

# Reviews

*Names on the Face of Montana.* By Roberta Carkeek Cheney, Missoula, Montana: Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1983. pp. 297, Maps. Price \$9.95, paper.

Anyone interested in the history of the United States and particularly in the history of Montana will find Roberta Carkeek Cheney's second edition of *Names on the Face of Montana* a welcome addition to the studies of names in the various states. It contains more than 2500 entries, each giving a brief account of the history of a particular place. It was first published in 1971. Since that time the author has continued to collect material which she has now included in this new volume. She was born and reared in southwestern Montana and has a particular interest in her own state.

In her original research, the chief reference employed was the *Record of Postmaster Appointments* from the National Archives in Washington, D.C., in which one can find the date of appointment of all postmasters between 1855 and 1930. In each instance the name of the county along with the town and the postmaster was given. With the passage of time Montana's counties have increased in number and shrunk in size, but those who kept the journals noted the changes with remarks, such as ". . . Now in Wheatland Co. . . ." "name changed to Cataract, late Arklow"; "Park County, late in Gallatin." To determine which towns had offices in 1970 and in this latest edition the Zip Code book was used.

From the extensive bibliography one finds the books, booklets, interviews and letters, articles and periodicals, and unpublished material and one sees what the author used in securing the facts employed in telling us about the many names included, the names which grew out of the lives of those who found their way to Montana and of those who continued to remain there.

The name of the county in which each town is located is important, for some towns have been in two counties and some in three as a result of the changing of the boundaries and the increasing of the number as the years passed. In 1865 the Territorial Legislation laid out nine original ones, which were divided and subdivided until 1925, when Petroleum County was established and brought the number to fifty-six. One can imagine the difficulty of dealing with this problem. The author has attempted to locate each town within its present county boundary, even though the place may have died while listed in the original county.

Handwriting caused another difficulty. Names for the post offices were misread in Washington when names were sent in and strange names resulted, as in the case of Uebra, supposed to be "Nebraska" to honor the home state of many of the settlers from that state. The capital "N" looked like a "U" on the application; and as a result, one finds this strange name for the name of the town in Garfield County.

Names came in various ways. The original inhabitants of Montana, the different tribes of Indians, can account for a number of names. For example, one finds *Blackfoot* and *Seven Blackfoot Creek* in Garfield County, another *Blackfoot* in Glacier County, and *Blackfoot City* in Powell County, all named for the Blackfoot Indians. In like manner, other tribal names, such as "Crow," "Flathead," "Piegan," "Selish" (or "Salish") and "Sioux," have been applied to towns, rivers, lakes, counties, plains, valleys, hills, mountains, and the like. Many of the topographical features have names of Indian origin

as well as about four percent of the town place names.

In addition to the Indians leaving their legacy of names, the early American explorers, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, contributed their share. They too used descriptive names as well as paying tribute to members of their own expedition as *Pryor* in Big Horn County (for Sgt. Nathaniel Pryor) and in honoring important men in government (Thomas Jefferson, then President; Albert Gallatin, then Secretary of the Treasury; and Secretary of State James Madison).

The explorers were likewise intrigued with the unusual species of animals and plants in this new land and employed such names as *Big Horn* for the Big Horn sheep ranging the steep hillsides of Big Horn County in eastern Montana and *Bitterroot* for a plant which grew profusely in Bitterroot Valley, the botanical name of which became *Lewisia Rediviva*, named for the explorer.

Other plants native to the state show up in names of towns, as can be observed in *Pinegrove*, *Prickly Pear*, *Poplar*, *Alder*, *Rosebud*, *Cottonwood*, *Sagebrush*, *Plum Creek*, *Primrose*, and *Willow Creek*. Animals also account for a goodly number of place names, as can be seen in *Bearcreek*, *Bear Springs*, *Black Eagle*, *Buffalo*, *Coyote*, *Porcupine*, *Rattlesnake*, *Trout Creek*, *Wolf Creek*, and *Wolf Point*.

Though plants and animals contributed many names, so did people, often the first postmaster. In farm communities during the land boom, the postmaster's name was chosen as a matter of convenience, and not so much as an honor. Everyone wanted news and whoever agreed to be postmaster and receive the mail for those who lived for miles around had the mail sent to him or her. In that way the name became known.

