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To Honor Our Past: Historical Research, Library History and the Historiographical Imperative: Conceptual Reflections and Exploratory Observations

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Abstract: This exploratory discussion considers history of libraries, in its broadest context; moreover, it frames the entire enterprise of pursuing history as it relates to LIS in the context of doing history and of doing history vis-à-vis LIS. Is it valuable intellectually for LIS professionals to consider their own history, writing historically oriented research, and what is the nature of this research within the professionalization of LIS itself as both practice and discipline? Necessarily conceptual and offering theoretical insight, this discussion perforce tenders the idea that historiographical innovations and other disciplinary approaches and perspectives can invigorate library history beyond its current condition. This discussion, exploratory at best, and informed by conditions attendant in Anglo-American institutional memory, offers observations, albeit cursory, yet, proffers salient insight and possible suggestions from other institutional venues.

Keywords: library history, library historian, LIS profession, research

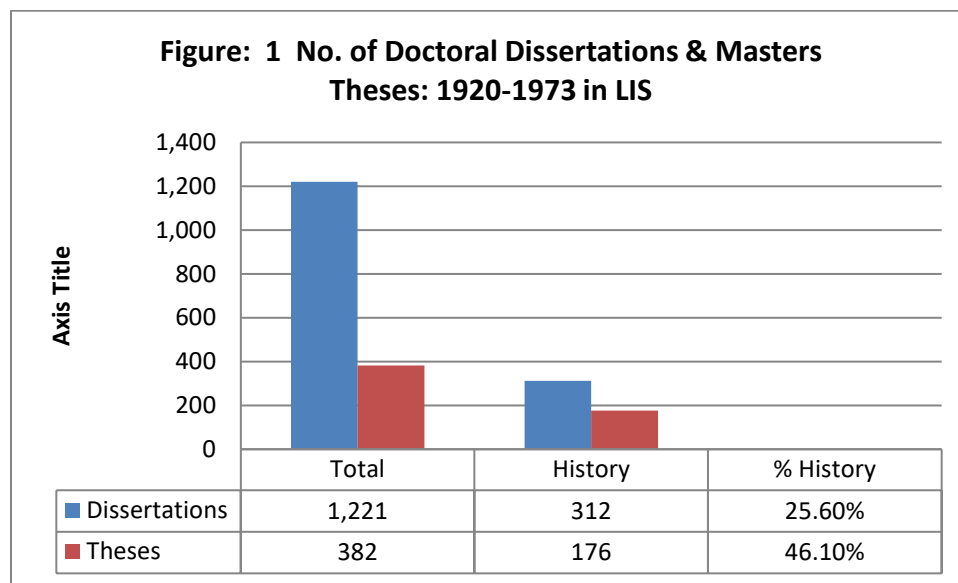
What does it mean to pursue the history of libraries, or library science, or information studies, etc.? Further, and more critically, what is history of libraries and how does it fit within the pantheon of subjects generally included in academic historical teaching, research, and scholarship? Are there academic historians who identify themselves as professional library historians, or historians whose special focus is centered on subjects or topics unequivocally defined as library historical pursuits? These and other questions or observations cannot be easily defined, broached nor easily dismissed. Yet, the importance of ascertaining where library history is heading is crucial to an appreciation of the field as well as to its disciplinary makeup.ⁱ What has been the recent past of library history, its status within LIS professional education, and where is it situated within the larger academic historical profession?

Before attempting to situate library history within the context of this discussion, it is important to understand that library history and library historians need to evaluate their intellectual and scholarly purpose within a profession that is essentially ahistorical in nature. The LIS profession is a practice which privileges professional prerogatives over historical interests, even the history of the LIS profession, and libraries. However, for a profession as ancient as librarianship, it is curious that library history and historians have not garnered their place in the pantheon of academic history. Indeed, library history and its practitioners have labored along the edges of academic history, without much fanfare, while its practice has always been marginalized within professional programs in library and information science.ⁱⁱ This discussion attempts to

frame the condition, and offer critical suggestions for a remediation of library history within the context of past and future historiographical knowledge and intellectual perspectives.

Why is library history marginalized—to answer this, one need only perform a *de visu* examination of LIS programs, in North America, United Kingdom, and elsewhere to realize that courses or specializations at the masters or doctoral level do not constitute a salient portion of offerings in LIS programs. Professional expertise for practice trumps historical research; although theses and dissertations may be pursued, generally, the LIS profession is oriented toward producing graduates capable of entertaining a practice intensive profession in information. If formalized historical training is best cultivated in graduate history programs, professionalized library historians, do not necessarily meet the sustained criteria necessitated by extensive and concerted historical training, as LIS masters and doctoral programs privilege non-historical subjects and training. Like lawyers, pharmacists, physicians, or engineers and scientists, professional practice historians do not generally emerge from professions of practice; consequently, library historians either emerge from practicing librarians and information professionals, or emerge from other academic disciplinary professions, e.g. academic historians, literary scholars, etc.ⁱⁱⁱ Still, library history has formed a highly honed publication record.

