

Reviews

Dunkling, Leslie, and William Gosling. *Everyman's Dictionary of First Names*. London: J.M. Dent & Sons Ltd., 1983. Pp. xvi, 304. £ 9.50.

During the last decade with the publication of *The Guinness Book of Names* (1974, 1982), *First Names First* (1977), and *Scottish Christian Names* (1978), Leslie Dunkling has established himself as probably the foremost expert on first name usage in the English-speaking world. With the new *Everyman's Dictionary of First Names* (co-written with William Gosling, an authority on 17th and 18th century names in England), this reputation will be solidified.

The dictionary is prefaced by a short introduction which gives a concise history of previous works on first names and tells how the present work differs from them. Though the authors state that the etymologies of names are "as accurate as we can get them," they are more concerned with describing the meaning of names in terms of "how they have been used within living memory; which social groups have used them and with what degree of intensity." These descriptions are based on several massive name counts, including extensive research in British parish registers for selected years from 1600 through 1800, counts of the names of one child in every seventy listed in the official birth records of England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland at 25-year intervals during the 19th century and on a yearly basis in recent times, lists based on students graduating from American, Canadian, and Australian universities in 1900, 1925, 1950, and 1975, and "official computer read-outs of American first name usage since 1940, indicating race of parents, the average yearly sample covering 25,000 children." The authors state that they try to pay equal attention to American and British names, in order to accurately document the movement of name fashions back and forth across the Atlantic.

Dunkling and Gosling's research has indeed produced the most impressive and accurate treatment of first name usage to date. Their statements about American name usage, however, must be treated with more caution than those on British usage. They had almost no data on American names given before 1875, and so the dictionary is missing some popular 19th century U.S. names like Almira and Lyman, and makes misleading comments about several others; for example, stating that Amanda and Melissa were never popular anywhere before 1940, when they were both well-used in early 19th-century America. The data used for 1875-1940, based on college graduates, applies only to the upper classes, especially for women's names. This results in some distortions, such as the failure to mention the great American popularity of Cora and Claud around 1880. And though Dunkling and Gosling's American data since 1940 is based on a large computer sample, it is geographically localized, consisting primarily of births within the city of Detroit, Michigan. This is evident not only from this reviewer's familiarity with the Detroit data, but also from the frequent references to Detroit found within the dictionary itself. Around 1950 Detroit was probably a very good indicator of name usage in urban America; since that time, with the growth of suburbs and the rise of the Sun Belt, it is steadily becoming less representative of mainstream American culture.

Of course with most names this is not a major problem; the great majority of names well-used by whites in Detroit will also be frequent nationally. Certainly there is strong evidence that the recent top favorites, like Matthew, Jason, Ryan, Jennifer, Jessica, and Kelly, have been popular everywhere. Detroit's special characteristics do sometimes mislead Dunkling and Gosling, however. For example, they state that "both black and white families in the U.S. have turned to Ali recently." Since Detroit is the major center in the U.S. for Moslem Arab and Albanian immigrants, there have been white boys named Ali born there recently, but it is highly unlikely that native-born white Americans are turning to it. Detroit's special history of Southern black in-migration during the 1940's may also account for the dictionary's curious contention that Lucille reached its peak of popularity in the U.S. between 1940 and 1955. Among middle-class whites at least, Lucille certainly peaked about thirty years earlier.

So the user must always remember that this is a book published in England by English authors, and should assume that all statements about name usage in the body of the dictionary refer to Britain unless otherwise specified. "Use of Elizabeth has been steadily declining this century," the authors inform us. This is true in England and Wales, but the Top Fifty lists provided at the end of the dictionary themselves show clearly that in the U.S. use of Elizabeth has greatly increased since 1950. Another minor disappointment is the failure of *Everyman's Dictionary* to do much with social class differences in naming patterns, which Dunkling dealt with so well in his chapter on England in *First Names First*.

But the above faults are greatly overshadowed by this book's virtues. Here for the first time we have published concrete data on the differences between black and white naming patterns in modern America. (The use of data from Detroit probably means that the dictionary's statements on black names are even more reliable than those for whites.) During the Seventies some names popular with whites, like Scott and Amy, have been almost completely ignored by black parents. Conversely, black Americans have been particularly fond of names like Tiffany, Ebony, Chanel, and Monique for their daughters, and Andre, Antoine, Mario, and Brandon for their sons. One cannot help being struck by the tendency for urban blacks to use names linked with luxury and wealth, even those like Cedric and Reginald which white Americans associate with effete English aristocrats. (The dictionary informs us, by the way, that Reginald does *not* have an effete image in England!) The heavy use of the prefixes La- and De- by black parents also seems to be connected with the sophisticated image that all things French have for the average American. Fully 140 different girls' names starting with La-, from Labrenda to Lawanza, are listed, with Lakeisha, Latasha, and Latoya being the most popular. On the other hand, the dictionary points out how black Americans continue to use many names, like Marvin, Veronica, and Jerome, that whites have abandoned. But in spite of black pride real African names are still rare. Tanisha, a Hausa day-name for a girl born on Monday, is the only one to have reached wide popularity, though the Muslim names Jamal, Aisha, and Rashida are now well-used even by blacks who have not converted to that faith. It's to be hoped that the publication of this book will inspire black social scientists to do research on the significance of these naming patterns for black American culture.

Everyman's Dictionary, of course, also gives fascinating information about name usage in England and Wales. One is surprised to learn that Fiance was a well-used name for British boys from 1850 to 1900. Two generals in the Boer War, Lord Baden-Powell and Sir Redvers Buller, immediately made Baden and Redvers popu-

lar names for English boys born around 1900. Names presently much more popular in England and Wales than in the United States include Emma, Gemma, Zoe, Gareth, Simon, and Sebastian—the last one popular because of British track star Sebastian Coe.

Many entries in the dictionary clearly show how movies and television have influenced the usage of particular names. Gary, Wayne, Tracy, Natalie, Samantha, and Darren are a few that were exported from the U.S. to England in this way. Marilyn, we are informed, was popularized by a musical star of the 1920's thirty years before Marilyn Monroe became famous. Literary influences are not forgotten; frequent reference is made to names popularized by Shakespeare and Dickens, as well as by less critically acclaimed but best-selling authors like Marie Corelli, who invented Thelma and Mavis. Probably the most influential single work of fiction in both Britain and America was *Gone With the Wind*. The use of Ashley, Bonnie, Brent, Melanie, and Wade seems to have increased because of its influence, and though Rhett and Scarlett didn't catch on, Clark and Vivien received a boost from the motion picture.

