Book Reviews

1001 Kansas Place Names. By Sondra Van Meter McCoy and Jan Hults. University Press of Kansas, 2501 W. 15th St., Lawrence, KS 66049–3904. 1989. Pp. 223. Cloth, $25.00; paper $9.95.

On the back cover of its paperback edition the authors of this book are identified, respectively, as a "freelance historian" (whatever that is) and a Kansas University history teacher. The book itself is described as a "handy gazetteer" that gives "the stories behind many of the state's colorful and obscure place names." If we accept the book as this alone we won't be disappointed. It is interesting, reasonably factual, and fun to read. It is clearly not (nor intended to be) the definitive study of Kansas's placenames, certainly not what the U.S. Placename Commission is expecting someday from that state.

So let's take the book for what it is. Actually 1,068 of the 11,700 known Kansas placenames are included: all counties and their seats, all 629 incorporated places (according to the 1980 Census), and other names selected for their historic or geographic significance. Each entry includes the name, the county in which the place it identifies is located (but nothing more precise, so I guess readers are not expected to want to travel there), the source and explanation of the name, the dates of establishment and closing of post offices, and the population of incorporated communities (according to the 1980 Census and the 1987 *Commercial Atlas*). Pronunciations are given for several of the more "unusual" names.

A brief introduction for the lay reader, who may not expect much more, presents a fairly good perspective for the naming accounts which follow. With few wasted words, the authors include a good survey history of placenaming in the state, citing observations made by several noted published Kansas onomasticians. The authors certainly acknowledge their awareness of and indebtedness to the more systematic investigations of Bill Koch, Karl Rosen, John Rydjord, and others from whom their sample and most of their data are derived. Maps, county histories, and other publications, including newspaper articles, and some manuscripts were also consulted. At the end of the book are a county outline map and a list by counties of the places included in the book. If this were a scholarly volume we would have assumed that data in the entries would be credited to specific sources in a bibliography at the end of the book. Some of us may miss this; I suspect most readers won't.

One statement in the Introduction the authors may find difficult to prove is that Washington-based postal officials occasionally named Kansas post offices for themselves or their families. While this may have happened on a few isolated occasions, it was highly exceptional; more likely the extra-local influences were those of regional or district postal inspectors, railroad company officials, and some administrators of large out-of-state corporations. It's my understanding that this was also true elsewhere, including Kentucky.

To show that we Kentuckians aren't alone in having a state name whose derivation is still in dispute, the authors imply that there is no certainty that the name *Kansas* is of Indian origin. While most people believe that the state was named for the tribe and the river, historian George Morehouse believed that their name is ultimately Spanish in origin and is probably derived from the verb *cansar* 'to harass or molest' and *cansado* 'troublesome fellow' and that the name has had over one hundred different spellings. Unfortunately this contention is not elaborated on and we're left to wonder on our own if there's anything to it.

Kansas, like other states, probably has its share of "obscure" or unusual place names. But I can't help wondering what makes a name "obscure" or "unusual." Is it that it is rarely found in that state? Or that it is unique to that state? Or is the "unusualness" of a name a subjective thing? What some may find unusual (or odd?) others may be more familiar with. And what makes a name "colorful"? Several names listed in the Introduction—*Nonchalanta, Monotony, Discord, Cosmosa,* and *Hourglass*—are identified as "delightful." (Since, of these, only the first has been found in Kentucky, I guess they are rare too.) Since the authors bother to mention these in the Introduction, I wonder why the authors have no entries for any of them in the text.

Actually the authors make a point with these names that might be worth considering: with the closing of old post offices and the decline in the establishment of new offices to almost nothing, so many of these unusual, colorful, or delightful names have disappeared, from usage certainly, and even from the memories of people now living in the areas. Thus we're delighted that a book like this, even if it isn't as scholarly as the readers of this journal would like, will help keep some of these names and the stories behind them alive a little longer while the scholars pursue their more systematic and comprehensive studies.

Robert M. Rennick
Prestonsburg, Kentucky

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A History of British Surnames. By R.A. McKinley. Longman Group UK Ltd., Longman House, Burnt Mill, Harlow, Essex CM 20 2JF, England. 1990. Pp. viii + 230. Paper, £7.95.

Anybody interested in or aware of name studies in England immediately thinks of the excellent, systematic work of the English Place-Name Society which, through its English Place-Name Survey, has in over sixty years produced an impressive set of county volumes covering well over half the country. This is a project which is, happily, still continuing, growing in the process in rigor, scope, and detail. Less well known, so far much more circumscribed but by no means less ambitious in its aims, is the Survey of English Surnames which has found a home at the University of Leicester whereas the English Place-Name Survey has for quite a number of years now been associated with the University of Nottingham.

R.A. McKinley, who is now semi-retired, was for twenty-two years the Director of the Survey of English Surnames and is also one of its authors. It is fortunate for us that one of the first fruits of his greater leisure is the recently published *History of British Surnames*, which both thematically and geographically fills an important gap in the secondary literature dealing with personal names in the British Isles. There are two facets of this book which are particularly noteworthy and welcome, apart from its authoritative treatment: one is the inclusion of all parts of the United Kingdom; the other is the strong emphasis on the significance of surnames in the study of local history. The latter fact is not surprising in view of the Surname Survey's close links with the Department of Local History at Leicester University, whereas the Place-Name Survey has tended to be governed by the majority of its authors' primary interest and training in the method and requirements of language study. As a result, McKinley's *History* introduces perspectives that open our eyes to aspects of name research which are not normally, or only tangentially, of concern to the linguistic historian. Etymologies, for instance, are largely taken for granted rather than explored in detail, although the book contains numerous signals warning against the pitfalls presenting themselves in the quest for surname origins.