In like manner, mining camps, trading posts, and military forts established to protect travelers and settlers from Indian attacks had to have names and post offices. Many names also were given by railroad associations, such as the Great Northern, old Montana Railroad, the Soo Line, and the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad. Many towns were named for an engineer, conductor, a construction superintendent, an official, or one of the official's family. A few, however, were given descriptive names like *Pacific Junction*, where the Great Northern line to the Pacific Coast was begun and *Castle Junction*, in the midst of an important mining area that aided in the shipping of lead ore from the Castle Mines, which recorded its name from the mountain on whose side it was found.

Some names describe the town itself or in some cases an outstanding feature in the area nearby, as can be seen in *Sweetgrass*, named for the abundance of "sweet" grass in the vast prairies about; *Gateway*, so called because it is a "gateway" to Canada; *Fishtrap*, because a man built a trap for fish on the creek at this spot and sold his catch to the mining camps; *Stone Shack*, from a stone shack built by buffalo hunters in the '70's or '80's; *Race Track*, named for a racetrack built in the heyday of the Copper Kings when horse racing was popular in both Butte and Anaconda.

Government officials and army men account for a number of town and county place names in Montana. We find Lewis and Clark immortalized in the name of a state park and a county; Gen. George Armstrong Custer in the name of a county; one of his officers at the Battle of the Little Big Horn, Captain Benteen, for a station on the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad; a county for Sidney Edgerton, Montana's first territorial governor; a county for J. K. Toole, Montana's first governor. Senators and representatives, both at the state and national level, were also honored. Among the national figures who have been honored, in addition to Jefferson, Gallatin, and Madison, were James G. Blaine, Abraham Lincoln, James A. Garfield, and Calvin Coolidge.

Different nationalities also left their mark on the place names of Montana as can be seen in *Dupuyer*, the name of a creek and town, taken from the French word *depouilles* employed by early trappers and explorers to describe the fat on the back of a buffalo, a delicacy enjoyed by both Indians and the white man. In like manner, the French influence can be seen in *Bellevue*, *Argenta*, *Choteau*, and many others. Similarly, the Slavic people who came to work in the coal mines, the Scandinavians, the Dutch, the Scottish shepherders, the English, those from the South European countries and parts of the United States and Canada can be traced in the place names of the state.

A number of names in the state are of religious origin, as can be seen in *Mizpah*, the name of a river and a town; *Mount Horeb*; and *St. Mary's Mission*. The influence of the Catholic missionaries is also evident in names like *St. Ignatius* and *St. Xavier*.

The state itself received its name from its mountain ranges, taken from the Latin as well as the Spanish, meaning a "mountainous country," a desirable name for that part of the United States. The mountains have played a major part in the economy and the history of the state.

In this compact story of Montana's place names given by the Indians, explorers, trappers, the farmers, cattlemen, the miners of different kinds, the pioneers, one can have an entertaining look at a century and a half of history in this western state of Montana. The names are arranged alphabetically under each letter of the alphabet. At the end one finds three separate discussions entitled "Mountains," "Rivers," and "Creeks," followed by a map of the Great Northern Railway and a series of maps, beginning with the nine counties in 1864 and ending with the fifty-six found in 1925. All of this is followed by a very good bibliography of books and other material concerned with Montana. Despite a number of typographical errors which a good proofreader would have caught, one has in this *Names on the Face of Montana* an interesting insight into the development of one of our states found in the origin of its place names. It is indeed important to have a record of the names and places and their histories for all states. For this second edition of the study of names in Montana, we owe Roberta Cheney a debt of gratitude for the updated edition of the study of names in her native state.

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*The Place Names of Upper Deeside*. By Adam Watson and Elizabeth Allan. Aberdeen, 1984: Aberdeen University Press, Farmers Hall, Aberdeen, Scotland AB9 2XT. Pages xxvii, 192. Map, photographs. Price £18.50.