Everyman's Dictionary also includes many interesting names used in modern Wales. These include Ceridwen (from the Welsh words for "poetry" and "fair"), Eirlys ("snowdrop"), Mostyn ("fortress in a field"), and Eryl ("watcher"). The first use of Eryl has been traced to a particular child born in January 1893. Megan, a Welsh pet form of Margaret, has become popular in the U.S., often spelled Meghan or Meagan, as the authors surmise, "due to the insistence by several otherwise reliable name commentators that the name has an Irish origin."

These are mere snippets from the treasure trove of fascinating information this book contains. Altogether *Everyman's Dictionary of First Names* includes 4,500 entries giving etymology, pet forms, alternative spellings, surnames derived from, and history of use for 10,000 names. It immediately becomes the standard reference work for given names in the United States and England, a position it is likely to keep, especially for English and Welsh names, for at least a decade. It will be the starting point for any social scientist, historian, or literary critic who wants to investigate first name fashions or name stereotypes. Anyone interested in the first names of the English-speaking world should certainly own a copy.

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- Baker, Stephen, with illus. by Jackie Geyer. *5001 Names for Cats*. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1983. Pp. 237, paperback. \$6.95.
Tremain, Ruthven. *The Animal's Who's Who*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1982. Pp. xv + 335. \$17.95.

The books being reviewed here are the ones that give *Names* a bad name. Some years ago, "Cow Names from Northwestern Iceland," by Christopher S. Hale, was

published [*Names*, 25 (1977), 221-7], a very scholarly article, but one obscenely misunderstood by persons who had not bothered to read it. Being animal lovers, we were hardly ready to defend our cow calls, much less the names of the bossies. Gingerly, lately, some of us have commented on animal names, Ralph Slovenko coming to my mind with his "Anthropomorphizing Pets: People-Named Pets," in *Places, Pets, and Charactonyms*, Papers of the North Central Names Institute, 1982, Vol. 3 (Sugar Grove, Ill.: Waubensee Community College, 1982), 102-110; and a note by Jan Brunvand, "Introduction," to "Special Issue on Names in Folklore," ed. Jan Brunvand, *Names*, 16 (1968), 199. The names of horses have been noted in *Names*, but not much: 1 (1953), 262-5; 5 (1957), 233; and 9 (1961), 67. A full-length listing of names for pets is Jean Taggart, *Pet Names* (New York: The Scarecrow Press, 1962), with sections on birds, cats, dogs, amphibians, horses, insects and spiders, and other pets, with a 24-page bibliography. Breeder names for horses and dogs have been around since the animals were domesticated, probably. Such nomenclature is controlled by associations that set themselves up as controllers of "blood lines" and provide registered "papers"—for a fee—attesting to ancestry. Such groups dictate who can race, show, or claim "purity." So far as I know, we do not have studies of the way the names are given, nor a sociological study of the curiosity, which, as we know, reaches near epic proportions. Racing forms (newspapers) carry hundreds of names in only a few pages. Dog show announcements and breeder catalogs have thousands of names. Perhaps concern with the naming of these animals matters little in the context of human involvements and violent shenanigans, but for whatever reason I appreciate the aesthetics of naming a mollie Quaker (a grey one speckled with black) or Don Juan (the male mollie that follows the female ceaselessly). Such can be more soothing than a Wordsworthian poem.

Anyway, suddenly two books on animal names have appeared from otherwise traditional, rational, and sensible publishing companies, Scribner's and Oxford. Surely, however, even the mighty and virtuous can be allowed one or two minor sins. After all, man (huperonekind) was given dominion over animals and the right to name them. So, being a good Christian believer, I will consider these offerings in the serious vein that the publishers (and possibly the authors) intended. From the particular to the general (or from the peculiar to the jejune), I begin with cats, bonding animals that apparently believe they are human. Anecdotally, our Siamese has bonded so well with the family that she hates other cats and refuses to have anything to do with tomcats; therefore, we will have no kittens to give away, down, or whatever humans do with excess cats. Our veterinarian compounds the problem by card-filing her as Harder, T.K. (Twinkie Karma). She has other human characteristics, although name is not exactly a feature, such as shredding my hand when I try to pry her away from the poor timid gelded (neutered?) tom next door on one of the few occasions she was allowed to escape from the house. She quarrels if her food is not done just right, sleeps around with various children and parents in the house, claws furniture beyond even poverty acceptance, unravels toilet paper, crashes vases and other exquisite glassware (or did until we removed what she had not smashed), and howls in unholy grief during her heat period. Yet, never has a family loved a cat so well.

The naming was more difficult than was the naming of the children at their birth. After 25 years' experience with cats, we had not the faintest notion. Others had been named Adonais, Rani (Princess of Siam), Juniper, and now what. Twinkie Karma, of course, with Twinkie to be the household and answerable name. Perhaps

had we available 5,001 names for cats, we would have been further confused. Definitely, cats must have names, though Baker claims they don't mind being called Cat. I know one person who has named his dog Dog, just Dog. Cats won't put up with that. Try "here, Cat, come here, you @\$%*(†&%)! Cat." She won't move, won't purr, won't acknowledge your existence. Say "Dog, old boy," to Dog, and he will paddle his tail against the floor, jiggle a splashed out tongue, and look ever so pleased. Dogs should never have names. They have no personality, just the same old "Master-I-adore-you" look, sad but dumb. Cats are somebodies, human oriented, with the same aggravations, same talkative habits (try talking to a cat; she will yak right back), same disdain.

Baker has a list of do's and don't's concerning the use of a cat's name. Most of them I have ignored: Never call out its (her) name while she is asleep; have a reason to use the name; do not use her name when things unpleasant have occurred (such as her climbing up the new \$300 lace curtain in the baby's room); always use the right tone, not loud; entertain your cat; do now say "meow"; apologize if you offend the cat; never make fun of the cat; cats are not humorous, ever; pick a name that is exotic; maybe two or three names; do not call a cat Fido.