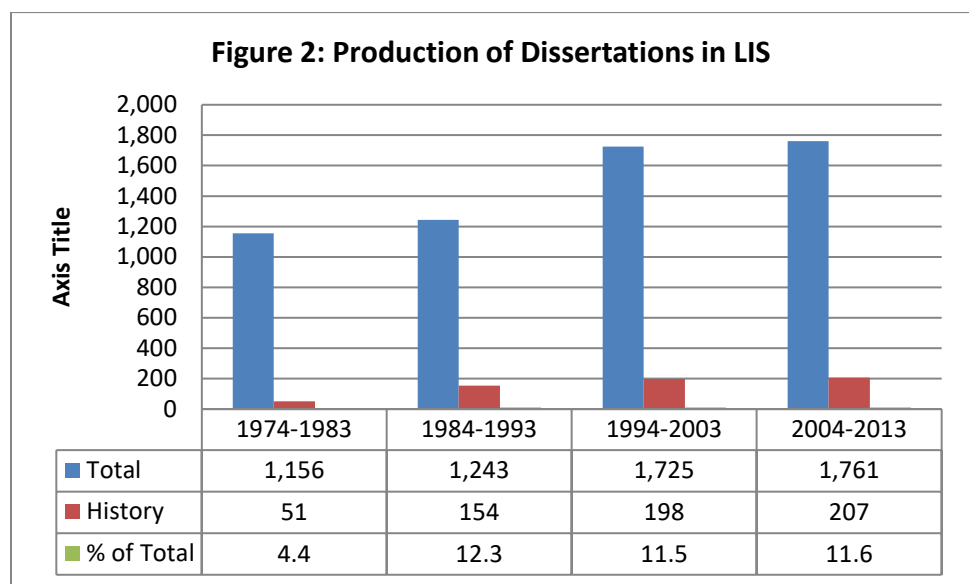
Examining the historical literature demands a critical response; firstly, theses and dissertations, constitute the cutting research edge of formalized training (See Figure 1.).



data derived from ProQuest

In terms of production, LIS theses and dissertations at least in the North American context concretized the marginalization of historical research. Closer examination reveals that masters' theses are more likely to be produced than dissertations; yet, for the most part, this capstone grey literature is produced as part of a larger professional program where the nascent historian is required to take the majority of their program in non-historical study. Often subjects chosen

concentrate upon administrative, regional, biographical studies, book history and arts, individual institutional studies, or specific subjects as children’s literature or library services, publishing among the plethora of topics. This is all to the good, as library research is expansive in practice and inclusive. However, what constitutes historiographically-driven historical research is not always defined so easily and library history assumes a very elastic historiographical profile. Strong on narrative and competently chronologically directed work leaves the larger richly textured historiographical perspective wanting. This does not mean that such scholarship is less rigorous in intent, but it may be an indicator that various subjects are included within the broadly-based definition of library historical studies up to 1973. The picture changes for dissertations produced from 1974-2013, when subjects cover similar subjects, but consider more information studies focused on retrieval, databases, associations, both local or national, international, etc. (See Figure 2.). Given that dissertations are an indicator of training, cutting-edge research and methodological innovation among future academic historians in any field, the picture for LIS trained historically-minded professionals helps explain the marginalization of library history.

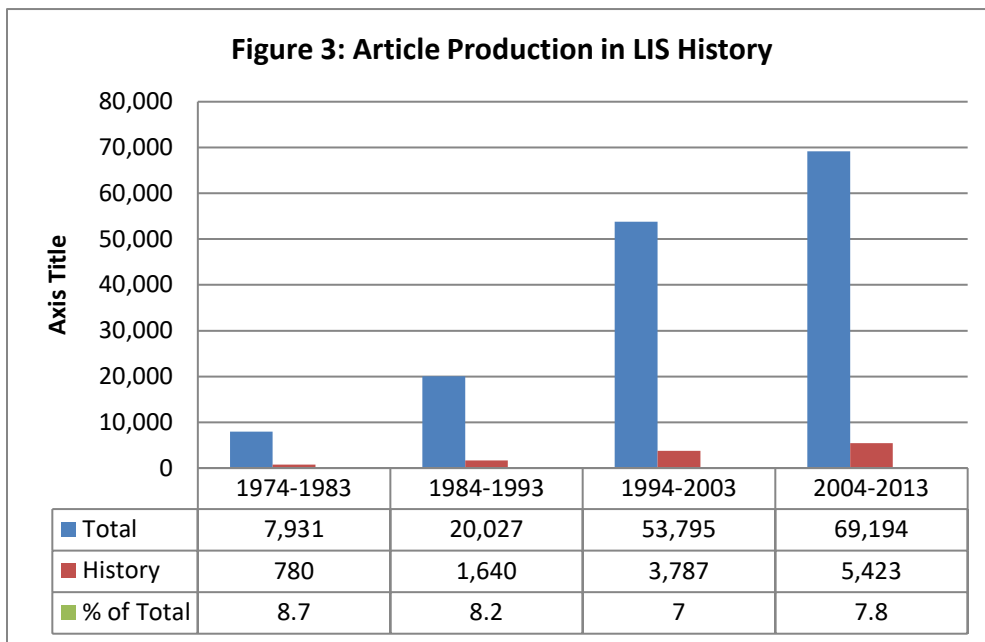


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Discrete topics as reading culture or publishing and libraries tied to larger social concerns emerge, but the library as institutional locus and its processes constitute a core of research activity. However, a discernible, but still yet nascent use of advanced historiographical theory and approaches are beginning to influence some of this grey literature. This decennial view reveals a sharply non-historical bias toward the more professional concerns of library and information practice—again, similar to other professions and their respective histories. Never achieving more than 12% of dissertation production, one must wonder where will future library historians emerge, if not from LIS programs.