The organization of McKinley's presentation is a felicitous one insofar as it makes good use of the well-established major categories into which surnames are normally divided. An informative and thought-provoking "Introduction" and a chapter tracing "The Evolution of Hereditary Surnames" in Britain are followed by chapters on "Locative Surnames," "Topographical Surnames," "Surnames Derived from Personal Names," "Occupational Surnames," and "Surnames Derived from Nicknames."

The volume is rounded off by chapters on "Surnames and Local History" and on "Some General Themes in the History of Surnames," as well as a section providing "Advice on Further Reading" (in lieu of a bibliography).

While there is nothing unusual about these thematic subdivisions, the terminology which is employed to distinguish the two types of surnames which have their origin in the landscape out there, identifying individuals by where they are or where they have come from, is an eyebrow-raising if not confusing one. McKinley uses the term "locative surnames" in reference to surnames which "are derived from the names of specific places," whereas, in his terminology, "topographical surnames" are those which have their source in "terms for features of the landscape, whether natural ... or man-made ..." (10). While the latter designation—"topographical surnames"—is quite apt although it has been used by some scholars as an umbrella term for both kinds of local surnames, the former—"locative surnames"—suggests, to the linguist at any rate, a grammatical category, specifically a case in the declension of nouns and would therefore seem to be more appropriate in an account of the syntactic properties and usage of placenames than of the classificatory system of personal names. Unambiguous placenames like *London, Doncaster, Pickering*, and *Kendal* or more commonly encountered ones like *Norton, Kirby, Drayton*, and *Ashby* (to use McKinley's examples) are both indicative of a fundamental process which has often been overlooked or neglected by name scholars, i.e., the transfer of an item from one onomastic category to another—a name turning into a name, so to speak—instead of the more familiar and more frequently investigated process by which a word becomes a name. It cannot be the task of this review to examine this intra-onomastic transfer with the amount of attention it clearly deserves, but perhaps the suggestion does not come amiss that the juxtaposition of the epithets "locative" and "topographical" does not do justice to this phenomenon and that it might be preferable to substitute a designation like "toponymic(al)" for "locative."

What, on the other hand, this reviewer finds especially refreshing and instructive about this book is the very way in which it highlights the co-operation and cross-fertilization of several disciplines—genealogy, local history, geography, linguistics, psychology, law, etc.—in the interpretation of surnames and their function, proving beyond a shadow of a doubt their inter-disciplinary nature which requires inter-disciplinary approaches. Only through the application of a variety of perspectives and methodologies, for example, has it been possible to demonstrate, on the basis of the study of surnames, that though most people did not move over great distances in the Middle Ages and in early post-medieval times, they were by no means as sedentary or stationary as has often been supposed but were highly mobile

within their own localities or areas; or to show the often astonishing and still continuing regionality of surnames, to trace the extraordinary ramification of others, to establish the conditions which gave rise to metronymics alongside the common occurrence of patronymics, to interpret the real significance of the nicknames underlying certain surnames, and several other such issues.

McKinley's *History of British Surnames* is the first volume in a new series called *Approaches to Local History*, edited by David Hay. If the quality of this volume is anything to go by, the series is bound to be in good shape. Wherever names that originated in England, Scotland, or Wales or have become surnames in those countries despite their foreign origins are borne or studied this remarkable book will be much appreciated.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Danskernes navne [*The Names of Danes*]. By Bent Jørgensen. Gyldendal, Copenhagen, Denmark. 1990. Pp. 31. Paper, DKr48.

Like all the Nordic countries, Denmark can boast some onomastic professionals. Almost all of them are to be found in the Institut for navneforskning [The Institute for Name Research], a unit of the University of Copenhagen. Bent Jørgensen is one of them and, like most of his colleagues, has published extensively on a scholarly level. It is, however, good to see, as the publication under review demonstrates, that his scholarship and the fruits of his labor are not reserved for other scholars but are also made available to the general public.

Danskernes navne is an attractively produced booklet that deals with several aspects of Danish personal names, including such subjects as "Name and Word," "Persons and Names," "Personal Names in Placenames," "Church and Contact," "Medieval Men and Women," "Surnames," etc. The presentation of each topic is free from jargon and is illustrated not only by popularity charts and intriguing "tree diagrams" showing the various international forms of the name *John* and the Danish versions of the name *Catherine* but also by amusing little cartoons drawing attention to some specific aspects of name giving and name usage. Several sections are followed by brief sets of instructions setting appropriate tasks for interested readers.

Danskernes navne is a good example of how popularization, if undertaken by an expert, does not have to compromise authenticity or authority,

or scholarly principles, in catering to the very real fascination that people have for anything connected with names, often as part of their quest for a feeling of identity. Bent Jørgensen has done his countrymen and -women a laudable service in that respect, and his model is worth imitating.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Onomastica Slavogermanica XIX: Hans Walther zum 70. Geburtstag [*Slavogermanic Onomastics 19: To Hans Walther on His 70th Birthday*]. Edited by Ernst Eichler. Abhandlungen der sächsischen Akademie der Wissenschaften zu Leipzig. Philologisch-historische Klasse Band 73, Heft 2. Akademie Verlag, Leipziger Str. 3–4, D–01086 Berlin, Germany. 1990. Pp. 257. Paper, no price listed.