Baker divides his types of names into *categories*, such as The Talker (Churchill, Demosthenes, Jay, MacKenzie—nickname for the canned laughter machine on TV—, Mrs. Malaprop), The Devil Itself (Azazel, Hex, Peccato, Pyewacket, Brimstone), The Shape (Bungo, Calabash, Redondo, Glob, Methusela), on to the full 45 types, with an average of a bit more than 50 names to each characteristic. One more: The Great Lover is a sexist category, for only macho toms irresistible to nice cuddly pussy cats can obtain names from this list: Casanova, Cuckoo, Ding Dong, Don Juan, Gigolo, Hanky-Panky, Hef, Henry VIII, Honcho, Mellors, Sheik, Libido, and other such Dandy-O's. Then, litter naming can be a problem. Baker suggests threesomes (A, B, C; Bell, Book, and Candle; Lachesis, Clotho, Atropos; Louie, Dewey, Huey; Yum-Yum, Peep-Bo, Pitti Sing; Melvin, Alfred, David), foursomes (Peepeye, Pipeye, Poopeye, Pupeye; John, Paul, George, Ringo), fivesomes (Wummings, Hearn, Croft, Martinez, Wilson), sixsomes (Who, What, When, Where, Why, How; Peyo, Jokey, Greedy, Clumsy, Grouchy, Smurfet), sevensomes (Aventine, Caelia, Capitoline, Esquiline, Palatine, Quirinal, Viminal; Dopey, Sneezzy, Happy, Grumpy, Doc, Bashful, Sleepy; Pride, Envy, Anger, Sloth, Avarice, Gluttony, Lust; Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday). This kitten book is well worth its money, even if you intend to have only one kitten. It has no bibliography to distract the name giver.

Who's Who does, a good one, too. It is missing the Taggart text and was published too early for Walter M. Brasch, *Cartoon Monikers* (Bowling Green, OH 43403: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1983). Like all dictionaries, entries become major decisions. Tremain limited this one to quadrupeds, with a few minor exceptions, such as Moby Dick, eight-legged Sleipnir, Kermit the Frog, and three or four others. Perhaps someone will produce another volume to take care of Archie, Charlotte, assorted serpents (Edenic, Faulknerian, Hardy-esque), the cockroach in *Metamorphosis*, Donne's flea, Tithonus, Woody Woodpecker, the Raven, Raffles, Darzee, Mang, Chanticleer, Chicken Little, Chin Ling, and a few thousand others, enough to fill out a companion volume.

The first entry is *Aardy*, for the first aardvark born in captivity in the Western Hemisphere, Miami, Sept. 24, 1967. The author (both editor and compiler) selected according to taste, as perhaps is always done in selecting anything by anybody,

provides esoteric information not easily available, such as the names of Acteon's hounds, all named for a characteristic, such as Nebrophonos (fawn-killer), Labros (furious). Somebody probably needs to know that at least four of Mark Twain's cats were named Apollinaris, Beelzebub, Blatherskite, and Zoroaster, which says something about the state of the author's mind. In a letter to a children's magazine, he wrote that he named them that way "not in an unfriendly spirit, but merely to practise the children in large and difficult styles of pronunciation." We all have our fancies about how to educate little ones. Two other cats of his had more appropriate names: Sour Mash and Buffalo Bill.

Jo-Fi suffered through Sigmund Freud's painful oral surgery for cancer. Freud did not like animals much and did not acquire one until he was 70, when his daughter Anna gave him an Alsatian. Jo-Fi was a chow. Nim Chimsky, named after the linguist Noam Chomsky, proved once and for all that chimps cannot produce language as humans know it. Hector's horses were Xanthus, Podargus, Aethon, and Lampus. Zsa Zsa was the name of a rabbit that played the trumpet and drank beer. She was sent to John F. Kennedy, care of the White House. Who sent her?

Morris, the cat, was the subject of a biography in 1974, after he had appeared in 40 or more commercials, appeared in movies, and received the first Patsy Award (1973). Napoleon's favorite charger was Marengo, the white Arabian stallion. Captured at Waterloo, he was taken to England as a prize of war. His skeleton "is still exhibited in London, now at the National Army museum." And I suspect that all of us know Marmaduke.

This sampling, though skimpy, indicates the contents, always interesting, sometimes cute, always informative, even if some never-satisfied bipeds would call the material trivial. Lately it seems, any information that I do not like is mere trivia. So be it! Let us agree with the author:

I sought a fair sample, favoring the most prominent,
popular, interesting, bizarre, entertaining....

Deserving animals have undoubtedly been overlooked.

Finally, a comment on Yogi Bear: Hanna-Barbera Productions disclaimed any influence from Yogi Berra, the famous baseball player, but the evidence is too strong to do more than deny. Mr. Berra contemplated suing for defamation of character, but then decided that no great harm was done. Names do have consequences.

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Zgusta, Ladislav. *Kleinasiatische Ortsnamen (Place Names of Asia Minor). Beiträge zur Namensforschung*. Neue Folge. Beiheft 21. Heidelberg: Carl Winter. Universitätsverlag GmbH. Lutherstrasse 59. D-6900. 1984. Pp. 745. Maps.

This major scholarly study of toponyms of Asia Minor, one of the world's oldest regions of settled habitation, is a long awaited parallel compilation to Ladislav Zgus-

ta's *Kleinasiatische Personennamen* (Personal Names of Asia Minor), originally published in 1967, reprinted in 1984.

The major part of the book (p. 39-p. 663) analyzes 1,457 place names of this region. The toponyms discussed are listed in alphabetical order and are accompanied, whenever feasible, by clearly illustrated maps which greatly help to establish the location of the toponyms presented. The 530 detailed illustrations are cut-outs of the main folded map included as an appendix. On the main map seven transitional geographic regions are carefully marked (e.g., the number V. refers to the Phrygic-Gallic region); furthermore, 87 numbered cities are given as well as an alphabetical index of 90 cities. Dots on the maps indicate precise localizations of toponyms. If in doubt, assumed localization is characterized by a circle; size of circle indicating degree of uncertainty. The comprehensive research is based on published material as of 1981.

This compilation of toponyms is based on Greek, Roman, and Byzantine sources, as well as on a vast range of references from antiquity including indexed place names referring to epichoric and cuneiform sources. It goes without saying that, in order to carry out a project of such magnitude, the compiler must possess a thorough knowledge of several languages of antiquity, especially Greek and Latin, which Zgusta indeed does. (Although he humbly apologizes in the preface that he is not an accomplished Turkologist but states that quite often behind Turkish names variations of antique names can be traced.) Zgusta, moreover, stresses that it was extremely difficult to establish the origin, the etymological or the precise grammatical form, as well as the precise localization of some of the place names discussed. In principle, he states that he followed the widely accepted onomastic theory concerning loan words. In order to avoid any kind of a misunderstanding, he cites *London* as an example. When in Canada, in the new Colonial territory, the place name *London* was given, the Celtic origin was most likely of indifference to the Colonists; obviously they considered it because it was the name of the capital of Great Britain.