It may seem puzzling to some why a book of such obvious regional provenance from across the Atlantic should be reviewed in this journal. "Upper Deeside," that hill-bound small corner of the Scottish north-east, less than 500 square miles on both sides of the upper reaches of the River Dee, seems remote from any North American interest and experience, its mixture of names of Pictish, Gaelic, Scots, and English origin a far cry from the place-nomenclatures of, let us say, the Texas Panhandle or upstate New York. Yet, what appears to be, indeed is, remote geographically and linguistically is of more than passing significance methodologically and pragmatically, and on a continent on

which the study of names, as well as the publication of such studies, is largely left to the individual part-timer, the work of Watson and Allan may well sound a note of encouragement and hope; it may even have something to say to those struggling with "Phase II" of the U.S. placename gazetteers.

Imagine a scientist with a strong interest in ecology, a secretary, and initially also a police constable who doubles as the leader of a mountain rescue team; imagine such a duo or trio, with a keen appreciation of the life, both natural and cultural, in the area in which they live, work or were born, becoming fascinated by the names of places in that area, of villages, farms, hills, valleys, streams, fishing pools, wells, tracks, fields, and so on, with no experience in their collection, documentation, classification, analysis and interpretation; imagine such an enthusiastic small team turning to the experts (in this case, the Place-Name Survey of the School of Scottish Studies in the University of Edinburgh) for advice, for guidance and for maps, and then recording over a period of ten years not only from printed and manuscript sources but also from 260 local inhabitants (including the last native speaker of Gaelic of the region) about 7,000 names, together with their pronunciations; imagine one of them (Watson) taking courses in Gaelic in order to be able to cope with the many names of that linguistic origin, such as *Allt Glas-choille* "burn of green wood," *Caochan nan Spóid* "streamlet of the haunches," or *Stob Dubh an t-slugain* "black point of the gullet"; imagine the other (Allan) applying to the project her intimate local knowledge of both places and people; imagine at the same time close co-operation with linguists and name scholars and lexicographers, and the painstaking transcription into the International Phonetic Alphabet of every name still in oral tradition, and designation of all named locations by precise map reference, as well as the relevant frequency of usage; imagine all this (and more, as they say in the commercials) and you will have some idea of the dedication, tenacity and good sense of the authors of this study (which by the way, is not over yet; even while their book was printing more names became known to them and were included in an appendix).

The published result of this labor of love is a monument to the willing co-operation of many and demonstrates what can be achieved if one is determined to see something through while at the same time recognizing one's limitations. There is no guesswork here, no popular flight of fancy, no unsupported etymology, no wishful interpretation, and, as a result, a region comes to life through its place names, many of them never recorded before, its past continues into the present, one important facet of its heritage has been preserved. It would be facile to think of this work only as a rescue operation although it is that, too; it is mainly a work of scholarship as well as of local antiquarianism of the best kind, it is a scientific study as well as a humanistic exercise.

I have had the good fortune of being on the fringe of this enterprise for quite a number of years and of seeing it grow, and this association has taught me again how the kind of toponymic fieldwork in which I had been engaged in many parts of Scotland for over a decade and a half can only be successfully conducted when it has the continued support of those on the spot; there is little drama about it but a lot of sheer hard work and perseverance. It is not surprising that the authors were able to persuade not only the relevant trusts, foundations and societies but also an oil company to aid their publication financially. It is even less surprising that they dedicated their book "to the folk of Upper Deeside," for without them there would be no book. When the Council for Name Studies held its annual meeting in Aberdeen at the end of March 1984, an excursion took participants to the very region covered by the volume, and name scholars from all over Britain and Ireland had an opportunity to meet and talk to some of Watson's and Allan's

best local informants, an enlightening prelude to the publication of the book.

Take heart, then, you who toil for the U.S. Place-Name Survey of the American Name Society and for similar projects. The kind of work in which you are engaged and which so often seems endless and full of difficulty can be done and can be done well; it only takes the right constellation of people and the right amount of intellectual and physical energy. Adam Watson and Elizabeth Allan have demonstrated it on Upper Deeside in Scotland.

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*Place-Names in the Landscape*. By Margaret Gelling. London, 1984: J.M. Dent & Sons, 33 Welbeck Street, London W1M 8LX, England. Pages ix, 326. Maps VIII, Index.

