

## Doctoral Dissertations on New Jersey History, 1978-83

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**T**HIS IS THE THIRD in a series of bibliographical articles on doctoral dissertations concerning New Jersey history. Between 1896 and 1983 there have been a total of 488 such dissertations, submitted in fulfillment of requirements for doctorates in history, education, and other disciplines.<sup>1</sup> In the 1978-83<sup>2</sup> period a total of ninety-three dissertations, averaging 15.5 per annum, were completed. This represents a decline in annual production from the previous seven-year period (19.2 per annum). In the last six years, dissertations were written at twenty-eight universities. Rutgers University dominated the field with thirty-five dissertations (37.3 percent), followed by Columbia University, New York University, and the University of Pennsylvania (28 percent for the three combined). As in the period before 1978, works on the history of education dominated doctoral research (32.3 percent). Ethnic, black, and urban history, as well as recent political studies and political history were the next most popular areas of study. Religion, long a popular field, was tied by archaeology as the fourth most researched subject area.

During the 1960s and early 1970s, New Jersey history became a more frequent subject for doctoral research. But with the steady decline over the past decade in advanced graduate study in history, there has been a corresponding decline in the writing of New Jersey history. Most dissertations on New Jersey history being written today are Rutgers University studies of the history of education. As noted in the author's two previous bibliographical articles on doctoral dissertations concerning New Jersey history, "there remain large areas of New Jersey history for which no dissertations have been written. The history of the nineteenth century and early-twentieth century have largely been ignored." Moreover, "there are only a few dissertations that deal with specific women or the area of the history of women. Areas of New Jersey history for which there are no or only a few dissertations include: agriculture, business, legal

and constitutional history, military, science, medicine, technology and cultural subjects. There are no general economic, social or intellectual studies."<sup>3</sup> It is to be hoped that these areas of New Jersey history will someday become subjects for dissertation research.

This bibliography has been compiled from *Dissertation Abstracts International*, published by University Microfilms International, Ann Arbor, Michigan. The volume and page numbers of the abstracts appear at the end of each entry below.

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### **Notes**

<sup>1</sup> William C. Wright, "Doctoral Dissertations on New Jersey History, 1896-1970," *New Jersey History* 91 (1973): 221-34; William C. Wright, "Doctoral Dissertations on New Jersey History, 1971-1977," *New Jersey History* 97 (1979): 213-20.

<sup>2</sup> All New Jersey dissertations through volume forty-four of *Dissertation Abstracts International*.

<sup>3</sup> Wright, "Doctoral Dissertations on New Jersey History, 1971-1977," 214.