Zgusta also placed great emphasis on the types and definitions of toponyms. He points out that in the literature of onomastics names referring to rivers, mountains, islands, regions—often classified as hydronyms, choronyms, and so on—are handled separately; he considered to group them into two basic types: oikonoms (place names referring to human settlements) and anoikonoms (not of human settlements) and thus hoped to encompass them all.

The individual analysis places, first, the localization of a given toponym. Since in some of the cases the precise localization can only be assumed, it is carefully identified as such. For instance, for *Banaba* (listed as number 763), localization is assumed to be either in Isauria or in Pamphylia. (For key to geographical abbreviations see pp. 677-78.) Second, precise references to published sources are given whenever toponym has been mentioned. Bibliographical citations refer to page(s), volume(s), and to number(s) of inscriptions, if applicable. Sources cited are carefully listed on pp. 665-77. Furthermore, in the analysis of a given toponym, among others, the etymological history, orthographic variations are also mentioned. If doubtful, as in *Banaba*, skeptical as well as optimistic sources are traced. If a grammatical variation, such as a nominative or genitive ending is possible, it is clearly stated.

Excellent indexes conclude this precise work. For instance, all recurrent place names are listed on pp. 680-92, including variations in word endings. Furthermore,

an alphabetical listing of place names grouped by languages (Greek, Latin, Turkish), and by sources (epichoric, cuneiform, etc.) is included in this meticulous study.

In summary: Zgusta's *Kleinasiatische Ortsnamen* is a valuable treatise of highest standard; a model study; a contribution of major importance to the study of onomastics; thus, it is strongly recommended.

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Urdang Reference Books

Heller, Louis G., Alexander Humez, and Malcah Dror. *The Private Lives of English Words*. A Laurence Urdang Reference Book. Detroit, MI 48226: Gale Research Co., Book Tower, 1984. Pp. xxxiv + 334. \$44.00.

Urdang, Laurence, ed. dir., and Ceila Dame Robbins, ed. *SLOGANS: A collection of More Than 6,000 Slogans, Rallying Cries, and Other Exhortations Used in Advertising, Political Campaigns, Popular Causes and Movements, and Divers Efforts to Urge People to Take Action*. A Laurence Urdang Reference Book. Detroit, MI 48226: Gale Research Co., Book Tower, 1984. Pp. 446. \$65.00.

"Words to go to sleep by" is one of the slogans listed by Urdang and Robbins, but those words surrounded by their backgrounds (etymologies and accretions) in *The Private Lives* hardly would induce sleep. The recorded history of words tends to excite, intimidate, and possibly inform (a kind of educating) those who take an interest in how the form of a word has arrived at its present condition, either as a written form or as a spoken one. Persons who read usually prefer the printed form, although the sound form is of paramount importance in linguistic change through history. The printed form is separate, is coded, and is, in so many ways, accidental. Still, it is our only means of tracing through history. The irony is that those who read, but not all, are the ones who take an interest in the spoken form, too.

Heller, *et alia*, in both the "Foreword" and "Introduction" furnish examples of how changes occur, how meanings move around, and how the processes occur. To be sure, the survey is a simplified one that hardly does justice to the enormous complexity of meaning changes. Still, the authors list common phenomena involved in changes and "multiplicity of meanings," among them *radiation* (from a common history a number of distinct senses have developed), *specialization* (narrowing of meaning), *generalization*, *denotative shift*, *connotative extension*, *transference*, *pejoration*, *amelioration*, *euphemism*, *weakening*, *fold etymology*, *fading*, and several other processes, most of which can be listed under the rubric of *metaphor*. The listing or processes, however, does not explain why changes occur or why humans continue to use the same sounds but apply different meanings, as though

the saving of sound is important—maybe it is. I suspect the reason will be found to be physical rather than cultural, a need to retain speech structures that are internalized. This calls for further analysis. In Appendix II, words are listed under the processes.

Primary onomastic entries would be *academy* (Academus), *Alcatraz* (Spanish: “pelican”), *algorism* (from name of the 9th-century mathematician, Abu Ja’far Muhammad ibn Musa *Al-Khwarazmi*), *ammonia* (from *Amen* or *Amon* “the hidden one,” name of an ancient Egyptian deity), *attic* (Attica), *canter* (Canterbury), *chauvinist* (Nicolas *Chauvin* de Rochefort), *copper* (Cyprus), *derrick* (17th-century executioner), *dunce* (John *Duns* Scotus), *frank* (Franks), *God*, *barlequin* (*Herla Cyning* “Herla the King”), *hobby* (diminutive of *Robert*), *laconic* (Laconians), *lethargic* (Lethe), *maudlin* (Mary *Magdalen*), *nicotine* (Jean *Nicot*), *pander* (Pandaros), *pandemonium*, *panic* (Pan), *pants* (Pantalone), *peach* (Persia), *Sabbath*, *sandwich* (John Montagu, the 4th Earl of *Sandwich*), *silhouette* (Etienne de *Silhouette*), *spaniel* (Old French “Spanish”), *syphilis* (name of a swineherd in a didactic poem, *Syphilis, sive morbus gallicus*), *Tartar*, *tuxedo* (*Tuxedo* Lake; ultimately, Amerindian), and *zany* (*Zanni* “Johnny”). Mere listing does not do justice to the extended commentary in the entries.

As interesting as the detailed discussions are, the glossary is a selection only, more to serve as examples for processes than to be informative, a bonus for the learner. The selection is very small, only 400 entries, and no doubt the reader would wish for many different ones. For instance, some of the months are entered; others are not. A list of preferences would probably mask the ones selected, enough obviously to intimidate, excite, and possibly inform. In addition, the text is readable.

The other text, *SLOGANS*, covers more *territory* (6,000 plus) but also does little more than whet the appetite for millions. A sloganized society, ours commits itself to the abstraction, the overriding allegory for the reality, smothering content, rising to a scream, a yell, or a thundering exhortation, mostly meaningless in the context but effective as a catalyst for unreasoned action. We all feel the impact and too often act within the confines of the abstraction, sometimes uncomfortably conscious of succumbing to the sloganeering enticements, wallowing in a non-thinking medium. Since we are skin-close to mass media, we are through them shelled with slogans constantly. It is hardly any wonder that we act on them, by them, and for them, like robots externally controlled, swaying in the desired direction of the sloganeer, also caught in the same maelstrom as one of the rest of us. In fact, we are all sloganeers, culturally conditioned to act before belief, to believe before thinking, and to think before reasoning.