The English Place-Name Society published its fifty-fifth volume in 1984. It is the first volume for the county of Staffordshire and was originally scheduled to appear in 1977–78. Whether the publication rate picks up sufficiently to bring the set of volumes up to date or not, the English Place-Name Survey will have to continue well into the twenty-first century in order to complete its systematic coverage of the whole of the country, county by county. Fortunately, sufficient material has already been made available in the volumes published so far to allow authors closely associated with the Survey to draw on it for overviews and thematic monographs. Thus we have seen Kenneth Cameron's *English Place-Names* (1961), John Field's *English Field-Names* (1972), Gillian Fellows-Jensen's several studies of Scandinavian names in various parts of England, and Margaret Gellings *Signposts to the Past* (1978). Dr. Gelling, who has also contributed the volumes on Oxfordshire and Berkshire to the EPNS county series and collaborated with the late Melville Richards and the present reviewer on *The Names of Towns and Cities in Britain* (1970), has now added *Place-Names in the Landscape* to such explorations, a "study of the type of village-name which defines a settlement by reference to its topographical setting" (p.1). Her intention is to right an imbalance caused by the previous dominant attention, for historical purposes, to the so-called "habitative" names, i.e. those containing as their generic terms for habitation such as Old English *tūn*, *hām*, *wīc*, and *worth* and to give what she calls "topographical" settlement names their due.

What that toponymic category comprises is made clear by her chapter headings which are: I. Rivers, Springs, Pools, and Lakes; II. Marsh, Moor and Flood-plain; III. River-Crossings and Landingplaces, Roads and Tracks; IV. Valleys and Remote Places; V. Hills, Slopes and Ridges; VI. Trees, Forests, Woods and Clearings; VII. Ploughland and Pasture. Such chapter divisions are, of course, themselves the result of certain preconceptions regarding the structure of the landscape, and although these are by no means unreasonable, other divisions might have been possible. Chapter III, for example, is devoted wholly to features important to human communication and movement (river-crossings, landing-places, roads, tracks), while Chapters VI (clearings) and VII (ploughland and pasture) deal with human interference with or mastery of the natural landscape. The notion of "remoteness," too (Chapter IV), is a human perspective not inherent in the topographical features themselves. It might, however, have been difficult to take this human element satisfactorily into account in any other kind of classification.

One of Dr. Gelling's major concerns, already voiced in her *Introduction* to the

Berkshire volumes and in *Signposts to the Past*, is the chronological position of such topographical settlement names some of which she regards as being "among the earliest English place-names" (p. 6). This is an important step forward from earlier views which looked on this type of name as neither early nor valuable, and if, through the publication of her book, she has managed to remove the triviality label from these names, she has done place-name studies in England an immense service. Nevertheless, it is perhaps advisable to remember that names of this kind may have been given at more or less any time during which the elements of which they are composed were current. The earliest record of each name is therefore even more significant for topographical settlement names than for habitative ones, since it may well be the major or sole dating evidence. An additional consideration which has to be taken into account is whether names like *Carswell* (Berkshire) "cress spring or stream," *Sleap* (Shropshire) "slippery place," *Wraxall* (Dorset) "buzzard's nook," *Ashow* (Warwickshire) "ash spur," *Leagrave* (Bedfordshire) "light grove," *Wield* (Hampshire) "wooded upland," and the like, which do not contain any reference to any kind of habitation (in contrast to, let us say, *Skelton* [Yorkshire] "shelf settlement," *Graffham* [Sussex] "grove village," or *Oxted* [Surrey] "oak place"), must of necessity have referred to topographical features first before being "transferred" to settlements built in their vicinity. In cases in which this can be demonstrated to have happened, the primary name of the natural feature may well have existed for a considerable length of time before being put to secondary use. In those instances, on the other hand, in which there are no records indicating an earlier existence of a topographical name, there is some reason to suppose that the settlement name is the primary name, without any transference, meaning from the very beginning something like "village near a cress spring," "hamlet at a slippery place," "farm in the buzzard's nook," "settlement close to an ash-spur," etc., without expressive incorporation of a term referring to a human settlement of some kind. This is especially likely when the name occurs frequently, thus not only indicating appropriateness with regard to the landscape feature in question but also popularity.