If one thinks of Hans Walther as a member of the Leipzig "old guard," such an image is free from political implications because it refers to the fact that he has been an active member of the Leipzig *Arbeitsgruppe für Namenforschung und Siedlungsgeschichte* (later *Wissenschaftsbereich Namenforschung*) since its inception in 1954, since when it has done yeoman work (if that is an acceptable term for a group of scholars based for thirty-six years in the former DDR) in the onomastic sciences, especially with regard to linguistic and onomastic contact between Germans and Slavs in that part of Germany. One cannot ignore the irony in this respect that when the contributions to the volume honoring him on his birthday were written and submitted for publication, indeed published, the German Democratic Republic was still a sovereign state whereas Walther celebrated his actual birthday in a reunited country as a citizen of the Federal Republic. From a more pragmatic perspective, the comment is worth making that it is to be hoped that the activities of the Leipzig "collective"—of Fischer, Fleischer, Eichler, Walther, Naumann, Hengst, Gläser, Schultheis, Rosenkranz, etc.—will be extended to the whole of the new Germany since the former Federal Republic (West Germany) has no comparable institution or organization either in scope or in experience. It is, however, likely that such an extended undertaking will have to be mostly in the hands of another generation of scholars as the founders and early participants in the *Arbeitsgruppe* are now rapidly approaching retirement age and are consequently honored in *festschriften* like the one under review.

Fortunately, such successors have already begun to emerge and are among the contributors to this volume which, in informal anticipation of

a united country and as a sign of the continued collegiality between east and west, includes name scholars from both sides of the—then—rusting iron curtain, as well as from Czechoslovakia and Sweden. This inter-German and inter-national roster of more than twenty contributors is a fitting tribute to Walther's standing in the profession, and it is also appropriate that the volume celebrating his achievements as a researcher, teacher, editor, and published scholar should appear in the series *Onomastica Slavogermanica* of which he was a co-editor for many years and which has already included the memorial volume for Rudolf Fischer (1973). The extensive and detailed bibliography of Walther's publications from 1971–1988, continuing an earlier one published on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday in *Onomastica Slavogermanica* VII confirms the appropriateness of both the locus of the published festschrift and of the list of distinguished contributors.

This reviewer has expressed his regrets before in these pages that it is difficult, if not impossible, to do justice to a volume of this kind, both with regard to its contents as a whole and to the special thrust and significance of individual contributions. As usual, a brief intimation of its general thematic tenor and its overall flavor will have to suffice. Apart from the strong and very relevant preoccupation of many articles with Slavo-Germanic contact as exemplified in placenames and personal names (Jakob, Debus/Schmitz, Schlimpert, Wauer, Hengst), what is easily detected is the effective methodological approach which derives much more widely applicable conclusions from the discussion of very limited and specific evidence, sometimes consisting of only one name or a handful of connected names (Herrmann, Frhr. von Reitzenstein, Šrámek, Seibicke, Wenzel, Eichler, Bily, Sass, Schultheis, Hinze, Rosenkranz). Thirdly, there is, in several contributions, a particular emphasis on the fruitful co-operation and inter-connectedness between onomastics and settlement history and prehistory (Brachmann, Andersson, Sage, Dallmer, Naumann). Finally, a small section addresses general problems such as the current use of field names (Christoph) and variants in the identification of agricultural topographic units in written forms of communication (Scherf), or a very specific theme such as the relationship between name and picture in the coats of arms of cities in the DDR (Hellfritzsch).

All in all, there is much cohesion in this volume thanks, one presumes, to the well-focused scholarship of the honoree and the willingness of the contributors to meet the challenge which this provided. For those who combine an interest in name studies with the ability to read German this is a veritable cornucopia, and we can only keep our fingers crossed, or apply similar traditional means of trying to influence the future, in order

to ensure that the processes of change to which the academic institutions of the five new German *Länder* are subjected at present will not deprive the team to which Hans Walther has belonged for so many years of the opportunity to continue, perhaps in a wider setting, the good work of the past. We also wish the honoree well personally.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Die Orts- und Gewässernamen des Kreises Ostholstein [*Toponyms and Hydronyms of East Holstein County*]. By Antje Schmitz. Kieler Beiträge zur deutschen Spachgeschichte 3. Karl Wachholtz Verlag, Postfach 2789, W–2350 Neumünster, Germany. 1981. Pp. 570. Paper, DM60.

Die Orts- und Gewässernamen des Kreises Plön [*Toponyms and Hydronyms of Plön County*]. By Antje Schmitz. Kieler Beiträge zur deutschen Sprachgeschichte 8. Karl Wachholtz Verlag, Postfach 2789, W–2350 Neumünster, Germany. 1986. Pp. 315. Paper, DM40.

Die Ortsnamen des Kreises Herzogtrum Lauenburg und der Stadt Lübeck [*Toponyms of Herzogtrum Lauenburg County and of the City of Lübeck*]. By Antje Schmitz. Kieler Beiträge zur deutschen Sprachgeschichte 14. Karl Wachholtz Verlag, Postfach 2789, W–2350 Neumünster, Germany. 1990. Pp. 564. Paper, DM85.

On several occasions in the past (*Names* 33 [1985]: 158–68, esp. 161–62 and 167–68; 39 [1991]: 139–42), I have praised in this journal the onomastic volumes of the *Kieler Beiträge zur deutschen Sprachgeschichte*, edited by Friedhelm Debus and Wolfgang Laur, and this review gives me an opportunity to add further laudatory comments to the accumulated plaudits. Schleswig-Holstein is the northernmost *Land* (state or province) in the administrative federal structure of Germany stretching roughly from Hamburg and the river Elbe in the south, to the Danish border in the north, and from the North Sea in the west to the Baltic and Mecklenburg in the east. In extent it is one of the smaller entities of the Federal Republic but from a historical point of view has certainly not been one of the least known, and that not only because of the celebrated "Schleswig-Holstein Question" of the 1860s. It has never been monolithic linguistically and culturally although High and Low German are now the dominant languages.