This set of slogans reminds us of the power they have over our lives, and they touch only a small portion of the infinite possibilities. For instance, a magazine picked up at random contains the following: A world of flavor in a low tar (Merit cigarettes); The difference between looking good and looking great (Revlon); Old Friend, New Trick! (Lemon Pledge); Aspirin Free (Congespirin); Skincare: New Concept, New Result (Buf-Puf); There is a special feel in an Oldsmobile; Above All, the lowest (Now cigarettes); Safety is a full-time job (GM); It’s not just how good you look...but how long you look good (Maybelline); How to tempt your lover without wearing a fig leaf (DeKuyper); “Thank Goodness it Fits” (Playtex); All you need to line the look you love (Maybelline); and Good taste can be acquired (Wodka Wyvorowa). These constitute only a few of the hundred or so that could be gleaned from one source.

Others could be collected from slogans from college administrators: "We are committed to excellence"; "We're Number One"; or "Study the Stars at Star Lake"; or from students: "Harder's Easy"; "Croakers' Joker" (Death and Dying); "Vorst is Worst"; or "Free the Rodents" (Psychology Laboratory). These could be categorized as titles, but they serve also as slogans. Urdang and Robbins list 126 thematic categories. A sampling includes Advertising, Automobiles, Beverages, Publishing, Computer Equipment, Campaign Slogans, Liquors, Hotels and Motels, Meats, Pet Food and Products, Schools, Soft Drinks, Tea, and Writing Instruments. Index I is a listing in alphabetical order of all the slogans while Index II contains in alphabetical order of all sources. The format is compact and usable.

The two texts represent quality work by a lexicographer and wordsmith of the first rank. Indeed, arguments could be raised against the small number of words discussed in *The Private Lives* and perhaps with the selection. But such a futile rationalization would not take into account the reason for the collection. The "Forward" to *SLOGANS* gives some intimation of the creation of slogans for advertising purposes and also hints at the possibility of further research into cultural and psychological aspects of their effects. Linguistic aspects certainly need investigating, since little research has been done on the semantic aspects of the form. They are closely akin to proverbs and perhaps should be treated as such for analysis. Whatever else can be said about this collection, it can be said to have a measure of quality, a performance line, and power to please.

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Payne, Roger L., with illustrations by Ronald A. Crowson. *Place Names of the Outer Banks*. Washington, North Carolina: Thomas A. Williams, 1985. Pp. 198.

This book certainly should be among the articles carried by anyone traveling to, or interested in, the Outer Banks, that unusual feature along the southeastern coast of the United States. A place now much in demand by Americans living within one- or two-days' travel because of its appeal as a vacation area, this region has a history that reflects much of the early experiences of our country. The combination of its geographical setting and its historical background have produced an interesting body of geographic names. And thanks to a person who has a background in geography, history, and cartography and who has studied the Outer Banks, we have a fine publication that provides details about the names in that area. As the author himself notes, it is the first systematic effort to catalog named features of the territory.

The first part of the book describes the author's interest in the area, and provides definitions of place names and of the Outer Banks and their various physiographic characteristics—including a description of the natural forces that created

the feature and its subunits. In a section titled "User's Guide to Place Names of the Outer Banks," Payne provides a discussion of the book's format while also defining the cartographic factors employed in describing the entries. He also confesses that there were certain difficulties in arriving at the origin of some names, owing to unavailable records or conflicting evidence, or—as can happen where toponymic research is involved—having to unravel a badly twisted skein of information with less than satisfactory results. A glossary of terms gives the user an understanding of the vocabulary employed in the descriptions of features; the author states that the terms apply to the Outer Banks and not necessarily to other areas. Three tables identify US Geological Survey topographic maps used in research on the book, provide a list of counties and townships of the area, and give a grouping of names according to type of name.

The bulk of the work is an alphabetical listing of names. There are 1,084 main entries, each with a description that includes latitude and longitude (to the nearest second of arc) and other details as appropriate, such as proximity to other (named) features, and a historical or linguistic background. In addition to the main entries, the book gives variant names, also alphabetically listed individually and identified under "other names" in the main entries. A personal discussion with the author brought forth the statistic that 976 variant names are in the book, of which 86 are used twice, nine are used three times, and other individual names employed up to as many as nine times (the winner: New Inlet).

Payne has also listed former names (shown in italics) which demonstrates the depth of his research and his interest in finding as many current and past names as possible. As suggested above, he also provides much interesting background on some names. While perhaps not being able to trace a name to its precise origin, by providing plausible roots of many names, he heightens the value of the book. For example, the name Kitty Hawk might stem from an Indian name, from efforts by early Indians to describe the course of years in primitive English words, or from words used by the settlers themselves. Occasional sketch maps (called illustrations) provide locational relationships.

Very minor flaws in the book will doubtless be remedied in the next printing, which will be required if (as the reviewer hopes) the marketing of the work has any degree of success. Occasional misspellings or redundancies of text are to be found, and one might wish that the maps were specifically keyed to the descriptions of features they portray.

Payne's employment with the US Geological Survey brings him in close touch with geographical names on a daily basis in support of USGS programs and in connection with work of the United States Board on Geographic Names. This experience has clearly strengthened the author's understanding and interest in names. Happily for the library of studies on names, and fortunately for persons interested in the Outer Banks, he has brought his perspectives together in a fine book.

Richard R. Randall
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United States Board on Geographic Names

GALE RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

This survey of recent publications by Gale Research Co., Book Tower, Michigan 48226, serves as prominent notice of books of interest to readers of *Names*. Titles and bibliographical information appear below:

- Crowley, Ellen T., and Helen E. Sheppard, eds. *Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary*, Ninth Edition, 2 vols. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1984. Pp. 2,048 in 2 parts. \$145/set.
- Filby, P. William, and Mary K. Meyer, eds., *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index: 1983 Supplement*. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1984. Pp. xxvi + 982. \$110.
- Editors, Gale Research Co. "Bio-Base 1984 Master Cumulation": *A Microfiche Index to over 5 Million Biographical Sketches and Articles*. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1984. \$950/set.
- Mossman, Jennifer, and James A. Ruffner, eds. *Eponyms Dictionaries Index*. First Edition: Supplement. Issue No. 1, March 1984. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1984. Pp. 248. \$85/set.