While this hypothesis may have repercussions in our appreciation of the "onomastic meaning" or "content" of a place name, it does not call for any reconsideration of Dr. Gelling's second strong point, i.e. that "names must in all instances be considered in relation to the landscape" (p. 6), for whether topographical settlement names are primary or secondary does not influence their value for the exploration of this kind of relationship. Names of this type both reflect and make a landscape, and it is often, as Dr. Gelling points out with regard to the distribution of Old English *hōh* "a hill spur," the variation in landscape features rather than in linguistic dialect or in regional onomastic fashion which underlies varying distribution patterns. She therefore quite rightly insists on a less myopic, less regional or even local interpretation of such patterns, now that so much more evidence is available than in the early stages of the EPNS survey and publications.

On the whole, Dr. Gelling refrains from analysing in more general terms the material presented in her study and prefers "readers to draw their own conclusions about what is new and valuable in it" (pp. 7-8). In a way, this is a pity because she so obviously has more expertise and more experience in these matters than most of us, the "readers." For the time being, however, we have to be content with the, by no means unappreciated or to be belittled, fact that a sound corpus of examples of this kind of English settlement name is now available for inspection and interrogation and may serve as a basis for all sorts of exciting prospective investigations. This collection will be most accessible to those who have a particular interest in certain place-name elements, either singly or in relationship to

others, as a sort of supplement to A.H. Smith's *English Place-Name Elements* (1956); for in each chapter the material is arranged in alphabetical order by topographical terms so that, for example, in the chapter entitled "Marsh, Moor and Flood-Plain" we find *cwabba, ēg, ēgland, fenn, hamm, holmr, kjarr, mersc (merisc), mēos (mos, mosi), mōr, mýrr, slāp, slōh, soc, sol, strōd, wæsse, wagen, wemm*, with their appropriate linguistic designations and lexical meanings. The significance of each term is discussed – sometimes briefly, sometimes extensively – and instances of its toponymic usage are offered in the categories of simple names, and of generics or specifics in name compounds. As an arrangement, this is sensible and useful; unfortunately, however, the exact nature of the "other" element involved in compound names or the exact formation of the whole name or early recorded instances of it are hardly ever provided so that a statement like "Barkham BRK, SSX, Farnham SUR, Fernham BRK, Marcham BRK and Witcham CAM refer to vegetation; Burnham SOM, Cheltenham GLO, Chesham BUC and Powderham DEV to a feature of the topography" (p. 49) leaves the interested non-specialist reader a little bewildered and in need of help from other sources. Even the meanings supplied in the extensive *Index*, otherwise a great boon and much to be recommended as a model to authors of similar monographs, do not always solve the puzzle; cf., for example, Chesham BUC "well-watered valley with a heap of stones" (p. 290) or Powderham DEV "promontory in reclaimed marshland" (p. 305). What exactly are *Ches-* and *Powder-*?

This reviewer (and this may simply be special pleading from personal preference) would have liked to have seen a clearer division between names in which a topographical term serves as a simplex or as the generic in a compound, on the one hand, and those in which it modifies as a specific a generic which is habitative rather than topographic, on the other; for the latter category, while showing awareness of the surrounding landscape and making reference to it, can hardly be classified as a topographic settlement name in the pure sense of that concept. In particular – and this echoes a personal interest mentioned earlier – it would be an instructive exercise for someone to cull from Dr. Gelling's corpus of material all names in which neither the generic nor the specific makes any reference to habitation or human involvement, since these names appear to be, because of their ultimate derivation, the topographical settlement names proper, and the real core of her collections. At a first glance, it seems that the proportion of such names among the approximately 4,500 names included is quite considerable, and their identification, classification, and analysis should probably be the first "reader response" to this excellent book which, in many respects, can be predicted to be ushering in a new era of place-name studies in England.

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Orth, Donald J. *Official Authorities & Other Organizations Involved with Geographic Names – 1984: United States, Canada, Mexico*. Reston, VA 22092: U. S. Geological Survey, Open File Report 83-881, 521 National Center, 1984. Pp. vi + 87. Paper. Available free from USGS.

Orth, Donald J., and Roger L. Payne. *The National Geographic Names Data Base: Phase II Instructions*. Reston, VA 22092: U. S. Geological Survey, Open File Report 84-036, 523 National Center, 1984. Pp. lv + 100. Paper. Available free from USGS.