Existential Condition of Library History

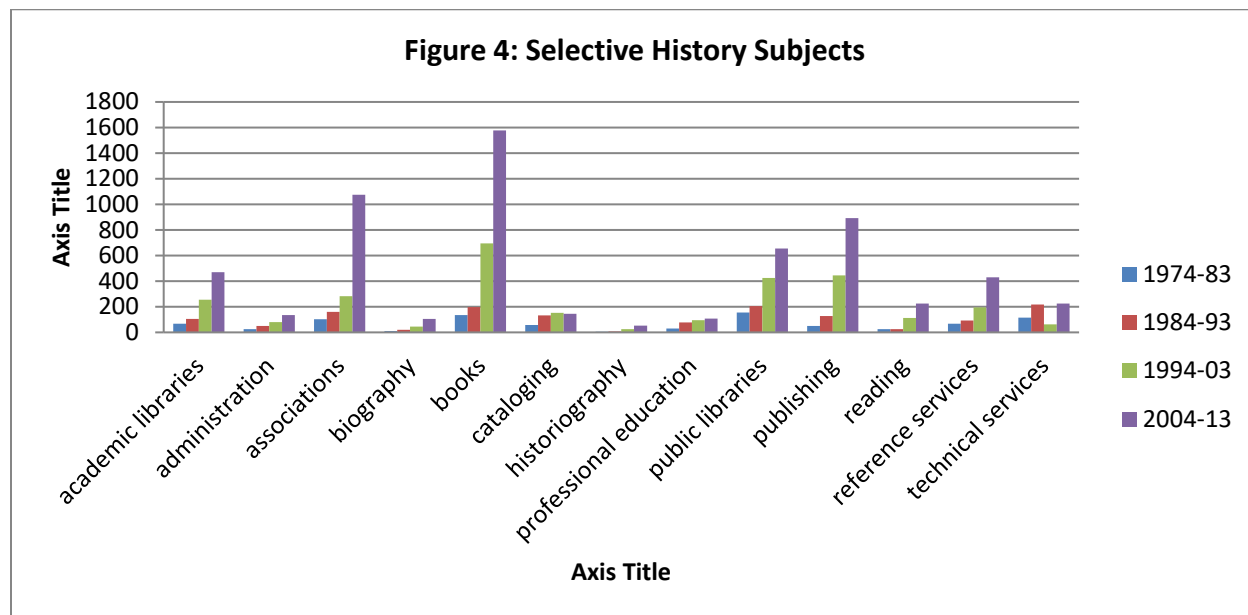
Given previous statements above, the question becomes whether library history has a past and what kind of past does it exhibit? To ascertain this, one needs to gain an appreciation of the general state of library history, its major characteristics, as well as roughly ascertain its scholarly production over time. Locating historical research in LIS throws open the possibility of discussing where historically oriented perspective and indeed, prerogative lies in LIS research and scholarship. How important is it to the LIS profession and research agenda? Do the numbers alone indicate intellectual health, or do they indicate a status of marginal interest and relegation to the sidelines of LIS interest and activity? How should one view historical scholarly production in LIS vis-à-vis LIS research and publication? In order to frame this perspective an accounting of library history, a simple numerical approach reveals the scholarly condition animating library history. The longitudinal dimension of theses, dissertations, and publications, library history marginalized condition becomes evident. Firstly, given that theses and especially dissertations represent the more formally grounded indicator in LIS history training, is there a comparable marginalization of scholarly interest and production in article and books publication? It goes without saying that articles would constitute the major publication efforts of library historians; if one examines this publication record, an approximate mirror image of articles to theses and dissertations, reveals a pattern of marginalization (See Figure 3.).



data derived from LISA

Albeit, numbers do not necessarily correspond to quality of research, or the critical mass necessary to carry on efficacious historical scholarship of a given profession, but it does indicate the degree of interest directed to historical analysis and its perceived value to a practicing profession of practice. Decennial production increases over time suggesting increased focus on historical subjects; yet, when examined closely historical research never captures more than 8.7% of LIS article production and subject foci reflect the possible amorphous nature of what actually

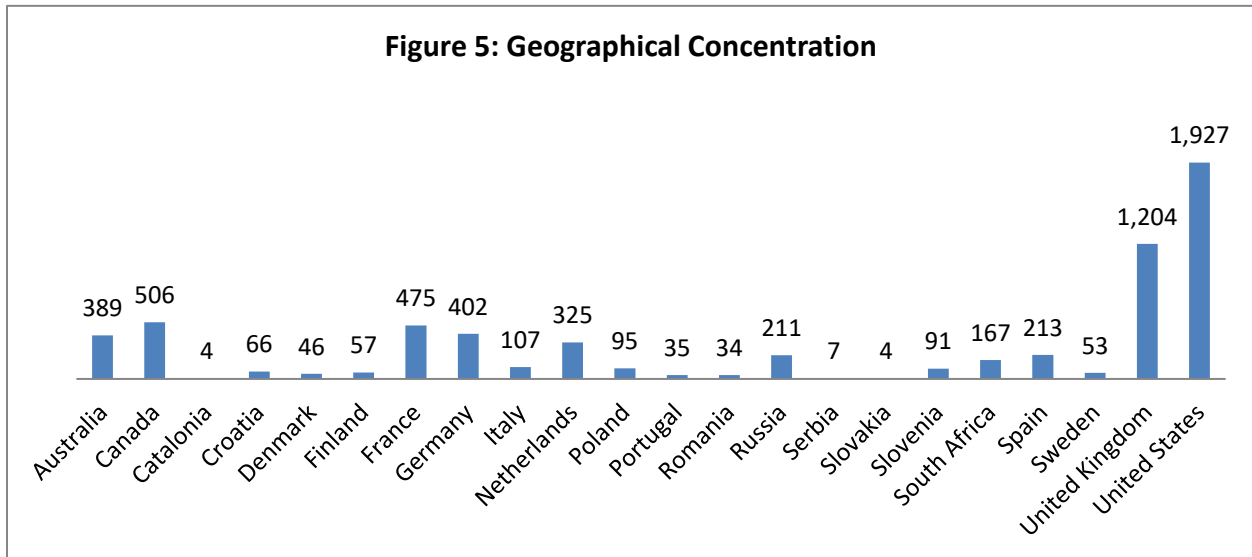
constitutes library history. Subject interest can reveal research emphasis and/or specialization, especially when subfields of interest can dominate a historical field (See Figure 4.).



data derived from LISA

Perusal of articles indicates a narrative of practice, e.g. library as place and processes, e.g. administration, cataloguing, reference, information retrieval, essentially a discourse of profession and professional concerns versus meta-critical discourse that is historically focused. However, conflation of subject’s emphases deforms the sample indicating that library history is library focus centered. To be sure, library services and processes constitute 16.8% of articles, with history of cataloguing 4.3%, reference services 69%, and technical services 5.5% respectively; however in keeping with the library as locus, academic 7.9% and public libraries 12.8%, constitute 20.8% of articles. Association history captures 14.4% of interest, while history administration only 2.5%. Collaboration among consortia, local and national, or international initiatives help to explain this emphasis. Professional education at 2.8%, while critical to the LIS profession, does not constitute a great interest among historians. Given the intellectual nature of library history, it is not surprising to find that .08% of articles are devoted to historiography, indicating the paucity of historiographical reflection. A de visu examination of these articles reveals library history as a field that does not yet systematically examine the rasion d’etre of what are the major concerns or currents in historiography; however, the concern for schools of interpretation also need to be strengthened vis-à-vis insights drawn from historiographical methodologies and theoretical innovations. Next to historiography biography represents a small number of articles—again, emphasizing key figures in librarianship. Again, mirroring the sample of theses and dissertations research, it is not surprising that book history 23.2%, publishing 13.5%, and reading 3.4% are relatable, if not intermeshing areas of research; together, they comprise 40.1% of article activity.