The prices of reference materials have increased more than substantially in recent years. Probably good metaphorical terms other than "size" could include spiraled upward, gone out of sight, rocketed, inflated, jumped the track, escalated, scaled rapidly upward, soared, and other upwardly mobile figures. An instance is the difference between the prices of the 8th edition of *Acronyms* (\$98) and the 9th (\$145). Of course, the 9th edition has 347 pages more of entries, adding out to close to 31,200 new entries. The two volumes contain, as nearly as my finger-adding abilities can ascertain, 368,440 entries, which comes out to 2,541 (give or take a fraction or so) entries per dollar. Considering the attractive binding, the readability of the texts, and the excellent format, I would say that the price is fair for libraries and for persons with specialties that demand such sources.

Although Gale Research has been publishing editions of *Acronyms* since 1960 the first edition (a collection of about 12,000 terms), no one has yet made a serious study of the phenomenon; perhaps no need for such a study or studies exists. The excuse for their use is that they save time in broadcasts and space in newsprint or other print media. In such, these shortened items become PRO-forms, taking the place of larger segments of phonetic production in speech and print. Nevertheless, they occur in print, or so it seems, more often than in speech, since print has need for previous references and, hence, can be abbreviated, while speech has no such tracking. It actually comes down to speech being natural language, while writing is high technology, probably the highest, if we are climbing up metaphoric inclines again. Writing, then, is an activity that is more apt to incorporate PRO-forms, a kind of shorthand that avoids the structure of a new writing system, such as Pitman. Whereas an invented shorthand language has to be learned systematically if it is to be used, acronyms, initialisms, and abbreviations derive from the standard written form and can find almost immediate acceptance by use, since its referent is available for inspection. Seldom are these PRO-forms used without a reference to the forms from which they originate. Such, however, is less true with acronyms that have become referents themselves: *Laser*, *radar*, *jeep* (vehicle), and, perhaps, OPEC. In fact, acronyms (the formation of a "word" that becomes literally a word with all inflections within a language) do not occur very often. Initialisms and abbreviations are vastly more common, since they are formed easily and require

no overt thinking. Acronyms seem to have a formal origin, after the fact: MADD, HALO, SCUM, PACES, or JACKPOT, all initialisms that also form recognizable English words (with the exception of MADD in print). The acronym overlaps with an initialism, with the distinction usually being that the acronym is pronounced as a word, while the initialism will be pronounced letter by letter: C—O—D.

The editors claim that every category or subject area has expanded since the last edition. A few new areas are covered: National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations (NASDAQ), dozens of antineoplastic drug regimens, and numerous cable television networks. Periodical titles have added a few thousand entries, as have the many associations that Americans tend to join. Updating continues also. In sum, the coverage is ample and would move toward exhaustibility were it not for the constantly changing society that demands more and more shortened forms, which in itself is a part of the steady move toward miniaturization.

With the publication of *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index* (1983), the number of citations now totals 900,000 names, "still just a fraction of the 20 million immigrants to North America from 1538 to 1900." Now, the base index (1981) with 500,000 citations, the first supplement (1982) with 200,000, and this one with another 200,000, the pattern is set for receiving, computerizing, and eventually publishing several million of the names of immigrants and lists from which they were taken. *PILI* indexes only published material, for this assures accuracy, despite the variants that too often occur in copying. Such lists are taken from ship lists, naturalization lists, lists in histories, foreign lists of emigrants, and any other listing source. All sources are numbered and listed for keying of each name.

The immediate use for the *Index* is for genealogists, "since almost all passengers arriving in the New World during the period covered were not casual travelers but immigrants intending to remain in America as permanent residents." The list also can be searched for incidence of names, both surnames and fore names, and combinations. Country of origin will be more difficult to determine, but a dedicated researcher could ferret out such sociological information. The bibliographical source listings can direct researchers to original sources and point of origin of probably all the immigrants.

In an earlier review of an early edition of Gale's *Biography and Genealogy Master Index* [Names, 32:91], I hinted that eventually every person in the world who had any biographical sketch or other such information listed anywhere would be caught in Gale's biographical net. The listing is now too large for printing in book form, therefore, Gale has created a microfiche reference service that "provides over 5.35 million citations to biographical sketches and articles appearing in more than 1,080 volumes and editions of about 500 biographical dictionaries." Furthermore, the sources "indexed by *Bio-Base* cover both living and deceased persons, and include people in every field as well as from all areas of the world."

As a biographical source, the *Bio-Base* is invaluable, for it covers such a variety of sources, all giving information bearing on one person. For biographers, access to the microfiche is indispensable. For others who need personality sketches or other factual material the source can lead to many publications where such material can be found. One feature that has major use for critics is the indexing of "volumes of literary criticism, which may contain only a limited amount of biographical information but give critical surveys of a writer's works." Although the cost may be prohibitive for the individual, the *Bio-Base* is not beyond the budget of the average

library (whatever that may be).

The value of the *Eponyms Dictionaries Index* (1977) cannot be overestimated for members of the American Name Society who have been studying eponyms. First, statistics: The first edition contained 30,000 entries, while the Supplement (March 1984) contains 7,420 additional entries. The new areas covered include such subjects as coins, computer technology, and awards, the latter having been covered incompletely in the *Index*. Several large categories have been excluded, such as trade names (Edsel), legal cases, placenames, and astronomical bodies' names.

A problem exists in the definition of *eponym*. Traditionally, the person (Albert Einstein) or a mythical figure (Venus, Mars) for whom something is named is the eponym, but current usage indicates that *Eponym* is associated with the named "law, object, phenomenon, etc., rather than with the name giver" or for whom given. Here, the editors follow current usage. And, as usual, surprises occur on every page: Big Will (tank), after Sir William Ashbee Tritton; Billyball, after Alfred Manuel "Billy" Martin; Adam's arms, a spade, after Adam; Adamist, a gardner, after Adam; Minerva's bird, owl, after the Goddess; or Strangelovian, generic word for militaristic, after Dr. Strangelove, a movie and its central character. Of course, the majority of the eponymic entries come from the sciences, including medicine (which doctors, unfortunately, call an art). Apparently, all major diseases have been named for medical personnel who discovered them. The *Index* and *Supplement* contain the leads for information that can be worked into major studies. The bibliography of sources leads to further information on both the individuals and the eponymous word or phrase.

These items (texts and microfiche—which is text also) represent Gale Research Company's productions at their best. The volumes are packed with information, all carefully structured and arranged in well designed formats. For such care and for the value of the contents, many thanks!