Donald J. Orth has been and continues to be a mainstay in the study of geographic names in the United States and, as a consequence, has been a leader in the American Name Society for more than two decades. He leads both by example and by action, publishing articles, presenting papers, and overseeing the vast publication projects in his office in the U. S. Geological Survey. The first of the two items under review is a much-needed document to pinpoint organizations and groups concerned with the collecting and the study of geographic names in the United States, Canada, and Mexico, with primary interest on the United States, but Orth gives full coverage of Canada and the provinces, as well as a description of the *Registro de Información Geográfica de México*.

The first section covers the official authorities and committees in the United States, beginning with the United States Board on Geographic Names whose Executive Secretary is Richard R. Randall, with Donald J. Orth serving as Executive Secretary for Domestic Names. Following is the listing and descriptions of the state authorities and their committees, with only 32 states having such machinery as committees, organizations, or advisors for the recognition and recommending of geographic names. Indeed, naming is not a major consideration within states and does not become so until a sacrosanct name has been targeted by some group for a name change. Although guidelines have been established in the 32 states, the activities of the groups overseeing them seem to be perfunctory or non-existing, except in a few instances, Utah being a prominent exception. Several committees are listed as inactive. Perhaps the publicity generated by the list will spur some state committees into more action. Also noted are the special authorities which include Western States Geographic Names Council, Western States Geographic Names Conference, and the extremely active National Geographic Names Data Base managed by Roger Payne of the U. S. Geological Survey.

The Canadian official authorities include the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, with Alan Rayburn as Executive Secretary, and committees in all the provinces, each with varying degrees of activity. Ontario and Quebec have been the most active in recent years, with the *Commission de Toponymie du Québec* publishing several official name lists and commentaries. The Permanent Committee oversees the publication of several official documents and magazines, with *Canoma* being an attractive journal containing articles on geographic names written by both governmental and academic experts.

All the academic organizations are listed, along with the name of the central authority and the location of offices. These groups, emanating either through suggestion or by individual effort from the American Name Society, have been active in conducting meetings, publishing proceedings, and encouraging and promoting the study of names. The Place-Name Survey of the United States has been relatively inactive, except for the annual meeting, usually attended by very few of the state directors. This quiescent condition occurred mainly because Donald Orth began the publication of alphabetical lists of names in each state, the names taken from the U.S. Geological Survey maps. From these lists, the directors of the state studies have been able to move more rapidly into surveys of their states.



The appendices cover Public Law 242, 80th Congress, July 25, 1947, approving a central authority for standardizing geographical names; the laws of Alaska, Arizona, California (a rather long handbook of guidelines), Hawaii, Utah, and Washington; the bylaws of the Western Geographic Name Council; the principles and procedures of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names; and the principles of geographical naming established by the Ontario Geographic Names Board.

Some changes need to be noted, ones that occurred since the document was drafted. The administrative office of the American Name Society has been changed from North Country Community College to Baruch College. Also, the death of Professor Henri Draye, Secretary-General of the International Committee of Onomastic Sciences, will force radical changes in the direction of the international work in onomastics. Orth could not have anticipated these changes, but they will be incorporated in the annual updating.

The booklet by Payne and Orth is as valuable as any document published in the field of onomastics, outside the dictionaries, in recent years. It is a description of the work Orth began and now being carried forward by Roger Payne, with very active cooperation from Orth. The Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), initiated by Orth, "is a computer based information system developed to meet major national needs by providing information for named entities in the United States and its territories." Phase I of this program, begun in 1976, was the extracting and listing in printout form all names that appear on the U. S. Geological Survey maps.

Phase II takes care of the addition of names from all sources, not just the U. S. Geological Survey maps, but still including them. The implications of this move are enormous for finally depositing all names in a central data base. As a result of Phase I work, about 1.7 million name records have been collected and stored. It is believed that these constitute from 50 to 70 percent of all names in current use. During Phase II, most of the rest of the names will be collected and stored as information from other sources is fed into the data base. The kinds of information needed for the base include historical and obsolete names, Indian and other minority group names, regional and area names, and minor feature names. The obvious sources are historical maps and atlases, books and pamphlets on local history, old Federal reports (with maps, charts, and guides, including census listings, coast pilots, postal guides, and reports on explorations), land records and plats, state and regional geographic name studies and books, city plats and county and regional maps, etymological texts and materials, early written records dealing with travel and settlement. Some material from these sources will also reflect on names already stored and will be entered into the data base as additional information. Orth and Payne give exact and demanding directions for those who collect and annotate during this Phase.