This linguistic diversity is, of course, reflected in the place and river names of the region and nowhere more noticeably than in the counties

(*Kreise*) which are covered by the three volumes under review—Ostholstein (formerly Eutin and Oldenburg), Plön, and Lauenburg—and in the old Hanseatic city of Lübeck. While, as a result of the post-World War II division of the country, they buffered Holstein against the neighboring DDR and especially Mecklenburg, this frontier role is a new and ahistorical one because over the centuries this easternmost part of Holstein had as much in common with the adjacent regions to the east as with the areas further west and north. This common ground is particularly echoed by both the German and the Slavic toponymy of the region, and the three monographs are therefore not only tied together by uniform authorial treatment and shared historical-geographical conditions but also by similar characteristics of their place-nomenclatures. Systematically investigating practically all place and river names belonging to these two strata, this impressive "trilogy" makes a significant contribution to the study of the historical relationships and the chronological stratification of the Slavs and Germans in the north of Germany, thus complementing extensive work already completed in the adjacent parts of the former DDR. Antje Schmitz, whose 1977 Ph.D. dissertation not only, in revised form, turned into the first volume of this triad but also triggered her continuing interest in this complex, if not to say daunting, topic, is to be congratulated on a solid achievement which has provided valuable evidence for scholars in a number of disciplines. It appears that even in this day and age of vastly improved technological aids and the perpetual call for team work, projects of this kind still require the commitment of individual scholars who contribute not just dedicated hands and a persevering mind but also the guiding spirit.

It is natural and appropriate that in all three volumes the collected toponymic and hydronymic evidence and its interpretation take up more space (well over 1,000 pages, in all!) and are more centrally presented than the analytical and largely linguistic commentary. This is not to imply that the sophisticated commentary in its various facets, though secondary, is not worth having—quite the contrary. The phonological, morphological and lexical principles which it establishes on the basis of systematic surveys are to be welcomed both as the looked-for results of the general project of which these three volumes form a part, and as indicators of the special value of geographic names in this kind of investigation. This is especially true in a complexly stratified region in which Germanic people were replaced from the sixth century onwards by Slavic tribes who themselves gave up their language in the late Middle Ages (thirteenth or fourteenth century) to make room for German dialects, where proof of these changes is almost exclusively found in the toponymic evidence.

Without going into any great detail, what is this evidence like? If we take the Slavic names first, examples would be (in alphabetical order from all three counties) *Behl, Bresahn, Dahme, Eutin, Fargau, Gömnitz, Görnitz, Gowens, Hobstin, Kaköhl, Kehrsen, Kücknitz, Laboe, Lanken, Lensahn, Lübeck, Matzwitz, Mölln, Plön, Pönitz, Preetz, Roge, Sahms, Sankwitz, Stolpe*, and *Trave* (river name). In Lauenburg and Lübeck these form 33.2 percent of all placenames, in Ostholstein 27 percent, and in Plön 25.2 percent. Although these figures do not vary too much from each other, there is a slight decrease in the proportion of Slavic names from east to west. It is, however, noteworthy that in all three counties many of the most important places have Slavic names (*Eutin, Lübeck, Mölln, Plön, Preetz*, etc.). German names on record before 1500, and often before 1400, are *Albersdorf, Albsfelde, Brache, Bönebüttel, Borstorf, Büchen, Burg, Falkendorf, Fiefbergen, Heikendorf, Heiligenhafen, Krummbek, Lippe, Mönkeberg, Ottendorf, Stendorf, Timmdorf, Travemünde*, and *Woltersdorf*. Many of these are compound names which are formed with the generic *-dorf* "village" and a personal name as a specific. There are 45.9 percent of them in Lauenburg, 44.3 percent in Ostholstein, and 51 percent in Plön; i.e., the county with the smallest proportion of Slavic names has the highest percentage of German ones, although the figures show no dramatic variation. Examples of Slavic-German hybrid names would be *Bankendorf, Bliesdorf, Dassendorf, Dobersdorf, Dohnsdorf, Gleschendorf, Nessendorf, Ratzeburg*, and *Teschendorf*. They contribute 4.3 percent to the placenomenclature of Lauenburg, 10 percent in Ostholstein, and 4.3 percent in Plön, and are obviously the Holstein equivalents of the so-called "Grimston hybrids" in England, insofar as they consist of a German generic element (usually *-dorf*) qualified by a Slavic personal name. These and other names like them point to a peaceful resolution of the bilingual and bicultural situation. Certain name types, like *Gömnitz, Matzwitz*, and *Eutin*, are still recognizable as Slavic without much difficulty; many others hide their origins successfully under a German spelling-veneer.

The names just paraded form only a small portion of the total toponymic corpus examined in the three volumes under review, but they demonstrate the great importance of the names collected and interpreted for the settlement history of the region; not all of these survive, of course. One can only be thankful that endowments like the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* underwrite such projects.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Probleme der älteren Namenschichten [*Problems of Older Name Strata*]. Edited by Ernst Eichler. Beiträge zur Namenforschung N. F. Beiheft 32. Carl Winter Universitätsverlag, Lutherstrasse 59, W–6900 Heidelberg 1, Germany. 1991. Pp. 278. Cloth, DM120; Paper, DM90.

