Norsk Personnamnleksikon. Edited by Ola Stemshaug. Oslo: Det Norske Samlaget, 1982. Pp. 239. Norw. kr 130.00.

When the *Norwegian Place-Name Dictionary Norsk Stadnamnleksikon*, edited by Jørn Sandnes and Ola Stemshaug. Oslo: Det Norske Samlaget, 1976, appeared a few years ago, Norway became one of the few European countries with a reliable, scholarly alphabetical compendium of its major place names, both of manmade and of natural features. Now an equally reliable and equally scholarly companion volume has been published in the same successful format, presenting Norway's most important personal names. This format enhances the 130 pages of alphabetical listings – from *Abel* to *Åsveig* – by an extensive bibliography and informative chapters by the editors, Kristoffer Kruken and Terje Aarset on naming and name usage, on pre-Reformation names, on names in the period between the Reformation and the Norwegian name renaissance about the middle of the nineteenth century, on names since that time, on double names (like *Jan Erik*), on advice to potential namers and on Norwegian laws regarding the giving of personal (first) names. Most of these introductory chapters are supported by extensive statistics concerning name usage, preference and frequency during various periods since 1450. Thus it becomes apparent, for example, that the most durable names in the last 80 or 90 years have been, for women, *Anne, Marit, Kari* and *Ellen*, and for men, *Lars, Ole, Knut, Hans, John, Arne, Nils* and *Leif*. Of the men's names in question, *Lars, Ole, Hans, Arne* and *Nils* have, in fact, been prominent, in one form or another, for well over five hundred years, and of the women's names, *Anne, Marit*, and *Kari* (a form of *Katrine*) have shown at least equal longevity, while *Ellen* is, of course, an example of more recent English influence.

The actual dictionary of names provides, wherever possible, the modern name form, the linguistic origins and etymology of a name, its earliest recorded form and its relationship to other names, particularly to other variants of the same name or other formations within the same elements. There are also important illuminating entries on the most common morphological components in complex and compound names as, for instance, *Alv-, -alv,- -ar, Arn-, Aud-, Berg-, -berg, Bjørg-, -bjørg, Bjørn-, -bjørn, Borg-, -borg, Bot-, Bryn(j)-*, etc. For name scholars interested in cross-cultural influences, the inclusion of a large number of English names adopted and adapted by Norwegians over a long period of time should prove quite instructive. Similarly, research into Scandinavian, especially Norwegian, personal names in this country should greatly benefit from this very fine professional publication.

It would be ungracious to call the *Norsk Personnamnleksikon* anything less than definitive and authoritative, and we owe Ola Stemshaug an enormous debt for the meticulousness, scholarly rigor and imaginative thinking which have gone into this volume, as well as into its distinguished precursor. Both volumes deserve to be well thumbed reference books, not only in Norway.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen

State University of New York at Binghamton

Grímnir Rit um nafnfraeði 2. By Đorhallur Vilmundson. Reykjavík, Iceland: Örnefnastofnun Đjóđminjasafns. Prentsmiđjan Oddi hf., 1983. Pp. 144.

Written and edited by the Director of the Icelandic Place-Name Institute, Đorhallur Vilmundarson, this second issue of a new onomastic journal in Iceland contains two articles on native place names, a report on the work of the Icelandic Place-Name Institute from 1979 through 1981, and, finally, a collection of short articles on Icelandic place names in alphabetical order.

The first article, "Baldur og Loki," discredits the romantic popular etymologies which attribute the derivation of Icelandic place names similar to *Baldur* and *Loki* to the names of those pagan gods. Through comparison with similar British, Danish, and Germanic place names and the etymology of the Old Norse cognates, Vilmundarson shows that the derivation of the name of the brook, *Baldur*, in Northeast Iceland, is known to be based on the characteristics of the brook and its location; it may be connected to the family of Proto-Germanic words with the root **bhel-*, "make a noise," or it may originate from the Old Norse *ballr/baldr*, "strong; dangerous."

Similar river and farm names in Iceland corroborate this theory. Likewise, Vilmundarson shows that the etymology of the name of the mountain called *Loki*, also in Northeast Iceland, does not derive from the pagan god's name, as is popularly believed. The place name *Loki* is shown, through etymology and comparison with other Scandinavian place names, to derive from the Germanic root of the Old Norse *lok*, "end," the verb *loka*, "close," and its Old English cognate, *loc*, "enclosure; fold." This 32-page article includes two maps, one each of place names similar to those of the Norse gods, Baldur and Loki. It is summarized in English, pp. 35–37.

The second article concerns the necessity of preserving endangered place names in Iceland, especially in the Stífla region which was submerged under water to provide a reservoir for a hydroelectric power project in 1945. The place names of places now under water are listed and mapped.

The longest and final item contains a collection of short articles on 73 Icelandic place names arranged in alphabetical order. The names of mountains, fjords, waterfalls, and regions are illustrated by photographs and maps and described through etymologies and references to early Icelandic literature and histories, such as Snorri's *Edda* and the *Landnámabók*.

