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### EASTERN EUROPE AND RUSSIA / SOVIET UNION

A Handbook of West European Archival and Library Resources

by Richard C. Lewanski

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## Foreword

In the late 1950's, the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) took the imaginative initiative of sponsoring, as part of their dynamic activities for the advancement of Slavic and East European Studies, a broad-gauged supportive documentation program, which, originally developed by the respective area committees of these learned bodies, was in recent years broadened and carried to fruition by their Joint Committee on Eastern Europe (JCEE).

It was only logical to assign first priority to the production of a series of bibliographic guides identifying the principal published research materials on the area and to a state-of-the-art study. These efforts resulted in the release of the following research tools—all published by the University of Chicago Press: Basic Russian Publications (1962): Russia and the Soviet Union: A Bibliographic Guide to Western Language Publications (1965); Language and Area Studies, East Central and Southeastern Europe: A Survey (1970): East Central Europe: A Guide to Basic Publications (1970); and Southeastern Europe: A Guide to Basic Publications (1970).

With the completion of this first phase of the documentation program, JCEE could turn its attention to commissioning or supporting the compilation of collection surveys and inventories intended to further an improved utilization of existing research resources by describing them and

specifying their location. In other words, the focus on "what was published" was shifted to "what is actually accessible and where can it be used?"

The projects brought forth, aside from the preparation of surveys limited to specific countries (Poland and Yugoslavia), include the publication in 1976 of East Central and Southeast Europe: A Handbook of Library and Archival Resources in North America (Santa Barbara, Calif., CLIO Press), which provides an overview of essential collections in major libraries, archives, and research institutions in the United States and Canada.

The present Handbook represents, mutatis mutandis, a companion volume to that North American survey and extends the reach of collection studies across the ocean by pinpointing and describing in concise form printed and handwritten records on Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union which are preserved in libraries, archives, and other centers of research in European countries outside the socialist orbit. For most countries of the latter area, directories of domestic research resources in the field are already available.

A product of meticulous and far-flung investigation, this sorely needed work promises to fill a sensitive *lacuna* in the field and should open up to scholarship and librarianship a mine of information on many impressive and venerable collections and treasures assembled through the centuries by European repositories, as well as on

an extensive literature reflecting a long tradition of contributions to Slavic and East European learning.

It was felicitous indeed that
Dr. Richard C. Lewanski,
librarian-bibliographer and Slavic
scholar of note, was able to accept the
invitation of ACLS to conduct this
complex, multi-country survey and to
embody his findings in this volume.
Placing his expertise and experience
in the service of this assignment,
he has now added another contribution
to his list of widely used reference
works on Slavic studies. It has been

personally a gratifying experience to be associated with this project, first by helping to initiate and develop it, and subsequently by serving it in a consultative capacity. In fulfilling these tasks, I was most fortunate to benefit, as in previous projects, from the spirited cooperation of Mr. David H. Kraus, Acting Chief, European Division, Library of Congress, whose linguistic and organizational expertise proved indispensable for the conclusion of this undertaking.

Paul L. Horecky

#### Preface

The purpose of this Guide is to make available to scholars, librarians, and researchers engaged in the study of Slavic, East European, and Russian/Soviet affairs an inventory in directory format of the principal research resources, facilities, and services available in some 1,000 repositories—institutions of higher learning and research, libraries, archives, and museums—in various European countries.

Organization. The Guide is arranged alphabetically: by countries, within countries by localities, and, within localities, by names of institutions.

Area Focus. Collections pertaining to the Slavic and East European countries, peoples, and ethnic groups, as well as to the Soviet Union.

Subject Focus. Primarily the humanities and social sciences in the broadest sense, but also, to a lesser extent, the natural sciences and technology, particularly in their historical aspects.

Geographic Scope of Repositories
Described. Those repositories located
outside the East European
countries and the USSR are covered.
In view of the longstanding tradition
of Germany in Slavic and East European
research, publishing, and collection
development, it was thought appropriate
to include surveys of the sizeable
collections housed both in the Federal
Republic of Germany and in the
German Democratic Republic,
notwithstanding the political separation
of these two countries.

Bibliographic Apparatus: It was considered essential to complement the description of research resources by bibliographic data bearing on past and present activities of the repositories surveyed and on their collections or on specific parts thereof. At the beginning of this Guide, a listing of union catalogs in card form is given, and, when practicable, a general bibliography of relevant references precedes the entries for a given country, and, sometimes, even for a city. Moreover, in many instances, the entry for a certain institution is followed by a listing of publications issued about or sponsored by that institution, Citations in the latter category, often for serials or monographic series, can be identified by the absence of an extraneous author or publisher attribution, and they usually conclude the entry bibliography. A combined author-area-subject index, of necessity condensed because of the vast number of indexable terms in the text of the survey, should facilitate ready access and orientation to the contents.

Method of Data Collection. The information presented here was gathered, whenever feasible, by on-the-spot examination, otherwise by questionnaires. The results of that inquiry, which was concluded by 1977, are reflected in in this publication. Many bibliographic data, either reported or derived from secondary sources, involved a vast array of foreign languages, with all attendant intricacies of spelling, diacritical marks, transliteration, capitalization, and so

forth. If my efforts to attain full consistency have not always proved successful, I beg the users' indulgence.

Acknowledgments. An undertaking of this scope is, of course, one of a truly cooperative nature. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the directors and professional staffs of the participating institutions for their spirit of excellent cooperation, often extended far and above the call of duty. The lengthy roster of those whom I visited or consulted regrettably precludes individual acknowledgments.

Special thanks are due, however, to several organizations and individual specialists whose previous survey studies for their countries proved to be of great benefit to me. Among them are Die Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Osteuropa Forschung in Austria, Mr. Jakub Sobieski in Belgium, Institut des Études Slaves in France, Dr. Gerhard Teich in Germany, Dr. Gregory Walker of the Slavonic and East European Group of the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries in Great Britain, Associazione Italiana degli Slavisti in Italy, and Koördinatiecommissie Oost-Europa in the Netherlands.

Apologies to contributors are in order for modifications or condensations of their texts as dictated by the exigencies of consistency and standardization of presentation and by the needs of space economy.

My profound expression of gratitude goes to Dr. Gordon B. Turner, Vice President, American Council of Learned Societies, and to Dr. Paul L. Horecky, retired Chief of the Slavic and Central European Division, Library of Congress, who lent the project most helpful counsel, support, and cooperation from its initiation to its conclusion. Dr. Paul Horecky's expertise and experience were great assets for the fruition of this enterprise.

Last but not least, I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr. David H. Kraus, Acting Chief, European Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., for reviewing so expeditiously the final proofs for this volume.

It goes without saying that the responsibility for content and presentation of this book is mine alone.

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