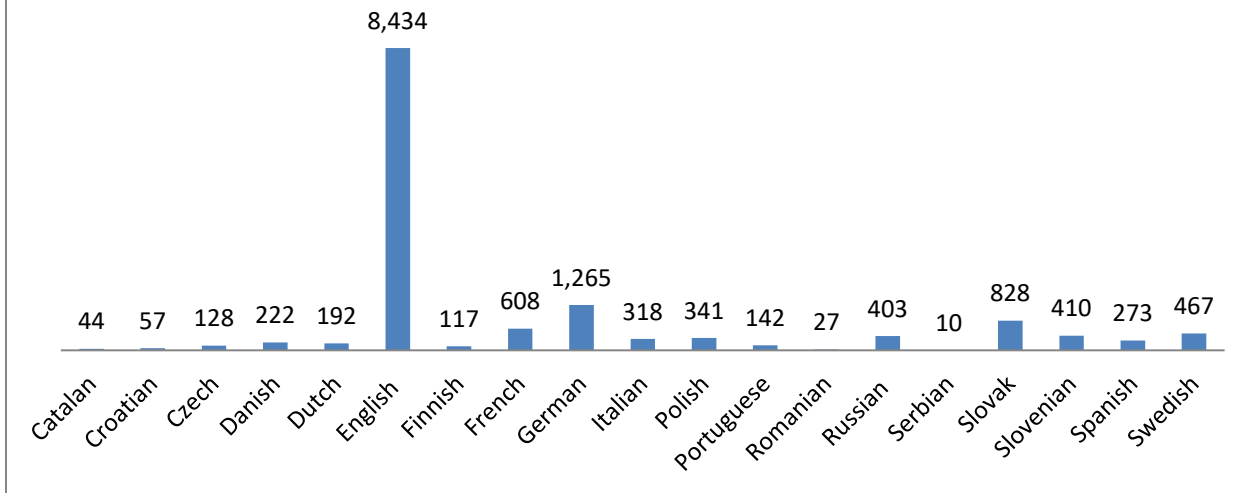
Complementing the production of articles and subject foci, several other salient features characterize LIS history focused research. Geographical dispersion or concentration reveals a clear dominance of interest in North American venues—Canada 7.9% and the U.S. 30%. United Kingdom captures 18.8% France and Germany, 7.4% and 6.3% respectively (See Figure 5.). Western European countries tend to also constitute another significant focus for European venues, at 26.7% of sample. The data indicates that east European countries may not be fairly represented in the sample—however their numbers do indicate a paucity of production in library history. Together countries of former Yugoslavia do not constitute more than 2.6% of articles.



data retrieved from LISA

Another indicator of scholarly communication is language dispersion; language of publication can either expand the awareness of research, or it can limit its presence, benefiting the community of historians (See Figure 6.). Here, English is the *lingua franca*, at 59% with French 4.3%, German 8.9%, and Slovak 5.8%. Linguistic isolation or dominance may be tied to geographical dominance, where English-based countries predominate—however, interestingly, smaller linguistic groups e.g. Czech, Danish, Dutch, Swedish, are significant in that their production per population reflects sustained research interest. The outlier here is Slovenian with 2.9%; it goes without saying that English may be a vehicle to publish for non-English language historians who publish in English to further awareness of their work—which may further skew language dispersion.

Figure 6: Major Languages of History Publications: 1974-2013

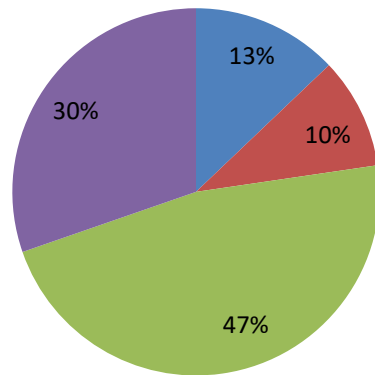


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Another feature characteristic of historical scholarship is periodization which also serves to delineate library subjects along temporal lines, if not specialization (see Figure 7.).

