

## Urban History Review Revue d'histoire urbaine

URBAN HISTORY REVIEW  
REVUE D'HISTOIRE URBAINE

Stevens, John, editor. *The Urban Experience*. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1975. Pp. v, 121. Illustrations. \$3.25 paperback

Alan F. J. Artibise

Numéro 1-76, june 1976

URI : <https://id.erudit.org/iderudit/1019557ar>

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019557ar>

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### Éditeur(s)

Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine

### ISSN

0703-0428 (imprimé)

1918-5138 (numérique)

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### Citer ce compte rendu

Artibise, A. F. J. (1976). Compte rendu de [Stevens, John, editor. *The Urban Experience*. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1975. Pp. v, 121. Illustrations. \$3.25 paperback]. *Urban History Review / Revue d'histoire urbaine*, (1-76), 37-37. <https://doi.org/10.7202/1019557ar>

Chudacoff has here the makings of a lively textbook rather than vital reinterpretation of the American urban experience. And even as textbook, two elements would be useful: a chapter or appendix on the historiography of urban America, and a bibliographical essay to complement the sources listed at the end of each chapter.

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Stevens, John, editor. The Urban Experience. Toronto: Macmillan of Canada, 1975. Pp. v, 121. Illustrations. \$3.25 paperback.

This collection of prose, poetry and drama is part of the "Themes in Canadian Literature Series" under the general editorship of David Arnason. At least ten other titles have already been published in this series, including one dealing with The Immigrant Experience, and several others are "in preparation."

The Urban Experience consists of a short introduction by the editor and twenty-seven excerpts from the work of Canadian writers, past and present, that illustrate or comment on the theme. A very shallow "bibliography" is also included.

According to the editor, John Stevens, "the view offered by this sampling of Canadian urban writing suggests that although the maple-leafed city may be sometimes a place for bitter regrets and sometimes a place for satiric laughter, one thing is certain: it is never merely dull."

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