Kelsie B. Harder

Kari, James and Priscilla. *Dena'ina Elnena: Tanaina Country*. Fairbanks: Alaska Native Language Center, University of Alaska, 1982.

In a paper delivered to the 1983 meetings of the American Ethnology Society, Keith Basso lamented the virtual disappearance of American Indian place name studies from North American ethnography (Basso 1984). During the course of his own work with the Western Apache, he had come to appreciate the pivotal significance place-name systems had in Apache explanations of human activity. He was particularly impressed by the admonition of one of his oldest consultants that if he wanted to understand anything about the Cibecue Apache culture, he had to "learn

the names;" his paper went on to examine these names as a key to a distinctive world view.

Why, Basso asked, has the study of systems of naming vanished from grace in ethnography? Has such research simply become the victim of changing fashions? During the early years of American ethnography and linguistics, particularly in the work of Boas and Sapir, geographical nomenclature was routinely recorded as part of a broader effort to learn Indian and Inuit ways of categorizing environment. Basso commented that with one notable exception (de Laguna 1972) he knew of no single study written by a linguist or anthropologist in the last two decades which dealt in depth with the toponymic system of a North American tribe.

While fashion may have nudged place-name studies out of mainstream anthropology and linguistics, scholars working with Athapaskan languages (the language family to which Apache also belongs) in northern Canada and Alaska might be surprised by Basso's critique. The emphasis on Native land claims, subarctic cultural history and human ecology have all stimulated interest in Native perceptions and use of landscape. One avenue which has proven particularly fruitful for understanding traditional relationships between human beings and their environment has been the elicitation, analysis and description of traditional names for landscape features.

Such names are far more than handy points of reference and are notable in two ways. First, each name has an elaborate internal linguistic structure which makes it an intricate self-contained creation showing ways in which a language "works." Secondly, names frequently encode information about environmental phenomena and historical incidents, and they play an important role in the persistence of oral tradition. Studies of Native place names have been central to much of the linguistic research carried out both at the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, and at the Yukon Native Language Centre in Whitehorse, Yukon, during the last ten years. If these studies have not filtered into the heartland of academic journals this may say more about their purpose and their intended audience than about their quality or seriousness.

One of the most notable examples of such work is the research of linguist James Kari and ethnobotanist Priscilla Russell Kari, based in Alaska. Their *Dena'ina Elnena: Tanaina Country* maps and presents several hundred names from southern Alaska, specifically from the 41,000 square mile area surrounding Cook Inlet. Dena'ina country encompasses a dramatic range of coastal and inland ecological zones; it includes the tallest mountains in North America, four active volcanoes, ocean, lakes and muskeg. At contact, the authors tell us, there were some 5,000 Dena'ina living in the area around Cook Inlet; today there are approximately 1,000, 150 of whom speak their language.

This book is perhaps equally a study of language and a study of landscape, and the authors maintain the balance between the two themes, showing how each is inextricably tied to the other. Considerable progress has been made in the analysis of Athapaskan languages and the subsequent development of practical orthographies during the last two decades; place name studies have made a particular contribution to this research. For example, Dena'ina, like other Athapaskan languages, has much more precise words for directions and distance than does English. These "directionals" are expressed by a complex system of prefixes and suffixes, which describe the relative position of things. In relation to a river, for instance, such terms differentiate between "upriver," "downriver," "toward the river," "away from the river," "at higher elevation than the river," "at lower elevation than the

river," "across the river," "midstream," etc. The Karis show how such directionals are manifested in Dena'ina place names (p. 44).

The historical and geographical content of names is presented in two ways and in two separate sections. Part One describes four distinct geographical *regions* and lists the names, keyed to maps. Part Two is longer and discusses the country by landscape *features*—mountains, glaciers, hills, forests, lakes and streams, oceans and tidal flats, muskeg, showing how names incorporate critical information about both features and land use. By organizing the presentation in this way, the Karis simultaneously show us the relative density of names and the range of information encoded in those names.

Some names like *Ulchena Hch'agedelt* (p. 56) mark specific historical events; it is translated "where the Alutiiqs came out" and refers to a traditional war story. Others refer to particular features of landscape: in an area of actively surging glaciers *Tuk'ezitnuLi'a* "fish-stranded-in-tide-river-glacier" (Tuxedni Glacier) may give some indication of the impact of glaciers on subsistence strategies. The purely descriptive nature of some names suggests relationships to oral tradition: *Ch'chibiken* means "ridge where we cry," and *Vatsilyaxi* is translated "that which is dreamt of" (p. 68). Others incorporate information about subsistence resources and activities: *Vilqutnu*"caribou-snare creek," *Ch'ananihazitnu*"spawned-out-salmon-come-out creek," *Zdlagh Zgbaxtnu*"Sheefish harvest river" (p. 75), *Ch'i-kegh Dghut'in Venal*"Big canoe-bark-is-peeled lake" (p. 78), or *K'tl'ila T'el'ihil* "where wild potatoes are gathered" (p. 83).

A distinctive feature of this work is the form of presentation: it might easily escape the notice of an academic audience because it is not written exclusively for that audience even though there is much in it which might be of use to scholars. Instead the authors have tried to write it and present it in a way which makes it accessible to Native consultants who were involved in the research. More than fifty elderly Native consultants are acknowledged by name in the introduction.

The original publication of *Dana'ina Elnena* was a limited edition of 500 copies. Under the editorial direction of Jane McGary, the text is clearly written and provides an accurate introduction both to the Dena'ina language and ethnogeography. Five maps, drawn by Karen Pearson, are included—one an overview of Dena'ina country divided into four subdivisions, and a map for each of those subdivisions with names keyed to specific places. The text is interspersed with photographs taken by the authors, photos both of landscape and of the Native consultants involved in the preparation of the booklet. A number of sketches are included, illustrating plants and harvesting techniques specific to each region.

This book is only part of an ongoing research project begun in 1973. An underlying concern expressed by the authors is that it not be seen as a piece of exotica; one of their objectives is to see the ultimate incorporation of Native toponyms into the official system of names in the state of Alaska. They have documented a detailed, essentially conservative but still viable naming system. The colonial assumption that Alaska is a "nameless wilderness" has always underlain the enthusiastic dispensing of official names in the north. Consequently, we have places named by and for transients (Underhill Creek, Johnson Bay and the like), a number of duplicate names (Sheep Creek, South Fork and so on), numerous trivial names (Can Creek, Why Lake, etc.), all in the middle of ancient and densely named Athapaskan territory. Similarly, there are examples of viable Athapaskan names being replaced by trivial English ones: for example, the replacement of *Vendashtnu*"shallow lake river" by the now official "Stink River" (p. 13). Likewise, one finds well-

meaning but incorrect translations; for example, *Hek'dichen*/"valuable or abundant" is mistranslated and incorporated as "Hungry Creek" (p. 7).