Figure 7: Periodization

■ Medieval ■ Ancient ■ Modern ■ Contemporary

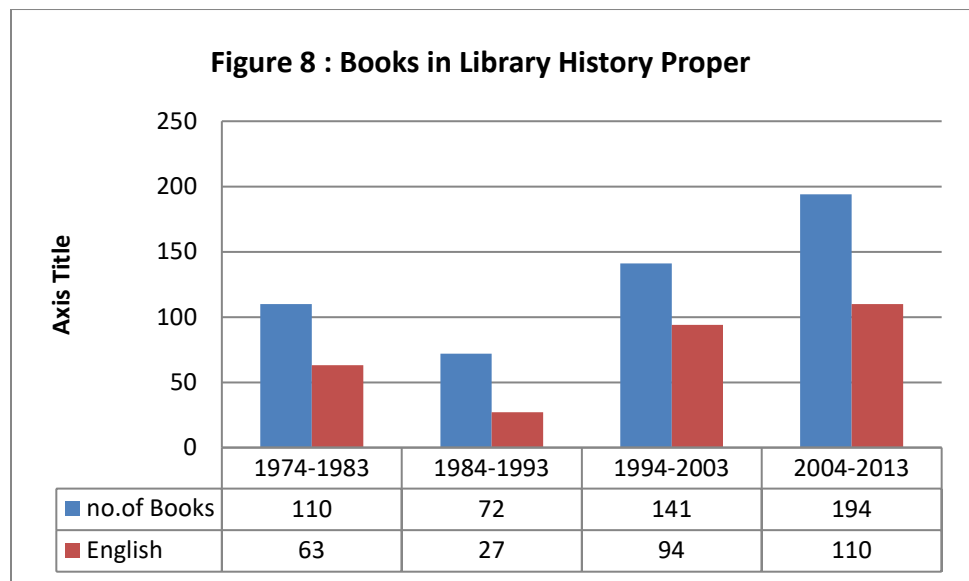


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Each historical period requires different sets of scholarly tools and may demand different approaches further demarcating specialization. Moreover, each temporal association corresponds to different library cultures, demanding different methodologies and techniques of analysis—at times multidisciplinary. Modernist period subjects at 47% represent library history from approximately 1500 to 1900, and often include private, university, or local libraries. Among subjects treated, the European Renaissance, ecclesiastical libraries, early modern libraries and

reading studies are complemented by a strong emphasis upon book history, its interaction with publishing. 19th century subjects are another strong emphasis, again, interacting with reading and book history. Deviating from the modern period, ancient and medieval inhabit two separate spheres of activity—one, the medieval period more Euro-centric in subject coverage; moreover, studies center on manuscripts, their analysis and dissemination of knowledge, e.g. incunabula and textual analysis. Nascent forms of production, etc. during the ancient period and treatments of ancient textual cultures, knowledge and its dissemination within Greco-Roman, especially Roman context characterize ancient studies. Interestingly, if one conducts a de visu examination, ancient and medieval periods are best covered in other historically oriented disciplinary journals than in LIS venues. Contemporary studies, that is, roughly 1800-present represents the most active for library historians. Decidedly, library, book, and reading focused, this period is rich in studies crossing many countries, types of libraries, as well as subjects traditionally found in library history. Its preview is larger as well, as it is not as grounded within the more established studies generally accompanying older periods where long-honed protocols, scholarly procedures, and schools of thought dominate approaches to ancient, medieval, and early modern history.

Besides journal articles, books contribute to the corpus of library history, but books written on library history topics reflect similar subjects; however, library history and library history topics can be isolated from the larger subject range found in articles (See Figure 8.).



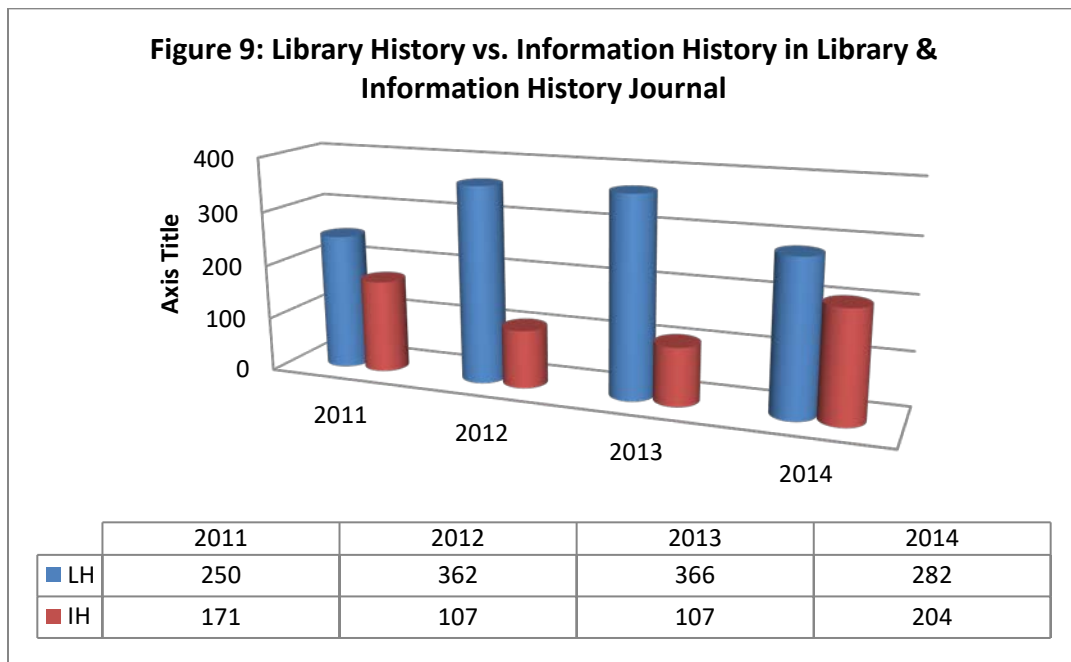
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If one strictly defines library history as directly tied to the library as subject focus and its attendant processes, the number of books, including edited works, single monographic studies, or general histories, as well as institutional and biographical studies, volume of production is rather small, relative to article production. The intellectual weight of the book in library history vis-à-vis the article may be trumped by the necessity of highly-definable research that can be captured

within article length research. Additionally the prevalence of book and reading culture history is much greater than for library history per se, suggesting that previous scholarship seen in library history, has been reconfigured separating library history proper as library focused, and stripping out subjects once covered by library historians, e.g. book history, history of publishing, history of reading, or periodical history. Little evidence exists for such monographic-like treatments of technical, e.g. cataloguing or acquisitions, or reference services. Amplifying this data, language of publication indicates that 64% of books are in English, perhaps, suggesting erroneously or not that English is dominating scholarly publishing in library history proper. Suggestive at best, book publishing in LIS historical subjects may not be cost effective or of great interest to LIS readers or mainstream historians, further characterizing LIS or specifically library history as an arcane or unnecessarily specialized interest.