This attractive issue includes 53 photographs, some of which are aerials, and 19 maps which show the place names as well as the topography.

Judith Weise and Jónas Finnbogason

Mars and Its Satellites: A Detailed Commentary on the Nomenclature. By Jürgen Blunck. Hicksville, N.Y.: Exposition Press, Inc., 900 South Oyster Bay Road, 11801, 1977, 2nd ed. 1982. Pp. 222, illus. $10.00.

The first edition [reviewed by Eugene Vest, *Names*, 26 (1978), 423] has been changed substantially, with additional maps and new entries. The author also acknowledges

contributions from Carl Sagan and Harold Masursky, and the use of the latest maps of Phobos from Ralph J. Turner. As we know from the first edition, Dr. Blunck is a consultant to the "Working Group on Martian Nomenclature established by the International Astronomical Union." Here, it is appropriate to note that this outstanding work resulted directly from Dr. Blunck's involvement in the IAU.

The history of Martian naming is as checkered as that of any new territory on earth. Astronomers and space mappers tend to use their own opinionated nomenclature, rational as that may be within the confines of the mind of the namer. The first complete map of Mars (Beer and Madler, Berlin, 1840) indicated features by letters. P. A. Secchi, an Italian astronomer, in his mapping, 1862/63, substituted these with the names of navigators, "such as Cabot, Columbus, Cook, Franklin and Marco Polo." R. A. Proctor, an English astronomer, detailed his map in 1867 by analogizing with surface maps on earth, in that he designated bright areas as continents, lands, and islands, while calling the dark areas oceans, straits, and lakes, a descriptive coloring that still plagues those who sensibly try to straighten out the nomenclature of Mars. Following Secchi, Proctor named for astronomers who had studied the planet. In his improved map of 1888, Proctor chose to add symbolical names, "such as Storm Land (PHAETHONTIS), Windy Land, previously Lockyer Land (HELLAS), Fog Land (ARGYRE), Hazy Land (THYLE), and Sea of Gloom (NILIACUS LACUS)." The similarities with the names previously given to features on the moon are obvious and intentional, although, according to Blunck, "inappropriate."

G. V. Schiaparelli, another Italian astronomer, structured the first system of Martian naming, quite in contrast to that of Proctor. First, he got rid of "continents" and mapped many "islands." During a time when questions about Martian geographical conditions were being raised, especially concerning "continents" and "seas," Schiaparelli recognized features, although he still adhered to the old concept of light and dark areas. Analogy was and still is a major factor in space naming. Schiaparelli saw a resemblance on the Martian surface to the Mediterranean area and, consequently, began to rely on ancient geography and the movement of the sun to name accordingly and to many Martian watchers confusingly. He named from east to west, with the sun awakening from the beautiful and sensuous SOLIS LACUS on Oceanus and, as Helios, moves over the East Indian Islands AUREA CHERSONESUS (Malacca), and so on, each with the Greek counterpart, to AETHIOPIS, ATLANTIC, and HERCULIS COLUMANE. Regions along the path were named for mythical persons, such as Daedalus, Icarus, or Aurora. Other designations reflect Schiaparelli's obsession with mythological and "classical" names, an intellectual concern, some would say "aberration," during the nineteenth century. The "canals" received underworld names; Latinized Biblical, and Old World names predominate for features. Also, the wanderings of Odysseus, who was once rumored to have circumnavigated the globe, influenced the naming by Schiaparelli, who, perhaps to his credit, left some of the naming to his successors.

Many were not and still are not happy with such a system, since "practical astronomers will not load their memories with such useless rubbish." They prefer a lettering or numbering system, much more feasible than the force-feeding of names that no longer have meaning in a universal context. Still, the Schiaparelli system has survived, much modified, and finally almost settled through mapping by the U.S. Geological Survey's Branch of Astrogeology and sanctioned by the International Astronomical Union.

Mars now has been mapped "in accordance with the thirty 1:5 million scale maps," and the feature names listed by Blunck are keyed to them. The glossary is arranged in four classes:

(a) Albedo, "white" regions and spots, usually consisting of mythical name, plus a generic, as OMPHALES FONS, "Omphale Fountain," named for a queen of Lydia, "whom Hercules served as a slave in feminine costume," or ORESTIADUM DEPRESSIO, "Orestiad Depression," after the Macedonian people in the province of Molossis, whose name referred back to Orestes."

(b) Albedo lineaments, once thought to be canals, named for streams, such as CEDRON, "a brook near Jerusalem," ACHERON, COCYTUS, and TANAIS, "the river Don."

(c) Topographic features with the exception of craters, usually named descriptively, such as PLANUM BOREUM, "northern high plain"; VASTITAS BOREALIS, "northern extensive plain"; or CHASMA AUSTRALE, "southern canyon."