The onomastic symposium of which the volume under review contains the *Acta* took place in Leipzig in November 1989, less than two weeks after the Berlin Wall had been opened for citizens of the German Democratic Republic (DDR) to cross freely to the western parts of the city for the first time in almost forty years. When the participants in the conference arrived the day before, they were able to witness one of the last Monday night gatherings in the Leipzig market square that had been so instrumental in the grass-roots movements which had brought about radical political change and had toppled the ruling Communist hierarchy. When the protest demonstration was over that night, thousands of candles carried by the dispersing demonstrators moved silently through the dark and smog-filled city streets spreading the new-found sense of hope. After all, not so long ago army units had already been issued live ammunition and been under order to move into Leipzig to quell the uprising, a move prevented at the last minute.

While outside revolution was being made and a new and unexpected chapter in the history of Germany, Europe, and the world was being written by the people, inside one of the lecture halls in what was then still the Karl Marx University, about seventy scholars from eight countries were discussing the intellectually equally challenging but in contemporary terms less than topical subject of the earliest, or at least some of the earliest, toponymic strata in Europe. The peculiar, even ironic, juxtaposition of the dramatic events in the city streets, the army barracks, and the party headquarters and the urgent concerns of the assembled students of names found its expression in the worried comments and anxious questions which preoccupied conversations in the hallways and over meals, in the interstices of the conference, so to speak, in contrast to the reasonable, sober, though lively debates of the symposium itself. What was still in the balance at the time of the symposium has, as we now know, fortunately resolved itself, the reunification of Germany is a political fact, and the University of Leipzig has reverted to a blander name. As a further indication of this "All's Well that Ends Well" feeling, the (East) German conference proceedings appeared, two years after the scholarly gathering, in a prominent (West) German series of publications in name studies, in conjunction with the prestigious onomastic journal *Beiträge zur Namenforschung.*

Whereas in the participants, including this reviewer, the publication of this collection of sixteen papers may prompt recollections and reflec-

tions like the ones just described, for others it is, of course, free from such associations, and the essays will therefore be read and judged on their own scholarly merits. The yardstick by which this collection is to be measured is not how well it echoes the defiant strength and continuum of scholarship in a changing world—although that is a fascinating topic, too—but how satisfying it is in the treatment of the chosen subject matter, i.e., as a permanent record rather than a series of fleeting encounters and impermanent voices. In other words, would this volume have made sense even if the symposium to which it owes its existence had never happened, and is it worth having independent of the unusual setting and the peculiar piquancy of the circumstances of the original meeting of scholars?

Matters are helped, in this respect, not only by the unifying theme of the papers, a theme that might have been pursued wherever it is essential and profitable to pay attention to the chronological stratification of onomastic evidence, but also by the self-imposed geographical restriction to the region of Europe bounded by the Baltic in the north and the Alps in the south. If, within such a limiting framework, comprehensive coverage cannot be achieved, either geographically or thematically, it is also not unexpected that many of the contributions are concerned with what is now the German-speaking area of Europe and with the neighboring regions although the Baltic-Polish boundary zone, Britain, Norway, and some of the Slavic countries are also included.

How do the various contributors interpret the notion of *ältere Namenschichten* [older name strata] and what do they find worth investigating in them? For some, like Wolfgang P. Schmid's survey of "The Hydronymy of the Baltic-Polish Border Area" (33–42) and this reviewer's examination of "The Oldest Name Strata in the British Isles" (67–74), the very concept of toponymic stratum is at stake with special reference to the methods by which they can be separated and by which the earliest accessible strata can be discovered and defined. Gerhard Schlimpert (43–52), too, concerns himself with early river names, in his case the pre-Slavic names of the provinces of Brandenburg and Mecklenburg which he takes to be largely Germanic or Indo-European. Hans Walther (15–31) illustrates problematic aspects in the distinction between late Germanic and early German toponymic evidence in the area between the rivers Werra and Elbe. Ernst Eichler (53–58) tries to illuminate the diachronic structure of the place-nomenclature in the catchment areas of Saale and Elbe, and Karlheinz Hengst (59–66) and Rudolf Schützeichel (9–14) highlight the difficulties encountered in attempts to discern different strata and their transmission in the sources available to the name scholar. Under the bland title "Altes und neues in der Toponymie" ("Something old and

something new in toponymy"), Rudolf Šrámek (75–83) hides a very sophisticated discussion of several theoretical facets concerning the creation of strata, especially the relationship between spatial and temporal distribution. By far the most substantial paper is Jürgen Udolph's detailed study (85–145) of placenames containing the puzzling and controversial Germanic element *-ithi* (as in *Apolda*, *Meschede*, *Ührde*, etc.) many of which do, in fact, go back to Germanic times while others are not of the same antiquity; these names occur in a large region that stretched from the river Elbe westwards well into France. Three articles are devoted to toponymic stratification in Austria: Fritz Freiherr Lochner von Hüttenbach's exploration of early onomastic strata, including Celtic and pre-Celtic ones, in the eastern Alps (147–63), Isolde Hausner's account of research into the early medieval strata in Austria (165–71), and Peter Wissinger's presentation and analysis of an inventory of placenames in the region of the Danube which are recorded in classical sources and have survived until today (173–97). Botolv Helleland's essay examines the river names of a west Norwegian mountain area (199– 210), making the point that many of these names cannot be pinpointed chronologically. Walter Wenzel (211–22) discusses the spatial distribution of temporal strata in Sorbic personal names, Zofia Kaleta attempts "The Reconstruction of the Earliest Evolutionary Stages of Slavic Surnames in the Context of European Name-Giving" (223–31), and Ivan Lutterer (237–41) discusses briefly some names of medieval castles in Bohemia.