Dena'ina Elnena demonstrates that preservation of Native names in northern areas has far more than symbolic or sentimental value. The names provide a mnemonic system for history, resource use and traditional stories which continue to have particular significance in the lives of people who live there. James Kari has been instrumental in focussing public debate on the nature and procedure for adopting official names in Alaska. The extent to which Native names come into official use will determine whether the study of naming systems is an arcane academic pursuit or a recognized component of Alaska's heritage. Across northern North America it may still be possible to institute a system of official naming which reflects efforts of Native people to make their languages a viable part of the cultural landscape.

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Yukon Native Language Center

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1985 "Native Place Names in Alaska: Trends in Policy and Research." Paper delivered at the Symposium on Indigenous Names in the North. McGill University, March 22, 1985.

Different but Important

- Allen, Farrow, Edward Antczak, and Peter Shea. *Vermont Trout Streams*. Burlington, VT 05492: Northern Cartographic, Inc., P.O. Box 133, 1985. Pp. 124. \$9.95. Paper.
- Schneider, Red. *Ain't We Got Fun?* Union, MI 49130: Blue Mouse Studies, P.O. Box 312, 1982. Pp. 68. \$3.95. Paper.
- Wright, Marion I., and Robert J. Sullivan. *The Rhode Island Atlas*. Providence, Rhode Island, Publications Society, 1982. Pp. xvi + 240. No price listed. Paper.

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Onomastic information has the commonality of being different and of appearing from unsuspected sources. The three items noticed here have content that could slide by without being recognized for other than the ostensible reason for being: a nostalgic period piece of fun, a serious state atlas, and a trout fisherman's handbook. Each, however, contains original material that is of value to the study of names and, hence, each needs its moment before readers.

Schneider captures the flavor of the 1930s with his cast of froggy characters from Forgville, 1933-1934, a hamlet trying to survive during the Great Depression. In every sense, the place is a utopia, with the inhabitants being frogs and named such with foreign-language surnames which can be translated into English as names that have connotations of frogginess. Some make sounds, Floy McGargle, Priscilla Peeper, and Phineas van Kwaken (Dutch, "croak") III being examples; some disturb ponds, such as Felicity Pondripple (nee Frogbody), Babbette Bubble, and Pete Ploffen; some have physical attributes, George and Hanna Flipper, Brodowka (Polish, "ward"), Schlammkopf (German "mudhead"), Graufrosch (German, "gray frog"), Wartzkopf (German, "warty head"), Trivia Greenbottom, Elvira Greenrump, and Uriah Slime. Many other such names hop around in Frogville, only a few to be noted here: Eudora Swampworthy, Olympia Wildefrog, the Grogling Brothers, and Muckmire Brothers, and Brenda la Rana.

My remembrances of the 1930s are not so utopian, but Schneider has managed to evoke memories that have merit and can be classed as pleasant, including Sunday visits, calliopes, soda shops, radio thrillers, shindigs, and croaking frogs along the creek. Of course, gasoline was 15 cents a gallon at filling stations, and rumble seats added to erotica. And there were toads, too.

From frogs to trout is a fly away. Allen and co-authors describe the kinds of trout inhabiting Vermont streams, the names of the baits and lures (including both the common name and scientific names of mayflies, Caddis flies, stoneflies, and other live baits), names and descriptions of the larger streams, and then an index of more than 1,000 names of streams in the state, keyed to pocketed maps, and also listed under the name of the major drainage basin. Many of these names do not appear in Esther Monroe Swift's outstanding *Vermont Place-Names* [reviewed by Eugene Green, *Names* 26, 1978, p. 116] mostly because they were too small or because of lack of space.

On the other hand, Allen's text is primarily a handbook, with names often given in raw form, never with origins or some information that the name researcher must have. But for both the trout fisherman and the onomatologist, the book cuts two authentic ways. Beautifully illustrated, the format is over-sized, hardly the item to fold up in a wet hip pocket or pitch into a paper-crammed glove compartment. It will serve better flat out on a car or truck seat, ready for reference. Northern Cartography also has other texts: *The Atlas of Vermont Trout Ponds* (index of over 150 names, with 50 pages of maps) and *The Atlas of New Hampshire Trout Ponds* (index of over 250 trout ponds, with over 50 pages of maps).

The Rhode Island Atlas contains the usual items found in such publications: maps and graphics, physical realm (water, forests, weather), population information, political districts, the economy, matters of transportation, and governing units. In addition it contains a large section (pp. 35-62) on places and names, some-

thing not often seen in a state atlas. The 38 pages, double-columned, amount to a placename text of the state, although generalized and obviously incomplete. But then so are all the state placename volumes.

The authors make one good point at the beginning. Recent maps show fewer placenames than earlier maps, indicating that in earlier times when people walked or rode horses they made much more use of local names. They note, "Small features along the roadside had names, and often the intersections of roads, even when there were no habitations." Today, our mobile society allows the obscure local names to disappear; and "even within the same family, place-name vocabularies may vary considerably from generation to generation." The narrative accounts for the name of the state (not certain), Amerindian placenames (selected list with meanings), city and town names (with maps), names from the past, from natural features, honoring prominent people, and of women. The latter category includes *Queen's River* and *Queen's Fort* (for the squaw sachem Quaiapen), *Conimicut Point* (after the daughter of Quaiapen), *Awashonks* (the squaw sachem of the Sakonnets), *Dolly Cole Hill*, *Nancy Brown Island*, *Magriet Watson's Cove*, *Hannah Clarkin Pond*, and *Betty Pucky Pond*, to name only a few.

Many of the early (still existing, usually) names are transfers from England, the origin of the early colonists: *Bristol*, *Portsmouth*, *Coventry*, *Tiverton*, and *Exeter*. Some were named for English royalty or other persons of prominence: *Burrillville*, *Charlestown*, *Glocester*, *Jamestown*, *Warren*, and *Warwick*. Memorable Amerindian names are *Woonsocket*, *Pawtucket*, *Narragansett*, and *Wickaboxet*. A little-known fact is that the state, the smallest in the Union, has the longest official name, *The State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*. Roger Williams named the settlement *Providence* in 1636, but the last has not been written about Rhode Island placenames.

Kelsie B. Harder