(d) Craters, named for scientists, such as Jean Louis Rodolphe AGASSIZ (1807–1873), Oliver HEAVISIDE (1850–1925), Giovanni Virginio SCHIAPARELLI (1835–1910), or Percy Braybrooke MOLESWORTH (1867–1908). Small craters are named for modern places on Earth. One crater is named for Edgar Rice Burroughs (1875–1950), creator of Tarzan but also the author of several science fiction stories centering on Mars. Another is named for Herbert George Wells (1866–1946), whose *War of the Worlds* is probably the first novel to bring before us the "image of the Martian." A version of this novel adapted for radio broadcast in 1938 by Orson Welles caused many persons in the United States to believe that the country was being invaded by Martians. The two craters on Deimos, one of the two Martian satellites, are named for Jonathan SWIFT and Francois Marie Arouet VOLTAIRE, both of whom mentioned the satellites in their works.

Both present and older, discarded names are listed, each keyed to the quadrangles. Appendix 1 contains the "names of Mars researchers in the older nomenclature," including those introduced by Proctor, Green, and Flammarion. Appendix 2 is a listing of rarely used surface area designations, each keyed to the astronomer or mapper who named the feature. Following this appendix is a set of reproduced maps of the ancient geography of the Mediterranean, Italy, Greece, Turkey, and Indo-Arabia from which early namers took names for "features" on Mars. Appendix 3 consists of a short commentary on science-fiction names and nicknames that have been foisted upon the surface of Mars. Here, Blunck exploits his familiarity with the works of R.A. Heinlein, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Arthur C. Clarke, and also indicates that future naming will not be as "classical" as was the previous era. Nicknames, as Blunck dubs them, have arisen because of the characteristics of the persons who manned the Viking probe. Members of the team freely named places after Snow White and the dwarfs and after characters in Kenneth Grahame's *Wind in the Willows*. These, of course, are not nicknames, but persons who have been brainwashed in classical superiority tend to think so.

As matters stand now, Mars is loaded with onomastic lumber from many directions, but mostly from the out-dated "ancient" geography, grotesquely loaded with Latinate spellings and occasional Greek derivational nonce names. No doubt, this befits an age of naming when "ancient" stuff represented the essence of elitism. Perhaps that was good, but the names on Mars surely now deserve better, a matter now left to the IAU and its "Westernized" bias, which is surely folkloristically "classical." Unless changes are forthcoming, we can expect other outer space "features" to have out-dated and actually stupid names attached to them. Parenthetically, we do need a serious and intelligent membership on the committees that suggest and in some cases approve names in space other than earth's.

Blunck's contribution to our knowledge of naming in space is pioneering, besides being substantial and informative. We are fortunate to have someone with such a background to explain what has happened to the labelling of places on Mars. This text is indispensable for anyone interested in space naming, or just interested in names for their own sake. We certainly have had nothing like it published previously.

Kelsie B. Harder

Gouvernement du Québec, *Troisième supplément au répertoire toponymique du Québec. Gazette officielle du Québec, Partie 1, N^{o} 51A*. Québec: Editeur officiel, 1982. $4.00.

This supplement is the third to follow the 1978 *Répertoire toponymique du Québec* bringing to a little over 80,000 the number of official place names recorded in that province. For Canadian gazetteers, this is a rather enviable record as many provinces – British Columbia and Saskatchewan for example – have current gazetteers which were published in the late 1960's and no cumulative supplement has been published since 1977. Furthermore, the latest issue of *Canoma* (Vol. 8, n^{o} 2) reports (p. 25) that all cumulative supplements published in the *Gazetteer of Canada* are now out of print.

This remarkable performance of Québec in the field of place name publishing does not go without explanation. Until recently, toponymic research and publications in Québec were handled by the *Commission de géographie,* which was founded in 1912. An important change occurred in 1977 when this body was replaced by the new *Commission de toponymie*. This new geographic names board was given a much broaded mandate and put under the administrative responsibility of the *Office de la langue française,* a linguistic board whose main function is to assure and maintain the French character of the province. It might be important to mention at this point that nowhere in North America has the linguistic value and function of place names been so evidently recognized by a government. Since maintenance of French language and culture was – and still is – one of the major preoccupations of the current Lévesque administration, the new Commission has received generous budget allowances and thus has become the most active and productive geographic names board in Canadian history.

The first major production of the *Commission de toponymie* was the 1978 *Répertoire,* which introduced several new elements in Canadian gazetteer methodology. For the first time, information on feature class, census division and national topographic map reference appeared in a gazetteer. Unfortunately, a glossary of geographical terms such as the one found in the *New Hampshire Geographic Names Finding List* (1981) was missing, severely limiting the utility of feature class information. This shortcoming was not corrected in the two first supplements (1980 and 1981) and feature definitions are still missing in the third supplement.

This new supplement contains nearly 11,000 place names which are broken down into three categories. The first one lists new official names only, while the third gives unofficial alternate forms with cross-references enabling the reader to locate the official name. The second section actually does not concern changes in names but rather changes

in feature class. One wonders why this section was not put at the end of the supplement given the different type of information provided. Since there are relatively few names concerned by a change in entity, perhaps it would have been a good idea to include also former feature classes for the names listed. The reader could then assess at a glance the importance of the change involved.