Library History versus Information History

An instructive approach to ascertain the tension, or at least appreciate the conundrum posed by LH vis-à-vis IH is to briefly perform a de visu examination of the bibliography included in *Library & Information History*; for purposes of this illustration, one can discern the balance between LH and IH (See Figure 9.).^{iv} Since 2011 to 2014, information history has captured an increasing interest, resulting in publication. Library history is not in danger of diminution,



data retrieved from *Library & Information History*

but historical information studies is gaining a significant foothold in LIS historically oriented literature. A closer look at the bibliographies reveals library history to be joined by book studies, reading, and publishing studies; tellingly this mirrors past library history literature, conflating further what constitutes library history per se. Entries in historiographically oriented research do

not to any measurable degree accompany library history, making it more narrative oriented. This is complemented by an equally telling finding—information history is intellectually capturing information rich subjects that fit increasingly in the purview of information history. But what is information history and how does it differ from library history and is it sufficiently different from library history? Firstly, library history as generally practiced is library focused, library as place; furthermore, library history has privileged library processes, administration, technical services, and other library centered institutional history. Narratively strong, historiographically challenging approaches demand of the library as medium, or actor within the larger context of information, and publics as well as knowledge generation and dissemination may not always be present. Indeed, the prevalence of book history and reading cultures makes library history traditionally elastic in definition.

Alongside library history information history threatens to eclipse library centered historical scholarship, yet, upon closer examination, it too contains a larger definitional condition.^v Depending upon what is included under each rubric; library or information history may also include book studies, reading culture, or publishing history, even, though rarely, so far, media studies. These diverse subjects can be explored by historians willing to exercise a larger view of library or information history; additionally, it should be recognized that information history may be perceived as more *au courant* vis-à-vis LIS professional interests and willingness to engage with LIS historians. Book history or book arts may be seen as *passée* and belonging to another discipline. The historical examination of 19th century weather reports, or train tables, or ship logs and their information rich interpretation, may be seen as mirroring LIS interests, if only as historical insight into how human utilize information in the past.

Professional Amnesia and Library Historians

As with all professions where practitioner culture drives acculturation, LIS is not different.^{vi} Historical consciousness does not exert much influence in the quotidian affairs of LIS practitioners, especially, as the siren call of information studies has gained precedence. This in of itself is not critical, as historians of medicine, or science, or technology constitute academic cadres situated within history departments.^{vii} However, this poses a serious problem for historians of LIS should they wish to continue in their enterprise. Professional education as well as dominant practitioner culture and professionalization demand a more ahistorical approach to practice, further accentuating the marginal condition of LIS history.^{viii} Library history is increasingly relegated to the margins as information studies, information science, or library science per se occupies precious curricular space for professional training.^{ix} It is not without evidence that the LIS profession has been devoid of interest in things historical, further accentuating the problem of how to effectively maintain, nurture, and invigorate library history, so that historians interested in pursuing library history can find critical a mass of interest and professional support to innovate a field in need of new intellectual and historiographical horizons.

For this discussion, it is imperative to understand that at least in the North American, British, and Australian, etc. situation LIS schools are not the intellectual space for library history to flourish, let alone, maintain stasis.^x Library history courses, together with book arts, etc., are losing ground to professional prerogatives that require more technical and professional training for a rapidly accelerating profession. Already library history practitioners form a large cadre of contributors who were not trained within LIS library history programs--many are from other disciplines, a significant number are practicing librarians who have historical interests.^{xi} Throughout library history's own history, talented practitioners and disciplinary scholars have made valuable contributions; however, if LIS is to value library history, it should at least make room for the significant inclusion of library history—a library history that is vital, and innovative, as innovative as LIS professional preparation. To this end, it is critical to consider historiographical innovation, interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary influences as well as the changing information environment.

Uncoupling Library History from Book, Reading, or Publishing Studies?

Firstly, should library history be separated from the subjects of book history, or reading, or publishing history? Can it even be separated, or can it co-exist with these other subjects without marginalization by LIS professional interests and practitioner necessity. If library history is to exist on its own, it may need to re-invigorate itself via historiographical innovation and consider moving beyond the hagiographical approach to the best of library practice and library as place, or institution. Doing so, will necessitate a re-thinking of the library as a loci, or medium, or filter where cultural products, ideas, education, and packaging and dissemination of knowledge and information are interactive within the processes offered via libraries and librarians—all actors within a larger societal context where many forces meet and interact. Will LIS educators and programs allow for such a mutation for library history, or is it better for library history to continue with its past association with books, book studies, or history of reading, and/or history of publishing?^{xii} If this is so, then, LIS may continue to marginalize library history, as simply part of an amalgam of diverse, seemingly interlinked, but still open to becoming sub-disciplines in their own right with separate purpose, methodologies, and techniques, with equally disparate objects of research.

To be intellectually fair, library history could be subsumed into other multidisciplinary fields, American Studies, Canadian, or European Studies, Renaissance Studies, examined as another discrete part of a given national or disciplinary phenomenon.^{xiii} As with the history of museums, library history can be a stand-alone entity of research focus, if it assumes a more methodologically rich and historiographically charged field. Instead of sound narratively-driven and chronologically analyzed historical work, library history could be a field where the library focal point is actually the beginning of concerted innovation, bringing library history into the larger field of academic mainstream history, it may better survive marginalization. As with other fields of history devoted to the study of professions, library history is not alone, but a more efficacious

approach would be amplifying library history's major characteristics by making it a part of cultural history, a newly emerging field of historiographical innovation and innovative promise.^{xiv}

Another approach is to consider library history within the larger context of the history of cultural production and consumption; that is, library history is a field within the larger scope of social and cultural history. The danger here is posed by the real problem of losing one's specialist identity as a field of study. Acknowledging this would demand careful demarcation of library history from book studies or publishing history; the advantage being that the library as locus of cultural, social, communication, and information phenomena would benefit from close association with a larger identifiable historical set of research subjects. Again, the real existential concern is whether library history can be identified as a bone fide specialist field with its own research protocols, professional organization, consensus-driven methodologies, etc. A parallel illustration is instructive: history of chemistry or history of earth sciences, have their own specialist field, demarcated from history of science, which is further demarcated from mainstream academic history—they experience the same questions of identity as library history yet, they still exit within the constellation comprising history as a substantive discipline. If we consider the past in all its variations, all phenomena can be pursued through the specialist lens, but whether specialization becomes hyper-specialization reflects the past and current situation facing library history.