While some may be disappointed that no unifying overview has emerged from these individual essays on a central theme, others, including this reviewer, may well marvel at the kaleidoscopic richness of the material available and the many ways in which well-trained human minds can weave patterns out of that evidence. One can also not help being deeply impressed yet once again by the very real depth and potential antiquity of onomastic, especially toponymic, evidence in countries and regions with a long history of cultural continuity; even the most recent strata of names discussed – early medieval names in Austria, medieval castle names in Bohemia, and some of the Norwegian river names – are much older than anything we can date with certainty in North America. Bearing the astonishing antiquity of much of the onymic material and its concomitant longevity in mind, it is perhaps not surprising that the excitement generated by the intra-mural symposium managed to displace for a while the extra-mural excitement of a revolution in the making.

W. F. H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Navnemode og Modenavne [*Name Fashions and Fashionable Names*]. By Eva Villarsen Meldgaard. Billesø & Baltzer, Radmandsgade 51–63, DK–2200 København N., Denmark. 1991. Pp. 111. Paper, Dkr 98.

The field of name studies is not only astonishingly wide in scope but also has an amazingly varied set of followers. It is therefore always good to see when scholars who have made a name for themselves in the academic world are willing and able to communicate their expert knowledge to those whose interest in names has other, often more personal motivations. Dr. Eva Meldgaard of the Institut for Navneforskning is this kind of scholar. Her interest in Danish personal names, with a special concentration on the names of Copenhagen, dates back more than a quarter of a century, and ever since its inception in 1983 she has served on the editorial staff of *Studia Anthroponymica Scandinavica*, the prestigious journal devoted to the study of personal names in the Nordic countries. As a member of the staff of the Institute for Name Studies she has also been a colleague of Birte Hjorth Pedersen, the advisor, since 1970, to both the Danish Ministry of Church Affairs and the Ministry of Justice in matters of personal names, and she is, of course, a well-published name scholar in her own right.

The important role which the constitution requires the Danish government to play in the choice and registration of personal names is reflected in the book by the inclusion, immediately after the Introduction, of the royal decree of April 29, 1981, on the law concerning such names, by the current monarch, Queen Ingrid, as well as of a special circular regarding given names, issued by the Ministry for Church Affairs in 1973, and an updated list prepared by the same ministry of thousands of so-called "well-known" (i.e. well-established) Danish boys' and girls' names that have official approval—from *Abel* to *Åsmund*, and *Abbelone* to *Åse*, respectively. Dr. Meldgaard also discusses the special problems concerning middle names in a country in which, apart from *Møller, Schmidt, Lund, Holm, Østergaard*, and *Kjær*, the fifty most common surnames are all patronymics. In 1985, in fact, 412,926 Danes, or about eight percent of the population, were called *Jensen*, and when the next ten names on the list (*Nielsen, Hansen, Pedersen, Andersen, Christensen, Larsen, Sørensen, Petersen, Rasmussen*, and *Jorgensen*), all of which have more than 100,000 bearers each, are added, the total takes care of the surnames of almost half the population of Denmark!

Much of the book is devoted to charting the rise and fall in popularity of Danish given names, including a historical survey, and annual charts

listing the top twenty-five choices in boys' and girls' names between 1982 and 1990. While it is not surprising that historically the most popular boys' names correspond largely to the names that produced the most common patronymics, it is perhaps a little less predictable that modern boys' names should also have remained, on the whole, very conservative, whereas girls appear to have enjoyed greater freedom and innovation in names bestowed on them. Undoubtedly, however, even within this well-regulated naming system, one wears one's chronological location on one's onomastic sleeve, as the many *Kasper*s and *Camilla*s born in the eighties will bear out in due course. The usual cultural, social, and family constraints in the application of names do, of course, apply but while an aficionado of the pop scene would have no problem in calling a boy *Elvis, Mick*, or *Elton*, he or she would not be permitted to call a girl *Kim* or *Glenn* because these are officially designated as well-established boys' names.

At the end of her book, the author not only provides a useful list of names attached to "name days" in the calendar but also some pages of "good advice" for would-be namers, including the recommendation to start the selection process early and to think of prospective given names as going well with the surname of the child. She also comments on the naming of twins and the risks one takes with initials. For students of English given names, her analysis of how names like *Dennis, Benny, Brian, Jimmy*, on the one hand, and *Alice, Lissy, Joan, Doris*, on the other, entered the Danish personal nomenclature through the lower social orders is highly illuminating.

Thus, as has, I hope, become clear in the foregoing, the book under review is both informative and enjoyable. Not only Danish namers and recipients of names will benefit from it.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Analogi i Navnegivning [*Analogy in Naming*]. Edited by Gordon Albøge, Eva Villarsen Meldgaard, and Lis Weise. *Norna-rapporter* 45. NORNA-förlaget, St. Johannesgatan 11, S–753 12 Uppsala, Sweden. 1991. Pp. 244. Paper, 115 Finnish marks.

It is a phenomenon frequently observed in the evolution of scholarly thinking that a concept which has lain dormant for a long time while either being taken for granted or remaining unrecognized, certainly never articulated, suddenly, when given verbal expression, is found to have been

essential, indeed almost ever-present, in the processes studied and interpreted in a given discipline. The concept of "analogy" as a fundamental force in the deictic process of individuation and identification which we call naming is such a phenomenon, and it was therefore a felicitous decision by the Danish organizers of the Tenth International Congress of Nordic Name Scholars, held in Brandbjerg, May 20–24, 1989, to make "Analogy" the central theme of that gathering. The forty-fifth issue of *NORNA-rapporter*, containing the *Acta* of that congress and published two years later, confirms the wisdom of that decision. While the sixteen articles investigating the presence of that onomastic device concentrate mostly on the Nordic countries and their sphere of influence, their findings will undoubtedly make some scholars in other parts of the world aware of this shaping force in the growth of the nomenclatures they study, a new awareness that may even lead to examinations of the particular form which analogical onomastic creations play in the development of these national, regional, or local name inventories.