On the whole, however, one must admit that this third supplement, as well as the preceding ones and the *Répertoire* itself, is a well prepared and carefully designed tool of reference in Québec toponymy. Taking into account the other series of publications it has inaugurated since its inception, it is clear that the *Commission de toponymie* has taken a definite lead in toponymic research in Canada. It can only be hoped that the federal government will also give place name research the importance it deserves and accordingly increase budgetary allowances to the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names so that it may expand and accelerate its programme of place name research and publications.

André Lapierre

University of Ottawa

Analyse anthroponymique des noms de famille des Juifs, en Alsace, au dix-huitième siècle. By Martin Eylat. Thèse de doctorat d'Université, Université de Strasbourg, 1982. Pp. 141.

In this doctoral dissertation, the author sets out to study Jewish family names in 18th century Alsace. In order to establish the methodological framework of his undertaking, he presents in the first part of the work a typology of Jewish patronyms from antiquity to the present day, drawing from well-known sources such as the *Encyclopaedia Judaica*, the *Jüdisches Lexicon* or Leopold Zunz's *Namen der Juden* but one is surprised not to find any mention of Zvonko R. Rode's earlier attempt at such a typology which appeared in *Names* 24:165–179 (1976). The author thus misses an opportunity to evaluate the merits or shortcomings of a predecessor's contribution to his own field of research.

Eylat's classification is very detailed and indeed interesting. It involves three main categories: biblical, post-biblical, and medieval and contemporary names. Examples are provided for each category but in a doctoral dissertation one would have expected a more systematic use of reference material. For instance, in the section devoted to toponymic names (p. 31–33), more than 80 examples are given but only one, *Nürnberg*, is documented. Elsewhere, references are far from being specific. In the first part of his study, the author often refers to *The Universal Jewish Encyclopedia* and gives pages 90–98 as a general reference without any further indication. The same may be said of the bibliography where several entries are incomplete. Despite these methodological shortcomings, the wealth of information provided is considerable and the typology itself might be considered useful in future research.

The second half of the study is more stimulating. Here Eylat gets into the heart of his investigation by systematically going through the *Dénombrement général, en 1784, des Juifs qui sont tolérés dans la province d'Alsace, en exécution des lettres patentes du 10*

juillet 1784, a census of Jewish families in Alsace at the end of the 18th century. This archival material has been carefully investigated by the author. The list of names, along with all recorded variants, has been broken into several categories inspired by the earlier typology and statistics are provided for both Lower and Upper Alsace. This provides for interesting comparisons in which several patterns emerge. A distinctive onomastic behavior is recorded in Lower Alsace where Jewish names are preferred and in Upper Alsace which shows preference for names of toponymic origin. The author quite rightfully asks (p. 64) if this is not an indication of stronger links with the past in the first case and a tendency towards assimilation in the second. Looking carefully at the data provided, one can find other questions which may arise. Why are family names derived from plant names – especially *Blum* and its many variants – more frequent in Upper Alsace? Why does one find more Greek names in Lower Alsace? Settlement patterns and history may be part of the answer but one can readily see that Eylat has opened a vast field for future investigation and gives a preview of the complexities that lie ahead with a list of more than 70 names of obscure origin.

This identification of new areas of research is perhaps the most important contribution of the dissertation and one will regret that the author has not provided an index of names at the end of his study which would have facilitated the work of future scholars. Without cross-referencing, handling such a large body of information will undoubtedly prove to be an uneasy task. Nevertheless, carefully handled and despite the methodological shortcomings mentioned earlier, this dissertation can be a useful tool of investigation and as such may be viewed as a significant contribution to Jewish onomastics.

André Lapierre

University of Ottawa

Correct Mispronunciations of Some South Carolina Names. By Claude and Irene Neuffer. Columbia, SC 29208: University of South Carolina Press, 1983. Pp. ix + 182. $6.95.

Everybody knows, with the possible exception of Raven I. McDavid, Jr., that South Carolinians talk funny, perhaps as funny as persons from South Colton, New York, or Linden, Tennessee, the latter perhaps closer to the vowel shades in Claude and Irene Neuffer's Columbia, South Carolina. For recordings of funny talk, the scholar has to look into the specialized articles found in *Publication of the American Dialect Society, American Speech,* sometimes in *Language,* more often as M. A. theses and Ph. D. dissertations written for those few experts in American dialects, and in texts and collections by Hans Kurath, Raven I. McDavid, Jr., Harold B. Allen, E. Bagby Atwood, Walter S. Avis, Bernard Bloch, Sumner A. Ives, William Labov, Albert H. Marckwardt, Lee A. Pederson, Gordon Wood, W. Nelson Francis, and a few others, not necessarily lesser lights, just carriers of shorter publication lists. It should be natural to apply some of the sharpened techniques of subtle and authoritative dialectologists to the Neuffers' recording of South Carolinian pronunciations.

