

HONORABLE MENTION

Lords of the Line by David Cruise and Alison Griffiths
Markham: Penguin Canada, Viking ISBN 0-670-81437-7
Design: Pronk & Associates Hard cover, dustwrapper

Three prizes and two honorable mentions were awarded. The common thread among them is attention to detail and integrity of the whole, which is still so often lacking in the design of general prose books. Bruce Hutchison's anecdotal memoirs are pleasantly supported by a slightly antique design. Strongly printed woodcut illustrations and decorations contrast with lighter type. Even the single script "L" of the title helps set the mood. Third prize also went to a book of memoirs for similar consistency and appropriateness of style including evocative vignettes at chapter openings, although its type is not as well chosen for the layout.

The second-prize book on pornography set in so elegant a style was a surprise. The all-black wrapper contrasts with both the soft cover and vivid endpapers. The text is cleanly printed on an off-white stock particularly easy on the eyes.

Of the honorable mentions, Mark Frutkin's novel combines dialogue, poetry, and diary entries. Its modern ragged-right setting may not be entirely in keeping with the period-piece nature of the text, but is carefully done. The use of antique photographic images and peacock-feather motif match the text well. Finally, the book on Canada's railroad barons is presented with consistent, and totally appropriate, boldness in every aspect.

GENERAL TRADE BOOKS: ADULT PICTURE AND PHOTOGRAPHY

1ST PRIZE

The Grange: A Gentleman's House in Upper Canada by Marilyn Litvak
Toronto: Art Gallery of Ontario ISBN 0-919777-68-6
Design: Marilyn Bouma-Pyper Paper cover, stapled

2ND PRIZE

*Guts, Greed and Glory, A Visual History of Modern Canadian
Business* by the editors of Canadian Business
Toronto: Summerhill ISBN 0-920197-61-2
Design: James Ireland Hard cover, dustwrapper

3RD PRIZE

The Nahanni Portfolio by Patrick and Rosemarie Keough
Don Mills, Ontario: Stoddart ISBN 0-7737-2167-3
Design: the authors Hard cover, dustwrapper

HONORABLE MENTION

The Architecture of Arthur Erickson by Arthur Erickson
Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre ISBN 0-88894-610-4
Design: Barbara Hodgson Hard cover, dustwrapper

The Grange is the most perfect book in the competition: a gem designed like the period house it describes, from the William Morris wallpaper cover to the floral frieze and fat-face type of its section headings. The translucent door knocker overlay on the door-design title page is the invitation to enter.

The second-prize winner applied a totally contrasting style; its journalistic content presented in flashy rapid-fire magazine style with a unifying element that keeps attention focused in the array of prose, caption, and illustration.

Third prize went to a more conventional, but excellently produced, book of colour photographs with extended captions in an uncluttered design. A section of black-and-white historical photographs and text was wisely printed on text (not coated) paper. The sturdy sewn binding is appropriate to the weight of the book.

Honorable mention goes to the Erickson book for its imaginative use of a three-column oblong format for flexibility in displaying photographs, plans, captions, and text.

GENERAL TRADE BOOKS: HOW-TO, COOKING, CRAFT, AND HOBBY

HONORABLE MENTION

Rock Gardens: A Harrowsmith Gardener's Guide edited by

Katharine Ferguson; illustrated by Marta Scythes

Camden East, Ontario: Camden House ISBN 0-920656-90-0

Design: Linda J. Menyes Paperback

This category brought no prize this year, but an honorable mention to a book which packs a remarkable amount of information into fewer than a hundred pages in a two-column format that avoids the usual unattractiveness of that style. Illustration is sensible: black-and-white drawings illustrate individual plants, while colour photographs show garden layouts. It is a shame the cover illustration reminds one of a tombstone.

TEXT AND REFERENCE

1ST PRIZE

Origins: Canadian History to Confederation

Destinies: Canadian History since Confederation

[both] by R. Douglas Francis, Richard Jones, and Donald B. Smith

Toronto: Holt, Rinehart and Winston of Canada

ISBN 0-03-921705-1 and 0-03-921706-X

Design: John Zehethofer Paperback