Even in the countries surveyed by contributors to the conference and its "Proceedings" analogy makes itself felt in numerous ways. Gulbrand Alhaug (13–47), for example, finds it in some of the new women's names, like *Bjørgny* and *Perly*, that have appeared in Norway since the end of the nineteenth century, their heyday being between 1900 and 1925, and that follow the model of *Jenny* and *Lilly* in English, or of Old Norse names like *Signy* and *Dagny*. Vibèke Dalberg (49–60) stresses that analogy is not confined to the coining of new placenames but can also be seen in the large number of existing placenames that are remodelled under the influence of other names of different provenience. Gillian Fellows-Jensen (65–82), looking for Scandinavian analogues in the Scottish Lowlands, concludes that most of them have probably reached that region from the English Danelaw, while W. F. H. Nicolaisen (147–55) presents many different types of such analogues from what he terms *Scotia Scandinavica*. Botolv Helleland (83–99) compares the Norwegian name types *Lien* and *Lia*, detecting in them various forms and degrees of analogy at work. Lars Huldén (101–10) takes into account the possibility of the influence of written traditions, like sea charts, on orally transmitted names in the Finnish region of Östrobothnia. The role of analogy in Icelandic given names is discussed by Guthrún Kvaran (121–30). Svavar Sigmundsson (189–97), on the other hand, looks at analogical formations in Icelandic placenames. Based on a corpus of material from the Norwegian national register, Anne Svanevik's paper (199–10) traces analogical influences in requests for name changes which in Norway are granted comparatively easily at a rate of about 20,000 a year. Analogical formations in some Danish by-names are the concern of Lis Weise (221–32)

while Ernst Eichler (61–64), Eero Kiviniemi (111–20) and Bengt Pamp (154–74) examine analogy from the point of view of onomastic and linguistic theory. That there is analogical influence in literary onomastics, too, is shown by Karen Thuesen (211–20), who analyzes the models and forms of feminine names in Danish ballads. On the periphery of the central conference theme are two papers by Hans-Peter Naumann (131–46) and Rob Rentenaar (175–87), the former parading Old Norse personal names in continental memorial records of the high Middle Ages, the latter attempting to discover patterns in the coastal and near-coastal names of North-West Europe.

A mere listing of the contributions to a volume like this cannot possibly do justice to the richness of its content. Each article is stimulating, and the various methodologies and strategies offered are well worth imitating. The discipline of onomastics has for some time been mature enough and theoretically and terminologically sufficiently developed to concentrate, in its professional meetings and in the publications these generate, on specific facets or concerns. In this country, this has already happened with regard to literary onomastics but surely the time has come for the American Name Society to take the initiative in the organization of thematically even more circumscribed meetings. In the Nordic countries and in other parts of Europe this has been happening for some considerable time. "Analogy" would, of course, be only one of many themes on which such symposia might focus but it is a concept and a way of looking at the growth of a cumulative nomenclature that might also be worth exploring in North America. NORNA (the Nordic Cooperation Committee for Name Studies) is to be congratulated on being a leader in such endeavors, and we are grateful to Gillian Fellows-Jensen for making this volume accessible through her English summaries.

W.F.H. Nicolaisen
State University of New York at Binghamton

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Paris sous Philippe-le-Bel: D'après des documents originaux et notamment d'après un manuscrit contenant «Le Rôle de la Taille» imposée sur les habitants de Paris en 1292 [*Paris under Philip the Fair: From Original Documents and Specially from a Manuscript Containing "The Subsidy Roll" Imposed on the Residents of Paris in 1292*]. By Hercule Géraud. Edited by Caroline Bourlet and Lucie Fossier. Patronymica Romanica 2. Max Niemeyer Verlag, Postfach 21 40, W–7400 Tübingen, Germany. 1991. Pp. xvi + 724. Cloth, DM648.

Anthroponymie afro-romane: Esquisse d'un projet [*Afro-Romance Anthroponymy: Outline of a Project*]. By Willy Bal, Jan Daeleman, and Clémentine Faïk-Nzuji Madiya. Patronymica Romanica 4. Max Niemeyer Verlag, Postfach 21 40, W–7400 Tübingen, Germany. 1991. Pp. 70. Paper, DM46.

These two books from the important new Patronymica Romanica series, under the general editorship of Dieter Kremer, clearly prove the importance of the so-called "Patrom" project undertaken under Kremer's leadership. The project should lead to detailed new knowledge of the onomastics of Romance languages both historically and cross-culturally.

Although the influence, through colonization, of Romance languages on African naming is obvious, the topic itself has rarely been explored in a scholarly fashion. The slim book which is volume 4 in this series describes Bantu naming systems in an anthropologically sophisticated but readable way, detailing the dominant naming systems or categories, the importance of twin names for twins but also for the names of subsequent children and their parents, and the extent of contacts between Romance languages (especially Portuguese) and, for instance, the Kóongo since 1482. The seventy-page text is frustrating in that one wishes more were known and therefore statable by the authors. Perhaps the "Patrom" project will spawn other similar efforts world-wide.