But I won't be natural. The NIFE-uhz do not deserve to be phonetically bracketed or

phonemically slashed, even though otherwise they may have to accept /núfărz/ or even /nyúvărz/, but we early learned that Claude was a *knifer,* not a *newfer,* or even a *newver.* It is doubtful that their dog is named PHIDEAUX or that they eat Ghoti on Fridays. They are, however, aware of some of the incongruities between spelling pronunciations and the local pronunciations that so often, delightfully, have moved away from the spelling crystalization that besets all forms when they are enameled into dictionaries.

Details of influences on the pronunciations are not given, but in passing the Neuffers note the early Huguenot settlers who brought their type of French to bear upon some names that they initiated as places and some that they didn't. Other influences, besides Cavalier English, include German, Spanish, Indian, and African, with various sound qualities originating from different dialects and languages among them. Then the Neuffers (NIFE-uhz), lest we forget) forge their own pronunciations upon some of the places, including their own, which, they admit, is of German origin that became confused with the Huguenots who caused it to be pronounced NOO-fuhr by these incognizant. Some members of the "knifer" family have given up and moved into the mainstream of "new furs," but their skins are the same. The influence of the educated Neuffers has caused schoolchildren to change their own spellings to fit the requirements, as noted by a December letter from a young South Carolina "scholar," probably age nine or ten: "Dear Santa Claus, Please bring me a boy-scout neuf."

Such shenanigans aside, the Neuffers have brought together a set of spellings and pronunciations of place names that should help reinforce the claim by placename researchers that all place pronunciations should be recorded. Without quibbling, I will list Neuffer recordings for a few of the curious – to non-South Carolinians – pronunciations, mentioning probably unnecessarily that capitalizations indicate stressing, while lower cases represent lower stressing. A kind of pronunciation key is provided, and it definitely helps; for instance, *Huger,* my HEU-juhr, is South Carolinian YOO-JEE (OO as in booze), with the *j* pronounced as in *just.* One of the more prominent distinctive pronunciation features is the loss of *r* both pre-consonantal and post-vocalic, illustrated in *Arcadia* / ah-KAE-di-uh, *Ariail* / AE-ri-uhl, *Geiger* / Gee-guh (hard G's), but strangely *Gibert* / ji-BUHRT. Other patterns can be noted in *McIver* / muh-KEE-vuh, *Manigault* / MAN-ni-GOE, *Ouzts* / OOTS (rhymes with boots), *Pigate* / PIE-gut, *pilau* (not a placename) / PUHR-LOE (with intrusive *r*), *Pompion* / PUNGK-in, *Xuala* / Shoo-AH-luh (oo as in boot), *Xulu* / Hoo-Loo (oo as in hoop) – the latter most confusing, since the vowels in *boot* and *hoop* have the same pronunciation in some dialects –, *Legare* / luh-GREE, and Taliaferro / TAHL-uh-vuh.

The spelling/pronunciation feature may be the reason for the existence of the book, but the Neuffers make their text most appealing to their South Carolinian neighbors by glossing the entries with a goodly portion of history, a spicy seasoning of folklore, and some caustic comments (all in good fun, to be sure) concerning actions and manners of "foreigners," meaning those intruders who have been marching through South Carolina to get to Florida since the days that Sherman burned his way through to the coast. For instance, who knew about the Tobacco Festival in *Acline* / AE-KLINE, at which the tobacco-spitting contest browned distances? Under *Allston* / AWL-stun is a recipe for Hoppin' John (too long to repeat here), and under *Awendaw* / AW-wen-DAW appears the recipe for Awendaw cornbread. The Neuffers like their South Carolinian cooking, which borders on hog jowl (JOLE) Southern. Belly Ache / BEL-i-AKE is not named for its pain but is a folk etymologized pronunciation of Belle Acres, formerly a plantation. In *Berkeley* / BUHRK-li, the Hell Hole Swamp Festival features "whiskey-making exhib-

its, a reptile show, grits-grinding, and quilting.'' These should give some of the flavor of this fascinating book.

On a sober note, the Neuffers, who have contributed as much as anyone to the study of placenames in the United States, are aware of the problems in pronunciation, for they note in their ''Preface'' that there is probably no word in the English language that isn't pronounced in different ways by different people, even if the differences are sometimes too subtle to be perceived by anyone other than a trained phoneticist. Which pronunciation is the correct one? For the purposes of this little book we take the correct pronunciation of a family name to be the one the family uses, and the correct pronunciation of a place name to be the one that has traditionally been preferred by most reasonably well-educated people in the neighborhood.

No doubt, the Neuffers enjoyed assembling this charming and informative book. It also carries additional value in that it should stimulate others to look about them at their own places and the names they call them. The work can be recommended strongly for not only its solid content but also as an introduction to the placename work of the witty Neuffers, who can grow slick okra with taste.

Kelsie B. Harder

Place-Names of the Northern Neck of Virginia: from John Smith's 1606 map to the present. By Mary R. Miller. Richmond, VA: Virginia State Library, 1983. Pp. xiv + 189. Paper. No price listed.