New names generated from the sources will be current ones that do not appear on the Survey maps, variants of those that do appear, and controversial names, the latter to be considered and decided by the U. S. Board on Geographic Names. Variants and new names will be made a part of the record whether or not controversy exists. At the end of Phase II, all categories of named features should be included with the exception of roads, highways, and triangulation stations. The appendices cover definitions of feature-class terms (*airport, arch, area, arroyo, bar, etc.*), standard cartographic abbreviations (*Academy Acad; Bay B; Bayou B; Yard Yd*), geographic names information system map feature guide, and a glossary of technical terms.

The two documents should be made a part of the working equipment of those involved in the process of name collecting and annotating. Each has its place for the research that is now being carried out and for anticipated research. For American Name Society mem-

bers, the list of official authorities and organizations will be of inestimable aid, for until now such information has not been available in one document. The Phase II instructions constitute a background set of directions that can be used by field workers or others actively researching the sources. In sum, Orth and Payne have pointed the way for a national register of geographic names that, as they write, “may be retrieved, arranged, analyzed, and manipulated for general and specific purposes without bias.”

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*Mountain Names.* By Robert Hixson Julyan. Seattle, WA 98101: The Mountaineers, 715 Pike St., 1984. Pp. 234. \$11.95 cloth/\$8.95 paper.

Mountains are rather recent concepts in the minds of humans, primarily because to a non-technological and pre-aesthetic conceptualizing society mountains were more than useless, except perhaps as a harboring place for spirits, mostly demonic ones that preyed on human minds and interfered with human affairs, the inhabitants of Mount Olympus being probably the best historic examples. Mountains tend to impede travel, take up space that could be used for cultivation, and provide refuge for predators. Only in relatively recent times have mountains been the play objects of persons of leisure, ones who could promote expeditions to climb them, to put weather towers on them, to make them into places of sport (skiing and hanky-panky), or to study them as a means to understand what takes place within the earth.

Once the concept of “mountain” is understood, it has to have a name. The most practical one was *Mountain*, whatever the language. Only then could descriptive terms be applied, usually *White*, if it was snow capped or was named during a time when snow was on it. Then came other colors and other descriptive names, some for shape (*Round Mountain*), for presence of animals (*Bear Mountain*), for wild food (*Strawberry Mountain*), or for other distinguishing characteristics, such as historic events, incidents, or monuments.

Julyan has brought together essays on approximately 300 mountains (listed alphabetically), a narrow selection from the thousands available. His intent is to present a sampling, including perhaps the major ones, since space and information place restrictions on how many mountain names can be discussed. His approach is a questing and questioning one: How old is the name? Who named it? What is the meaning? What other names has it had? How does the name relate to others in the region? Why did the namer choose this particular name? Within each essay, Julyan keeps these questions in mind as he works through the name.

Before listing and commenting on each name, he works through a classification of the names. Descriptive names are most common, since such are the easiest to give and also tend to be more exact. Still, white mountains may be green at other times of the year, or even brown. Sometimes the matter comes down to what the namer saw: “The Green Mountains of Vermont actually are not green for most of the year: . . .” Relativity becomes a factor: The peak that looks big in Scotland (*Beinn Mhor* ‘big mountain’) may not in the Himalayas. Typically, the oldest names are descriptive: *Himalaya* (from Sanskrit, ‘place of snow’), *Alp(s)* (‘mountain?’), *Malvern* (‘bare hill’), *Meall Dubh* (‘black mountain’), *Caucasus* (uncertain, but probably descriptive), and many others.

