research methodology at Yale.

The guide lists and annotates 543 reference tools including bibliographies, encyclopedias, dictionaries, indexes and abstracts, guidebooks and manuals, catalogs, commentaries, and a few monographs containing extensive bibliographies. It is limited primarily to English-language works of recent vintage. Of necessity, some older works that have not been superseded have been included.

While there are some references to world religions broadly, the primary coverage is that of the Judeo-Christian tradition, including both Protestant and Catholic Christianity. The basic framework follows the classic theological divisions of biblical studies, systematic theology, historical studies, and practical theology. In addition to these, there are sections on bibliography; encyclopedias and dictionaries; and a general section on biography, almanacs, directories, yearbooks, quotation and poetry indexes, and style manuals.

Each of the 543 entries is given a terse descriptive annotation indicating the contents, purpose, scope, arrangement, depth, and perspective of the work. No attempt is made to give critical evaluations of the items. There is a comprehensive author and title index.

There are brief but helpful introductions to each of the chapters giving some definitions and guidelines as to the usefulness of the various kinds of tools listed in each section. Where there is unevenness in the coverage of a particular section, we believe that this reflects unevenness in the tools available to the researcher rather than any lack of perspective in the compilation.

The guide includes both secular and religious works of value in the field. Where an item has application in more than one subject area, a cross-reference is given. This book should be a basic piece for the study of theological bibliography and should be found in any significant reference collection as well as many a pastor's study.—*John B. Trotti, Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, Richmond.*

Morrow, Carolyn Clark. *A Conservation Policy Statement for Research Libraries.* University of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science Occasional Papers, no. 139. Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Graduate School of Library Science, 1979. 23p. $2 (prepaid). ISSN 0073-5310.

The preface of the *Conservation Policy Statement* contains a sentence that sums up its major flaw: "It was personally more fun to outline a positive program (even if fictional and wildly unrealistic) than to describe the very real limitations." This personal statement of the ideal conservation program does have unrealistic aspects, and these may deter a library from *any* conservation efforts.

Rather than encouraging basic preservation efforts, with a staff and budget that can be expanded as necessary, the author outlines a massive program and emphasizes how expensive conservation is. The organization chart for the conservation department shows eighteen full-time staff members (five librarians and thirteen clerical or technical workers) and fifteen student workers. Even with a staff of this size, binding is done outside the library, and departmental librarians do minor repairs for their own areas.

The *Conservation Policy Statement* can be helpful for conservation planning in academic libraries if the policymakers are already familiar with preservation theory and practice. The lists of "Principles of Conservation" and "Priorities of the Conservation Program" suggest areas of activity that a library could pursue. The bibliography of sixty-four readings provides some useful citations although the standard reference works by Bernard Middleton, George and Dorothy Cunha, and Howard Winger and Richard Smith are not included.

For a more practical approach to a research library policy and program see the University of Wisconsin–Madison *Statement on the Conservation of Library Materials.* The recently published *Toward a California Document Conservation Program,* by J. Michael Bruer, demonstrates how many facets of Morrow's ideal library conservation program could be assumed by a statewide or regional center.—*Catherine Asher, Indiana University, Bloomington.*

Rowley, J. E. *Mechanised In-House Information Systems.* London: Clive Bingley; New York: K. G. Saur, 1979. 208p.