Geschichte der psychiatrischen Forensik und der Klassifikationen ernsthaft und umfassend bearbeitet werden sollte.

Christian Müller, Bern

Lydon, Paul: **A catalogue of records retained by hospices and related organisations in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.** Sheffield, European Association for the History of Medicine and Health Publications, 1998. XVI, 124 p. (Research Guide Series, 3). £18.95 (EAHMH members: £10.95). ISBN 0-9527045-8-7.

The history of hospices in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries is a growing field of interest among medical historians. This volume reflects this change and represents the latest fruits of labour of the History of Hospice Project, established at the University of Sheffield, England in 1995. One of the aims of this project is “to catalogue and safeguard archival records relevant to hospice and related developments in Britain and Ireland”. In producing this “landmark document”, the first of its kind to list and describe the range of source materials available to hospice historians, archivist Paul Lydon has surely provided an important starting-point for the realisation of such an undertaking. Broad ranging in its scope, the catalogue offers details of hospices currently operating within Britain and Ireland, whilst also touching briefly upon other related organisations (3 entries are listed) and also on “defunct hospices” which have since closed, but whose archives still survive (6 entries). Easily accessible, entries are ordered alphabetically by county within a country, the majority of the instances coming from English examples – the latter is afforded sixty-eight of the eighty-four entries that make up the main section of the catalogue. In each section, contact details are offered, as well as brief details concerning the historical background of the institution and the archival resources of the archives, the latter being most frequently divided into administrative, clinical and oral history records. Lydon freely admits that the catalogue is “not conclusive and should therefore be used as a guide/pointer rather than a definitive statement”. Drawbacks of the guide of which a potential researcher needs to be aware (including for example the non-inclusion of certain institutions – most notably Sue Ryder-Homes) are amply elucidated in the Introduction. Of perhaps greatest importance is the possible scope of the catalogue to mislead the researcher as to the merits of investigating individual institutions. The different methodological approaches utilised by the various organisations which supplied information for this publication mean that the size/detail of an entry may not necessarily correspond to the actual research potential of an archive. Nevertheless, this work makes important inroads in raising awareness of hospice history. Appendix 2, “Advice on Archiving and Record Keeping” ensures that this volume is also of service to those institutions interested in establishing a record management programme for the benefit of future generations. Serving as a companion to the “Directory of Palliative Care”, Lydon’s catalogue will no doubt find its place as both a valuable research tool and as one of the first reference points for everyone with an interest in hospice archives.

Louise Gray, London