Library History, Disciplinary, Influences and Historiographical Imperative

The need for library history and historians to invigorate their historical research is critical to the revitalization of library history so much so, that it is imperative to reconsider a historiographical transformation along the lines that has effectively intellectually reconfigured mainstream academic history.^{xv} Since the 1960's, especially since the 1970's historians have been increasingly influenced by other humanities and social science disciplines and what they can offer the historical enterprise, complemented by a corresponding interest in historiographical reflection upon the historical intellectual enterprise.^{xvi} Importantly for library history and historians, mainstream academic historians were challenged by the possible importation of methodologies, techniques, or perspectives originating with humanities and social science disciplines. In Europe, especially France, and elsewhere, new approaches were considered not only useful, but possibly critical to a sounder understanding of what historians were doing and how their approaches affected the object of research that they were pursuing.^{xvii} Social history assumed a larger position where historians could exercise their deployment of techniques and methodologies to elucidate thorny past social conditions. Equally critical were newly emerging theories appearing in literary and philosophical studies; influences and discussions of those influences generated critical interest in problems of historical method, especially historiography, and its application or pertinence to historical research.

Since the transformation of historical scholarship from a field especially dominated by political, diplomatic, military, or even economic history to a more diverse field of inquiry, where all manner of social cultural, intellectual, economic, or other historical specialties exit, library

history has still to invigorate itself sufficiently by these historiographical currents. To effectively navigate these innovations in approach, methodology, and theory, library historians need to re-conceptualize their *raison être*, judiciously incorporating insights and/or techniques originating with humanities and/or social sciences disciplines. Enhancing library history via other disciplines will strengthen library history—moreover, borrowing techniques or methodologies originating in the social sciences or humanities may enhance, or at least amplify, library historians’ attempts in enlarging the purview of library history as a scholarly discipline. This can intellectually strengthen library history’s position vis-à-vis LIS, mollifying LIS’s ahistorical and perceived antipathy to historical scholarship, especially as it focuses on LIS’s past.

Paralleling these advancements in historical methodology, historiography has assumed a reflective position within historical studies.^{xviii} Critically reflexive, historians engaged in historiographical work, have explored many critical issues facing historians and their enterprise; foundational analyses have broached every sector of historical research, including what constitutes the *raison d’être* of history as discipline, etc. Moreover, historiographical scholarship has thrown open the historical discipline toward an intellectually open horizon where historians have become more aware of their approaches, and how these influence research protocols, methods, results. How one approaches the past is now more critical, historians have assumed responsibility for their process of investigation. Library historians can benefit from a historiography that is itself thriving from contact with other humanities and social science disciplines.

Deployment of Methodologies: Examples and Observations

Effectively pursuing library history or any historical specialization may require a larger focus, sometimes borrowing, incorporating, or being influenced by heretofore untried methodologies; these methodologies can invigorate well-worn approaches, especially, beyond narrative and chronological analysis.^{xix} However, importation of these different options can affect the research project in unforeseen ways; previous scholarship may be revised, or utilizing methodological tools and techniques may recalibrate the library historian’s research. As illustration, using cliometric approaches or sociological theories to understand social interaction and library services, especially collections, may affect previously-held ideas governing how libraries have generally interacted with patrons and their respective expectations. Deploying anthropological or ethnographic methods and analysis can affect how the historical record appears to the researcher. Utilization of sociological insights from historical sociology can effectively transform raw data, or how one’s perceives libraries within time and space. Geographical spatial theory can provide a greater acceptance of how human interact and process spatially their cultural environments. These and other examples must be effectively and carefully understood and employed by library historians, if they are to successfully navigate the newer multidisciplinary environment, where disciplinary melding may challenge the veracity of the primary source and how one deciphers the past.

Open Horizon or Concluding Observations

This exploratory discussion attempted to situate library history within a larger discussion of what constitutes performing historical research oriented to the examination of libraries per se. Within the context of a larger discussion of library history, other considerations, e.g. book or print culture history, or media history need be considered only in that they too have played a significant part in the history and intellectual evolution of library history.^{xx} Given that LIS professionalization has demonstrably challenged library history by marginalizing it within the professional curricular direction in LIS schools, it should not be a surprise that historical interest in LIS requires another venue within which to prosper. Whether library history per se as opposed to library history within book studies or publishing studies, or other configurations, continues to find itself without an academic anchorage is open to question. Yet, library history can be found among different disciplines, especially as it touches print culture, and information history. As the latter gains momentum, it may find itself also striving to find an academic home within disciplines other than identified within LIS schools; but again, the discrete subject itself may become another object of research pursued by a diverse spectrum of disciplinary researchers regardless of whether the library as a focus of research interest is within LIS.

Necessarily exploratory, this discussion has entertained the notion of library history as a problematic research and scholarly specialty within LIS. Compounding this perceived condition library history is a going enterprise, but one fraught with tension within LIS professional interests, especially in North American and other predominantly Anglo-American style LIS schools. Can library history be a specialty, or should it be one of many possible objects under investigation in the ever-expanding purview of academic history? Far from giving a definitive answer, this discussion can only be a foray into the fluid condition that represents library history. Perhaps a similar discussion shall ensue later when library history has assumed stronger contours and information history has matured, enough for both to gain individual identities, or for one or the other to become subsumed under other larger rubrics, e.g. cultural history—only time will tell.^{xxi} If this discussion has accomplished its task, it has opened the question even further—what is library history, what is its *raison d'être*, and where does it belong? Others may differ or even question this perception of library history—but, its condition within LIS begs the question: How are we to answer?

ⁱ Jean-Pierre V. M.Héubel, “Historiographical Futures for Library History: Conceptual Observations for Future Historians,” IFLA Rare Books and Manuscripts Section, IFLA Library History Special Interest Group, *History of Librarianship*, ENSSIB, IFLA, Lyon, 25-26 August 2014.