Recently the Virginia State Library published a work on place names by Mary R. Miller, entitled the *Place-Names of the Northern Neck of Virginia.* Its scope is ambitious, both spatially and temporally. In area it covers four current counties located in the northeastern part of Virginia and lying between the Potomac and Rappahannock rivers. Although the subtitle reads ''from John Smith's 1606 map to the present,'' the author delves back into the sixteenth century for four Spanish names, each labeling all or part of the Chesapeake Bay, the earliest of these, *Bahía de Santa María,* said to have been used by explorers possibly as early as 1529. The inclusion of these sixteenth century names makes for a time span of over four and one-half centuries, a considerable temporal range for a place name study of an area in this country. The collection includes over 3,000 place names.

The book is divided into four parts: an introduction, devoted largely to describing the manner in which the encyclopedia of names which follows is organized; a discussion of the ''Sociolinguistic Aspects of Place-naming,'' an alphabetical listing, with information for each item, of the ''Place-Names of the Northern Neck,'' and a final section listing the bibliography and the various other sources consulted.

Perhaps the most significant statement that Miller makes occurs in the second section, the ''Sociolinguistic Aspects of Place-naming.'' Her thesis here is that place names are elements of language and as such ''partake of the characteristics and processes of a symbolic communications system''; that both ''Language and place-names have common characteristics: outer form and inner meaning, social and regional variations, and

histories of origins and change." She then proceeds to analyze her collection of place names according to one of the current more popular grammatical theories.

Miller states that grammatically place names are noun phrases, derived from relative clauses which find their source in basic propositions or sentences, capable of functioning as subject, object, and complements of sentences. She goes on to say that certain rules can define the various types of place names, or, if you will, the basic grammatical patterns that they follow.

Even though a place name may take the form of a single lexical word, she continues, "one-word place-names imply unspoken classifiers," or, to employ a more traditional terminology, unexpressed generic elements. She points out that the other component of the place name, dubbed by her the "unique name" but generally called the specifier, is mandatory.

For designations made up of free forms she posits three basic rules in all of which the definite article, noted as (adj_1), is an optional element. Rule one makes the expression of one noun obligatory:

Rule one:	(adj_1)	+ N +	(N)
		Hack's	Neck
	The	Chesapeake	(Bay)
	The	Northumberland	Plantation

Rule two makes mandatory the expression of one adjective (adj_2) and one noun:

Rule two:	(adj_1)	+ adj_2 +	N +	(N)
		Hard	Bargain	
	The	Northwest	Yeocomico	River
		New	Moravia	Church

Rule three requires the expression of three nouns with the first element, the definite article (adj_1), again optional.

Rule three:	(adj_1)	+ N +	N +	N
	(The)	Forest	Meeting	House
		Saint	Francis	Church
		Cowart's	Steamboat	Landing

Note that in rules one and two, the final noun indicating the classifier or generic element may be suppressed. In rule three, the expression of all three nouns is mandatory. Unfortunately, the author fails to make clear the syntactic relationships of the nouns in the last rule. One questions whether those of the first name, *(The) Forest Meeting House,* express the same relationships as do those of the second, *Saint Francis Church.* A complete analysis should explain the different grammatical meanings inherent in such names.

The remaining rules apply to compound forms which at times comprise the specifying constituent, compounds here defined as items made up of two free words written together as one which "sustain a relationship, both grammatical and semantic, that is more than the sum of the two words they compound." At least five different relationships may occur between the forms that make up the various compounds:

1. Noun Subject + Noun Object, exemplified by *Ayrfield,* with the underlying sentence: Ayr has a field.
2. Noun Subject + Predicate Adjective, exemplified by *Broadview,* with the underlying sentence: The view is broad.
3. Noun Subject + Predicate Noun, exemplified by *Ridgefield,* with the underlying sentence: The field is a ridge.

4. Noun Subject + Verb, exemplified by *The Crossroads,* with the underlying sentence: The roads cross.
5. Noun Subject + Object of deleted Preposition, exemplified by *Riverwind,* with the underlying sentence: The wind is from the river.

In types 2 through 5 the noun subject occurs as the second element of the compound; in type 1 it occurs as the first element.

In the dictionary or encyclopedia which follows, *Ayrfield, Ridgefield,* and *Riverwind* are classified as tracts, *Broadview* as a settlement, and *The Crossroads* as a village. It is unfortunate that none of the explanations regarding compound forms makes any reference to the generic component or how it may be accommodated by rules when they serve as constituents of place names with compound specifiers.

The author presents as the last major form of place name the historical compound, one, as Miller defines it, in which an element of a former two-word form has been reduced to a non-word or an affix. *Fleeton,* composed of the surname *Fleet* to which is affixed the suffix *-ton,* exemplifies such a name. To demonstrate that the forming of new names by the addition of such suffixes is a continuing process, Miller offers the example of *Virmar Beach,* the unique name here formed from the first syllables of Virginia and Maryland. Linguists would be more likely to label such a form a blend. In these rules the author again fails to account for the generic element and how it fits into the rules. She also excludes from the grammar consideration of place names like *Port of Rappahannock* and *Westerly Main Branch of the Yeocomico River* which comprise periphrastic structures.

