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Review of the book Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives of the United States, 3rd ed.

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Professional genealogy: a manual for researchers, writers, editors, lecturers, and librarians, ed. by Elizabeth Shown Mills. Genealogical Publishing, 2001. 654p bibl index ISBN 0-8063-1648-9, \$44.95

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Guide to genealogical research in the National Archives, ed. by Anne Bruner Eales and Robert M. Kvasnicak. 3rd ed. National Archives and Records Administration, 2001 (c2000). 411p index ISBN 1-880875-24-1 pbk, \$25.00

Rather than a typical genealogical handbook (which would give instructions about how to find one's roots and where to look), Mills's book consists of 29 essays/chapters designed to assist people working in the field. The 23 contributors are experts on their topics; Mills has edited *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* since 1987. Among the topics covered are practical matters ("Editing Periodicals"), methodology ("Evidence Analysis"), and legal aspects ("Executing Contracts"). A useful appendix contains the codes, guidelines, or standards of five US and seven foreign genealogical organizations or agencies. Although the best guidebooks will touch on some of these topics, the trend toward professionalism and rigorous documentation made the preparation of such a manual necessary. Mills is recommended for all large genealogical collections.

The third edition of *Guide to Genealogical Research* is a complete revision and enlargement of earlier editions (1964, 1985), covering records not included in those versions as well as materials now available on the National Archives Web site <<http://www.nara.gov/>>. For example, several hundred more microfilm publications are cited or described in this edition than in the second, especially census materials and passenger lists. With 13 regional archives, besides the central facility (College Park, MD) and its Web site <<http://www.nara.gov/research/>>, NARA's holdings are readily available to researchers, who no longer have to travel to Washington, DC. This volume is essential for genealogical collections and should also be useful for other researchers (e.g., demographers and social and military historians) attempting to tap the rich genealogical resources held by NARA.—*J. A. Drobnicki, CUNY York College*