- . ISBN 0-8193-9702-1. Standalone subscription: $1250 first year; $350 for yearly updates; networked: $1750 first year and $500 for yearly updates. (Also available on the GaleNet service.)

60. *Black Studies on Disc.* G.K. Hall/Macmillan, 1995. [Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture]. ISBN 0-8161-1653-9. $995 one-time. (Reviewed: CH, Mar'96).

61. *Catalogue of Early American Imprints, 1640-1800.* Readex, 1993. $1795.

62. *Chronicle of the 20th Century.* DK Multimedia, 1996. ISBN 0-7894-1219-5. $39.95; lab pack pricing available. (Provides connection to the Chronicle Web site; requires SVGA monitor, sound card.)

63. *The Civil War.* Bryon Preiss Multimedia/American Heritage, 1995. 2 discs. $79.95. Based on Bruce Catton's *American Heritage Picture History of the Civil War.*

64. *The Civil War: A Newspaper Perspective : The New York Herald, The Charleston Mercury, Richmond Enquirer.* Accessible Archives, 1994. $1250 one time; subscriptions to *Accessible Archives Online*: $59.95 for individuals; institutional pricing based on enrollment; discounts available for those institutions that own any Accessible Archives CD-ROMs. Compiled by Jack Nagy. (Also available on the Internet through *Accessible Archives Online* <http://www.accessible.com/.).

65. *The Civil War CD-ROM: The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate*

Armies. Version 1.5. Guild Press of Indiana, 1997. ISBN 1-87820876-4. $69.95 one-time. (Requires at least a 4X CD-ROM drive and 16MB RAM.)

66. Clearvue CD-ROMs. Clearvue/eav. (Examples: *Development of U.S. Foreign Policy, Jacksonian Democracy, The Great Depression*.)

67. *Congressional Masterfile, 1789-1969*. Version 2.0. Congressional Information Service, 1993. $36,225 standalone; networked pricing available; institutions that have purchased print retrospective catalogs receive significant discounts. (Internet version available late 1998.)

68. Corbis CD-ROMs. Corbis. $39.95 each. (Requires SVGA graphics.) (Examples: *Critical Mass: America's Race to Build the Atomic Bomb*, 1996, ISBN 1-8868-0202-5; *FDR*, 1996, ISBN 1-8868-0211-4.)

69. *Dictionary of American Biography on CD-ROM*. Scribner, Macmillan Library Reference USA, 1997. ISBN 0-68480472-7. Standalone $499 until 1/98, $599 thereafter; networked pricing available. (Comes with Netscape Communicator 4.0.)

70. *DISCovering U.S. History*. Gale Research, 1997. ISBN 0-78760922-6. $500 standalone; networked, 2-8 users $700. (Requires SVGA graphics.)

71. *Documentary Archives: Multicultural America*. Primary Source Media, 1997. ISBN 1-57803135-4. $500. Compiled by Michele Stepto. (Requires sound card and speakers; Macintosh requires a 60840+ processor.)

72. *Encyclopedia of Frontier Biography*. Nebraska, 1995. $150. Compiled by Dan L. Thrapp. (Review of printed version: CH, Apr'89.)

73. *Encyclopedia of the American Constitution*. Simon & Schuster Macmillan, 1995. ISBN 0-02897251-1. $275 for standalone; $375 networked. (Reviewed: CH, Apr'97.)

74. *English Short Title Catalogue on CD-ROM, 1473-1800*. Primary Source Media, 1998. (To be released June 1998; price not set.)

75. *Family Tree Maker Census Index*. Broderbund Software, 1995- . Version 3.0 of Family Finder Index software comes free with any CD-ROM order; most CD-ROMs are $29.99 each; packages also available (e.g., all census name indexes on 11 CD-ROMs for $199.) (Also available on the Internet: <http://www.familytreemaker.com/>.

76. *Famous American Speeches: A Multimedia History: 1850 to the Present*. Oryx, 1996. ISBN 0-89774958-8. $129.95. Compiled by David Dodenhoff.

77. *Goldsmiths'-Kress Library of Economic Literature Catalog*. Primary Source Media, 1997. ISBN 1-57803053-6. $1995.

78. *The Great American History Machine: An Interactive Atlas of the 19th and 20th Century* [sic]: *United States Social and Political History*. Version 2.0. ePress Project, 1995. $189 standalone; site licenses also available. (Originally developed by David W. Miller and John Modell, Carnegie Mellon University.)

79. *HarpWeek: The Civil War Era 1857-1865*. HarpWeek, 1997- . 12 discs. $14,900 through December 1997; $16,900 thereafter; HarpWeek will work with libraries on flexible payment options. (Requires SVGA graphics; for optimal speed, users may want to load all 12 CD-ROMs onto one large hard disk storage device.)

80. *Historical Statistics of the United States on CD-ROM: Colonial Times to 1970*. Cambridge, 1997. ISBN 0-521-58541-4. $195; network pricing available.