ⁱⁱ For representative scholarship, see the now defunct Annual *Bibliography of the History of the Printed Book and Libraries*, for a general sense of world library history scholarship.

ⁱⁱⁱ See, Jean-Pierre V. M. Hérubel, "Clio's Dream, or Has the Muse Departed from the Temple? Implications for Library History," *Libraries & Culture* 39 (Fall 2004): 429-445.

^{iv} See *Library & Information History*, <http://www.maneyonline.com/loi/lbh>. Before this title change, *Library History* reflected the library as focus; *Library and The Cultural Record*, changed to *Information & Culture* to encompass an already changing LIS history landscape.

^v For this debate consult Alistair Black, "Information and Modernity: The History of Information and the Eclipse of Library History," *Library History* 14 (May 1998): 39-45; and responses, Donald G. Davis, Jr., and Jon Arvid Aho, "Whither Library History? A Critical Essay on Black's Model for the Future of Library History, with Some Additional Options," *Library History* 17 (March 2001): 21-37; Jonathan Rose, "Alternative Futures for Library History," *Libraries & Culture* 38 (Winter 2003): 50-60; James W. Cortada, "Shaping Information History as an Intellectual Discipline," *Information & Culture* 47 (2012): 119-144. For a compelling discussion of information history, see William Aspray, "The Many Histories of Information," *Information & Culture: A Journal of History* 50 (2015): 1-23.

^{vi} See Susan E. Lederer, Jonathan Zimmerman, James L. Baughman, Catherine Brekus, Mary L. Dudziak and Nancy F. Koehn, "Interchange: History in the Professional Schools," *The Journal of American History*, Vol. 92, No. 2 (Sep., 2005): 553-576

^{vii} For history of medicine see, Olga Amsterdamska and Anja Hiddinga, Chapter 11. "Trading Zones or Citadels? Professionalization and Intellectual Change in the History of Medicine," In *Locating Medical History: The Stories and Their Meanings* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004): 237-261.

^{viii} See Michael Harris and Stanley Hannah, "Why Do We Study the History of Libraries? A Meditation on the Perils of Ahistoricism in the Information Era," *Library & Information Science Research* 14 (April-June 1992): 123-30.

^{ix} For interesting advocacy of historical studies in LIS, see Christine Pawley, "History in the Library and Information Science Curriculum: Outline of a Debate." *Libraries & Culture* 40 (Summer 2005): 223-238.

^x For more international perspectives, consult Pierre Delsaerdt, "From Légère Teinture to Central Place: A Revaluation of Book and Library History within Library and Information Science Programmes," *Library History* 24 (June, 2008): 143-151.

^{xi} For the American and international context, see Jean-Pierre V. M. Hérubel, "Authorship, Gender, and Institutional Affiliation in Library History: The Case of *Libraries & Culture*," *Behavioral & Social Sciences Librarian* 11 (1991): 49-54; Jon Arvid Aho and Donald G. Davis, Jr., "Advancing the Scholarship of Library History: The Role of the *Journal of Library History* and *Libraries & Culture*," *Libraries & Culture* 35, no. 1 (Winter 2000): 173-91; Edward A. Goedeken, "What We Wrote About and Who We Were: Historical Writings in *JLH/L&C*, 1966-2000," *Libraries & Culture* 38, no. 3 (Summer 2003): 250-65;

^{xii} Increasingly history of the book, history of reading, and history of publishing have their own concerns, and have established respective publishing organs, as well as conference, societies. etc.

^{xiii} For a broadening of library history, see Wayne A. Wiegand, "To Reposition a Research Agenda: What American Studies Can Teach the LIS Community about the Library in the Life of the User," *Library Quarterly* 73, no. 4 (October 2003): 369–82.

^{xiv} For discussion of possible cultural historical approaches, see Jean-Pierre V. M. Hérubel, "Historiography's Horizon and Imperative: The Legacy of Febvrian Annales and Library History as Cultural History," *Libraries & Culture* 39 (Summer 2004): 293-312; Jean-Pierre V. M. Hérubel, "Phoenix Ascendant: French Higher Education and Its Significance for Research and Learning for Library, Book, Print, and Media Culture History." *Libraries & Culture* 40 (2005): 156-175; Jean-Pierre V.M. Hérubel, "Observations on an Emergent Specialization: Contemporary French Cultural History-Significance for Scholarship." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 41 (January 2010): 216-240.

^{xv} For discussion of historiographical and subject orientations and possible future directions, see Edward A. Goedeken, "Our Historiographical Enterprise: Shifting Emphases and Directions." *Libraries & the Cultural Record* 45 (2010): 350-358; Anne L. Buchanan and Hérubel, Jean-Pierre V. M. "Subject and Historiographic Characteristics of Library History." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 42 (July 2011): 514-533.

^{xvi} For possible insight into experimenting with historiographical and theoretical approaches, see *Rethinking History, The Journal of Theory and Practice*, <http://www.tandfonline.com/action/journalInformation?show=aimsScope&journalCode=rrhi20#.VLlpGOIOWEU>.

^{xvii} To appreciate the fermentation affecting institutionalization of academic history in general, see Carlos Barros and Lawrence J. McCrank, eds. *History Under Debate: International Reflection on the Discipline* (Binghamton, NY: Haworth Press, Inc., 2004).

^{xviii} For discussions concerning historiography, history as practice, and the nature of being a historian, see Oliver Dumoulin, *Le rôle social de l'historien* (Paris: Albin Michel, 2003).

^{xix} For discussion of expanding library history's focus, especially the internalist versus externalist debate in historical studies, see the still pertinent Michael H. Harris, "Externalist or Internalist Frameworks for the Interpretation of American Library History—The Continuing Debate," *Journal of Library History* 10 (April 1975): 106–10.

^{xx} Pertinent to this discussion may be reflected in Alistair Black, "New Methodologies in Library History: a Manifesto for the 'new' Library History," 11 *Library History* (1996):76-85;