



Mathematics and the Historian's Craft [The Kenneth O. May Lectures /

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Monografía

Kenneth Owsnworth May (1915-1977) was a brilliant and influential mathematician, historian, and educator who founded the journal *Historia Mathematica* as well as the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Mathematics. He viewed the practice of the history of mathematics as a unique melding of the crafts of mathematician and historian. This entails sensitivity to the mathematical content of the subject and to the various contexts in which it can be understood. Mathematical practitioners, for pedagogical reasons or to contextualize their own work, tend to focus on finding the antecedents for current mathematical theories in a search for how particular subdisciplines and results came to be as they are today. On the other hand, historians of mathematics bypass the current state of affairs, and are more interested in questions that bear on the changing nature of the discipline itself. The papers contained in this volume exhibit 12 outstanding examples of historians approaching their craft in distinct ways, yet consistent with Kenneth May's vision. Each paper is based on a keynote address, known as the Kenneth O. May Lecture, delivered at the annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Mathematics. This volume includes the following contributions: * Ivor Grattan-Guinness, *History or Heritage? An Important Distinction in Mathematics and for Mathematics Education* * Alexander Jones, *Ptolemy's Mathematical Models and their Meaning* * Jim Bennett, *Mathematics, Instruments and Navigation, 1600-1800* * Judith Grabiner, *Was Newton's Calculus a Dead End? The Continental Influence of MacLaurin's Treatise of Fluxions* * Rdiger Thiele, *The Mathematics and Science of Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)* * Thomas Archibald and Louis Charbonneau, *Mathematics in Canada before 1945: A Preliminary Survey* * Karen Parshall, *The Emergence of the American Mathematical Research Community* * Volker Peckhaus, *19th-Century Logic Between Philosophy and Mathematics* * Joseph Dauben, *The Battle for Cantorian Set Theory* * Rdiger Thiele, *Hilbert and His Twenty-Four Problems* * Stuart Shanker, *Turing and the Origins of AI* * Anne Hibner Koblitz, *Mathematics and Gender: Some Cross-Cultural Observations*

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