



ADVENTURES OF A PAPER SLEUTH

HUGH MACMILLAN

"Hugh MacMillan has been dogged and tireless in sleuthing for rare and priceless artifacts that illuminate Canada's past." That is how Allan Levine, *Ottawa Citizen* writer, describes this exuberant man who in 1984 was honoured by Laurentian University, Sudbury, Ontario, with a Doctorate of Letters for bringing many lost historical documents into the care of the Ontario Archives. Hugh also helped found the Norwester and Loyalist Museum in Williamstown, as well as the Pioneer Museum in Dunvegan, both in Glengarry County, Ontario.

Born in Fitzroy Harbour near Arnprior over seventy years ago, MacMillan, in this book, sets out in detail all the fun, triumph, embarrassment and disappointment engendered in honing a career that is almost without parallel among those who make their life's work in Canadian research. Part auto-biography, part "how-to" book, part mystery story, *Adventures of a Paper Sleuth* will engage the armchair historian and professional researcher alike. Hugh has an

incredible reserve of stories, avuncular style, and the kind of personality that makes total strangers feel at ease. An hour a day in his company is the best of elixirs. Hugh makes history come alive.

"All of Hugh's friends and innumerable acquaintances will welcome the appearance of this book, which will undoubtedly make him many new friends as readers yet unknown are invited to share some of his remarkable experiences, his triumphs and his disappointments, but above all his infectious enthusiasm and appetite for life. Hugh is one of a kind and has made a massive contribution to his country and its heritage. That contribution is by no means transitory or ephemeral; it will be valued and appreciated as long as people continue to investigate the history of this great nation. This is his story."

— Ted Cowan, Professor of Scottish Studies, University of Glasgow, Scotland

"For more than 25 years, Hugh has roamed the highways, attics and basements of Ontario seeking out the often forgotten, usually unappreciated treasures of our documentary heritage. Combining the skills of a great detective with patience and tenacity, he rescued many fragile records of our experience. His passion for history has been infectious, enlisting the help of many in the cause, and triumphing over beaurocracy and indifference. His achievements have been real and numerous. His exploits, though, are the stuff of legend."

— Ian E. Wilson, Librarian and Archivist of Canada

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