Finally, Miller discusses how place names, like language, undergo linguistic change in respect to lexical meaning, the loss of words, and the expression of grammatical relationships. She adds further that the "strongest evidence about place-name pronunciation changes appear in the slow evolution of spellings of Indian words." The author concludes with the view that place names share in the geography, history, and culture of an area and that those of the Northern Neck, in their entirety, give a sense of the "pleasantly bucolic countryside" and of a stable population whose "affinity for its land and water" is reflected in its "diligent application and maintenance of place-names through the centuries."

In the encyclopedia (Miller's term) or dictionary of names, the author employs two devices, both helpful to the reader. The one has to do with the placement of a bullet (•) immediately after the main entry to indicate that the name was in use prior to 1776. Those interested in designations given before this date need only scan the list of names and select those marked with this symbol. The other device simplifies the locating of places. Although locational information is given after the classification for each entry, the final item under each name again marks its position through a simple code which defines the part of the pertinent quadrangle map of the U. S. Geological Survey in which it, the place, may be found. This makes for a quick and efficient method to determine the site of each place named.

The classification assigned to each of the features is printed in italics and placed after the main entry. Half of these are based on those given in *Delaware Place Names* by L. W. Heck et al; the rest are added by Miller. It is unfortunate that the author has not chosen instead to use as classifiers the generic terms that are contained in the designations. Such a procedure would have permitted her to point out the meanings of words that may be peculiar to the Northern Neck or to that general area of the country. For example, *swamp* appears as the generic term in at least 56 place names. In the list of classifications this word is defined as "wet land, sometimes partially covered with fresh water." But in at least 32 of the names, like *Big Swamp,* which contain *swamp* as the generic, the toponym,

regardless of the time it was given, is represented as labeling a 'stream.' Since such a signification for *swamp* is not given in dictionaries, historical or contemporary, it would be of value to the lexicographer that this sense of the word be noted.

Among other classifications worthy of comment is the term *tract* or *tract of land,* under which property owned, usually by individual landholders, is categorized. Nearly one hundred place names employing either the generic *farm* or *plantation* are assigned as tracts. It is interesting that in this collection of names the word *farm,* with 67 instances, occurs over twice as often as the word *plantation,* with 28. Prior to 1776, however, the term *plantation* was the more frequently used, with 18 instances as compared with the 14 for *farm.* On the other hand, since 1776, in this roster of names, generic *farm* appears five times as often as *plantation.* A statement by the author of the shifting popularity of such generic terms would again be of interest to the lexicographer.

Perhaps the only authoritative manual of directions for the making of a place name study is to be found in the commentary of Professor Robert L. Ramsay in the *Introduction to a Survey of Missouri Place-Names.* He stresses the need for the precise dating of names in such a study. As he puts it, "Accurate dating is the most distinctive mark of the modern and scientific study of place-names." But in this encyclopedia of names, no date at all is given for a substantial number of the entries. Should one examine the names beginning with *A* and those on pages 92–95 beginning with *M,* he would find a total of 129 items with no date given for 34 or 26% of these. It is true that the bullet is applied to a handful of names here, indicating their use prior to 1776. The use of this symbol alone with no other indication of date leaves a tremendous gap of time unaccounted for: an interval of 170 years between the 1606 Smith map and 1776 and one of over two centuries between 1776 and the present. Although many of the place names, like *Antipoison Creek,* are fastidiously dated, too large a number remain with the time of their naming too loosely indicated.

The dictionary would profit by providing pronunciations for the current place names with Indian elements and by documenting the source of a number of dates that are cited without any authenticating reference. But perhaps the greatest weakness in this volume lies in the extraneous, though often fascinating, material offered under many of the names classified as tracts of land. Here the author tells much of the architecture of some of the historic houses of northeastern Virginia as well as of the greater and lesser folk who at one time lived in them, much of this information completely unrelated to the process of giving names to places.

Nevertheless, Mary Miller's work must be commended for the extensive research it reflects, for the meticulous and detailed information given in respect to the post offices of the Northern Neck, for the very attractive format of the dictionary, and particularly for the grammatical analysis of place names, though incomplete, according to a transformational theory of grammar.

Vivian Zinkin

Les noms de lieux du département de l'Hérault. By Frank R. Hamlin avec la collaboration de l'abbé André Cabrol. Montpellier: Centre d'Etudes Occitanes de l'Université, 1983. Edition: Abbé A. Cabrol, 6, avenue de Sète, Poussan, 34140 mèze. Pp. xxxvi + 435. No price listed.

Pour le département de l'Hérault, en fait de toponymie, l'ouvrage principal auquel jusqu'à présent on a pu se reporter, a été le *Dictionnaire topographique du département de l'Hérault,* publié par Eugène Thomas (1865) dans la série des "Dictionnaires topographiques départementaux," où jusqu'en 1949 sont représentés 32 départements.