Many mountain names are metaphoric, akin to descriptive: *Sugarloaf*, *Dent du Crocodile* (French, 'crocodile's tooth'), *Jirishanca* (Quechua, 'hummingbird's beak'), *Jungfrau*, *Grossglockner* (German, 'big bell'), *Sandia* (Spanish, 'watermelon'), *Dom* (German, 'cathedral'), *Fujiyama* (pre-Japanese Ainu, 'heat?'), or *Warbonnet Peak*. Volcanoes, especially older ones, tend to refer to heat, *Fujiyama* being an instance. *Demavend*, in Iran, comes from Old Persian and has the meaning of "heat" in it. *Vesuvius* derives from Oscan, 'spitter of smoke and sparks.' The Amerindian Klickitak name for Mount St. Helens is *Tah-one-lat-clah*, 'fire mountain.' *Popocatepetl*, romantic as it sounds to American ears, "still carries the Nahuatl name the Aztecs gave it, 'smoking mountain.'" These rather bland names can be contrasted with some given more recently: *Pico del Tiede* (Spanish, 'peak of hell'), *Pichincha* (Quechua, 'boiling mountain'), *El Reventador* (Spanish, 'the exploder'), *Pogramni* (in the Aleutians, Alaska, from Russian root *pogrom*, 'organized massacre,' and translated as "black destroying death," although Julyan says that "desolation peak" would be more accurate). Many mountain names in South America have the connotation of "hell."

Associative names are closely related to descriptive ones and exist long after the association ceases; witness the many *Bear Mountains*. Flora and fauna enter here: Names such as *Tobacco Root Mountain*, *Mosquito Range*, *Mosca* (Spanish, 'fly'), *Big Horn Mountains*, *Cordillera Huayhuash* (for a rodent), *Ladybug Peak*, *Cloud Peak*, and many, many more. Other names occurring from associations include *Outlaw Mountain*, *Sierra Ladrones* (Spanish, 'thieves mountains'), *Drakensberg* (Dutch, 'dragon mountain'), *Knockshee* (Gaelic, 'fairy hill'), or *Cannery Mountain* (after a local industry). Mountains that are associated with Amerindians have acquired tribal names: *Uinta*, *Timpanogos*, *Adirondacks*, *Assiniboine*, *Chugach*, *Shasta*, or *Absaroka*, among many others. Association with a specific person can cause a mountain to carry that name: *Cochise Peak*, for its association with the Apache chief. A recent instance is *Harry Truman Ridge* near Mount St. Helens, although the name is also a kind of honor.

Incidents account for many names. *Jim Jam Ridge* resulted from an alcoholic orgy by some miners who during their carousing fell into a camp fire with rifle shells in their pockets. Julyan writes that this "triggered such an attack of the jim jams among the miners that they named the ridge for the incident, . . ." *Jebel Musa* (Arabic, 'Mount Moses') and *Adams Peak* in Sri Lanka resulted from "inspirational" incidents, the first being named as one of the peaks of the Sinai massif and the other because Adam "is believed to have left his footprint on the summit after ending there a thousand-years penance for his fall from grace." Incident names tend to lose their original impact with the passage of time because the circumstances have been forgotten.

Mountains being pretty much useless otherwise, they have become holy places or places governed by demons, probably because peaks and ranges actually are dangerous places. A falling stone can be thought of as having been tossed down by a supernatural being onto a poor human, and, of course, persons do fall from their heights. Julyan analyzes attitudes toward these fearsome features and finds a universal tendency to find gods in mountains: "Everywhere, mountains have been where gods and humans meet." The Asian peaks, the Himalayas and others, reflect the religious tone of the regions. Julyan notes *Annapurna* ('the bountiful goddess'), *Chomolungma* ('goddess, mother of the world' – Mt. Everest), *Bogdo-ol* (Mongolian, 'the mountain of God'), and many in other areas of the world, although some of these are named for demons, probably with much justification.

The English have since the mid-1800s been prone to turn mountains into monuments.

The Americans have followed hard on the English in doing the same thing, naming mountains (and other features) for persons who have had nothing to do with the feature, not even incidentally or accidentally. Commemorative naming is the result of deliberate naming. Late ones include *Churchill Peak*, *Eisenhower Peak*, and probably several hundred named by government surveyors for persons they wish to honor. Commemorative naming has slowed down only because it is more difficult to find mountains that have not been named.

Julyan is a professional editor and writer; consequently, his entries should be readable, which they indeed are. Since they are written as encyclopedic essays, they can be read in any order, all interesting and informative. Concise, the style is such that it leads the reader to other entries and also leads to the desire to learn more about mountains not listed. To help fulfill this desire in the reader, Julyan has furnished a reference list of 158 items, ones that should lead further into the study of mountain names.

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