81. *Index to American Periodicals of the 1700's and 1800's*. Computer Indexed Systems, 1997. Release 10, APS Series I and II (1700-1850): $31,460; Release 3, APS Series III (1850-1900): $5445 (substantial discounts for institutions that have purchased earlier releases). Compiled by Don Baumgartner. (Internet version is planned.)

82. *Landmark Documents in American History*. Facts on File, 1995. ISBN 0-8160-3247-5. $149.95 one time; network and lab pack pricing available. (Windows version comes with Quicktime software for video clips.)

83. MultiEDUCATOR CD-ROMs. MultiEDUCATOR, 1996- . (Requires sound card and speakers; SVGA graphics). Includes: *American History*, ISBN 1-99599101-0, 2 CD-ROMs, $79.95; *Colonial America: 1606 - 1765* (forthcoming); *Revolutionary War: Birth of a Nation*, $54.95; *New Nation: America 1787-1820, ISBN* 1 88588116 9, $54.95; *Antebellum America: 1820- 1860* (forthcoming); *Civil War: America's Epic Struggle*, ISBN 1-88588113-4, 2 CD-ROMs, $79.95; *Reconstruction and Industrialization* (forthcoming); *The Sixties: 1960 - 1974*, ISBN 1-88588117-7, $54.95. (Review of *Civil War* segment, CH, Jun'97.)

84. *Niles' Register: Cumulative Index, 1811-1849*. Accessible Archives, 1995. $450 one time; subscriptions to *Accessible Archives Online*: $59.95 for individuals; institutional pricing based on enrollment; discounts for those institutions that own one or more Accessible Archives CD-ROMs. (Available on the Internet through *Accessible Archives Online*.)

85. *Nineteenth Century Short Title Catalogue (NSTC)*. Series I & II (1801-1870); Series III (1871-1919). Avero Publications, 1996- . Series I and II (one disk): individuals $160; $1050 for insitutions owning the printed catalogs; $7500 for other insitutions. Series III (not yet complete, will be in 14 disks): $13,500 for entire set or $1275 per disk. (Reviewed: CH, Oct.'97.)

86. *Pennsylvania Gazette*. Folio Corporation, 1991- . ISSN 1065-139x. Folio I (1728-1750), Folio II (1751-1765), Folio III (1766-1783), Folio IV (1784-1800, forthcoming) are all $2000 each for the CD-ROM version. Subscriptions to *Accessible Archives Online*: $59.95 for individuals; institutional pricing based on enrollment; discounts for those institutions that own any of the CD-ROMs. Compiled by Jack Nagy. (Available on the Internet through *Accessible Archives Online*.)

87. *Periodical Contents Index (PCI)*. Chadwyck-Healey, 1996- (covers 1770/71-1990/91). PCI Web complete subscription (1770-1990/91): $7,500 one user; $10,000 2-5 users; $12,000 site license (discounts available for institutions with smaller book budgets; segments subscriptions covering 1930/31- and 1960/61 also available). CD-ROM: each segment is a one-time purchase of $7,500; 14 segments have been published thus far. (Reviewed: CH, Apr'97.) (Also available on the Internet: <http://pci.chadwyck.com/>).

88. Queue CD-ROM Publications. Queue Inc. (Examples include: *African-American History, The Industrial Revolution in America, Life in Colonial America, Twelve Roads to Gettysburg*.)

89. *The Sabin Collection Catalog*. Primary Source Media, 1997. $1995; annual updates available for $225 each.

Voyager CD-ROMs, see *Who Built America?*

90. *Who Built America?: From the Centennial Celeration of 1876 to the Great War of 1914*. Voyager, 1994; 1997. ISBN 1-55940688-7. $49.95. Compiled by Roy Rosenzweig (George Mason University), Steve Brier, and Josh Brown (American Social History Project/CUNY). (Requires sound card and speakers.) (Other Voyager titles of interest to historians include *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (1992); *The Beat Experience* (1996); *The Day After Trinity: J. Robert Oppenheimer and the Atomic Bomb* (1995); *For All Mankind* (1994); *A Night to Remember* (1996); and *Our Secret Century*, discs 1-12 (1995-).

91. *Wilson Humanities Abstracts*. H.W. Wilson, 1984- (abstracts, 1994- ; selected full text, 1995-). [Also known as *Humanities Index/Abstracts*]. ISSN 1063-3294. Price varies according to database contents and institution: standalone CD-ROM subscription from $1495; full-text access via WilsonWeb for a single user from $2995. (Wilson databases are also available online from SilverPlatter, Dialog/KnightRidder Information, and OCLC's FirstSearch.)

92. *Wing's Short-Title Catalogue, 1641-1700*. Chadwyck-Healey, 1996. ISBN 0-89887144-1. $1495.

93. *Women in the U.S.: Collections of the Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe College, 1848-1994*. Dialog Information Services, 1994. $395 (Limited number left.)