Les grands progrès qui depuis plus d'un siècle dans tous les domaines de la toponymie ont pu être réalisés, auxquels s'ajoutent d'innombrables défauts, erreurs, confusions et interprétations fantaisistes dans le dictionnaire de Thomas ont engagé un savant canadien, aidé dans sa tâche par l'infatigable abbé André Cabrol, profond connaisseur de la région, à élaborer un nouveau inventaire toponymique qui devait combiner les nouvelles méthodes de recherches à une nomenclature aussi complète que possible, où aux sources médiévales est donnée une particulère importance.

Les deux auteurs n'ont négligé aucune source historique ou moderne qui aurait pu être consultée: les feuilles de la carte générale de la France, les cartulaires qui proviennent de notre région, les Archives départementales, les répertoires ecclésiastiques. A cela s'ajoute une étendue enquête sur place, très importante pour les sections de la microtoponymie (noms de lieux-dits, de cours d'eaux, de rochers, etc.). Souvent les renseignements locaux ont pu réveler que la tradition écrite, comme elle se présente en orthographie officielle, ne correspond pas à l'authentique prononciation dialectale, où l'ancienne etymologie souvent est encore plus transparente.

Quant aux références historiques, où ne manquent pas les attestations médiévales, elles sont énumérées avec une abondance qui difficilement trouverait sa pareille. En cherchant à attribuer à chaque nom de lieu la langue ou l'époque de son origine, les auteurs ont fait leur possible pour présenter une solution qui convainc ou peut être acceptée. Le problème étymologique souvent est sérieusement compliqué par le fait que pas mal de toponymes sont loin d'appartenir à une catégorie géographique. Il peut s'agir d'un nom de famille, d'un surnom ou sobriquet, d'un ancien propriétaire dont le nom s'est fondu avec un nom commun: *Puéchabon, Puechauma, Pratalaric, Montarnaud, Montady, Fambéton* (*Font Beton*). Quant aux couches anciennes, l'apport grec est modeste: *Agde, Bérange, Orques, Ganges.*

Plus importants et relativement faciles à identifier sont les toponymes qui appartiennent à la période gallo-romane. Ils sont constitués le plus souvent par la jonction d'un anthroponyme gaulois ou latin avec un suffixe caractéristique pour dénommer le domaine agricole d'un proprietaire:

-an: *Bassan, Besson, Bonjan, Caillan, Caissan, Cassan, Corneilhan, Creissan, Frontignan, Gabran*

-ac (gaulois): *Bournac, Boussac, Brissac, Espagnac, Tabernac, Veyrac*

-argues (langued. *-anicos*): *Antissargues, Baillargues, Buzignargues, Candillargues, Lansargues, Marsillargues, Saturargues, Santeyrargues, Sussargues*

Il n'est pas rare que les mêmes noms des anciens propriétaires se répètent dans les toponymes en territoire gallo-italien: *Bassano, Bessano, Bojano, Cagliano, Casciano, Frontignano, Gaviano, Bornago, Brissago, Bussago, Tavernago, Spagnago, Verago.*

Pour les toponymes que l'on pourrait attribuer au substrat gaulois ou à une origine prélatine, les auteurs préfèrent ne pas s'aventurer dans des voies hasardeuses. Leur prudence s'exprime souvent par la formule 'étymologie obscure' (voir le tableau de ces éléments p. xxii–xxviii). Le même problème, encore moins accessible, se répète pour les toponymes qu'on a voulu dériver d'une base germanique: *Mas Adran, Montady, Montbazin, Fambeton, Grémian, Thézan* (voir le tableau p. xx–xxi).

Cette analyse très sommaire ne peut donner qu'une faible idée de la richesse de cet

ouvrage qui pour longtemps restera un vrai chef-d'oeuvre de la toponymie en France, un excellent modèle pour les toponymistes qui se proposent de dédier leurs recherches à un autre département. De ma part je dois me contenter de présenter quelques observations qui pourront être utiles pour d'autres travaux de toponymie. Aux exemples déjà cités pour certains omonymes qui existent entre le Languedoc et le territoire gallo-italien, je peux ajouter d'autres cas qui ont la même importance: *L'Orbe* fleuve = *Orba* torrent en Piémont, *Olargues* = *Olarigo* en Vénétie, *Le Rec* ruisseau = *Recco* torrent en Ligurie, *Palavas* commune = *Palavas* montagne en Piémont, *La Sagne* ruisseau = *Lasagna* passage de montagne en Ligurie, *Gourdon* (Gordon) lieu-dit = *Gorduno* en Lombardie, *Jacon* ((Jacone) = *Giacone* en Piémont, *Bégude* = *Beguda* en Piémont, *Bernagues* lieu-dit = *Bernaga* en Lombardie.

Pour *Aziron* lieu-dit (etymologie obscure) je ne vois aucune raison pour ne pas l'identifier au gascon *aseroù* 'érable' (FEW,I,19).

Gerhard Rohlfs

Tübingen