The Paris book, volume 2 in the series, is a high-quality reprint of Hercule Géraud's superb piece of scholarship, originally published in 1837, which contained the thirteenth century "Rôle de la Taille" for Paris. The new reprint of this "doomesday book" for 1292 is preceded by a nine-page foreword authored by Caroline Bourlet and Lucie Fossier, who also provide an eighty-four-page final index of all personal names in the *Rôle*. The unusual value of the book is in the presence of such tools. Géraud provides us with a sixteen-page preface, a 179-page two-column list of names and taxable income, 167 pages of endnotes (not to mention abundant footnotes), and 267 pages of historical and statistical discussions and appendices – including a complete index of the streets and other ways listed in the *Rôle*. In fact the index itself is of particular historical interest since Hercule Géraud lists the nineteenth century names as well as the thirteenth century names side by side and provides us with a well-made and very readable 19x23-inch plan of Paris in 1292 (in a pocket in the back of the book). With this and other outstanding books already published on the history of Paris streets, the desirable but never undertaken overall study of street name continuity and change in a major city could soon become a reality.

In other words, Géraud's work is an enduring contribution to onomastics. Since people's single or several names and professions are listed, the

Rôle is vital for an understanding of the history of anthroponyms, in particular the evolution of nicknames and descriptions into surnames but also for a study of the nature and frequency of baptismal names and for a study of the nature of occupations and of their relations to nicknames and thus surnames. But, as suggested above, this document is useful for micro-toponymists too in that it enables a closer examination of the parallel evolution of street naming. Just like surnames, "names" of streets are present to varying degrees in the *Rôle*, their status as descriptions or nicknames rather than names being still at issue. In addition the street names are associated with the names of people and with their professions so that the frequency and exact nature of the link between a street's name and the occupations of the people living and working on it may be established with much greater precision than had heretofore been attempted.

In short, the 1991 version of the 1837 critical edition of the 1292 *Rôle* is one of the most important documents in the history of French onomastics, comparable in importance to Karl Michaelson's ground-breaking *Études sur les noms de personnes français d'après les rôles de taille parisiens* (Uppsala, 1927) and to his later editions of the 1296 and 1297 "rôles."

Michel Grimaud
Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts

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Logainmneacha na hÉireann: Imleabhar 1, Contae Luimnigh [*Placenames of Ireland: Part 1, County Limerick*]. By Art Ó Maolfabhail (Eagarthóir). Oifig an tSolathair,Sráid an Easpaig, Baile Atha Cliath (Dublin, Ireland). 1990. Pp. xxxvi + 282. Paper, IR£10.

Numerous efforts have been made over the past few hundred years to interpret Irish placenames. With a few exceptions (notably the writings of P.W. Joyce, Seán Mac Airt, Deirdre Ui Fhlannagain, Éamonn de hÓir, Tomás Ó Máille, and a handful of others), most of these attempts are not worth the paper on which they were written. In recent years there has been a veritable spate of publications informed by ignorance. Some are relatively harmless, others positively misleading. An honest review of the worst of these would invite prosecution under the libel laws!

By way of contrast it is both a genuine pleasure, and a real privilege to welcome this superb piece of scholarship produced by the Placenames Branch of the Irish Ordnance Survey under the careful editorship of Art Ó Maolfabhail, the Principal Placenames Officer. His chief collaborators

in the work were fellow officers from that Branch, Nollaig Ó Muraíle, Alan Mac an Bhaird, Breandán Ó Cíobáin, and Brian Mac Curtáin. The volume under review is the first of a projected series. It deals with the most important placenames of Co. Limerick (one of the thirty-two major territorial divisions of Ireland). For the most part these consist of the names of administrative units – townlands, civil parishes, baronies. In fact, townland names account for about ninety percent of the total investigated here. In addition, the names of some physical features (e.g. rivers) and of certain cultural features (e.g. villages) are included. Obsolete names are excluded, as are minor toponyms such as field-names or well-names, even when these latter are in current use.

A very useful introduction ranges over such topics as the nature of the sources and the work of the Ordnance Survey in the nineteenth century; the book also contains a comprehensive bibliography. The main body of the text is arranged in a very orderly fashion, and each name is adequately referenced. The format for each entry is as follows: recommended Irish version of the name together with barony and parish reference; English version followed by a reference to the appropriate Ordnance Survey (O.S.) six-inches-to-one-mile map sheet; a selection of excerpts from the evidence for the name over the past one thousand years or so (including in some cases a phonetic rendering of current or recent usage); a translation of the sense of the name; and lastly, where appropriate, a note covering some relevant grammatical or historical point. Thus the townland of *Clonshire More* (as it is corruptly named on the O.S. maps) is entered under its recommended correct form *Cluain Siabhra Mhór.* It is first attested, under the forms *Cluonsiebra* and *Clouensiebra*, in the *Black Book of Limerick* for the year 1200, and it signifies "meadow of (the) phantom." On average each name is followed by a sample of at least half a dozen references to former usage, but some are much more intensively documented; for example, *Ballingaddy* 'the town of the thief' is backed up by no less than twenty-eight such references, the earliest occurring in the Papal Taxation records for the year 1302. Where the evidence is obscure or sparse, as in the case of *Beabus, Ballyveloge, Bulgaden, Elton, Sreelane*, and a number of other townland names, the authors are not ashamed to admit defeat, though they still provide standard Irish versions. The fact that these concoctions are often meaningless is irrelevant; after all the bulk of the "English" names are incomprehensible – a criticism which can be leveled at very few of the Irish versions. The work is rounded off by a nineteen-page index of the English forms of the names, which guides the reader not only to the appropriate page reference in the text but also to the relevant O.S. map sheet. An index of the official Irish versions would have been helpful.

This volume is a veritable cornucopia. It shows how the same Irish name *An Coinicéar* 'the rabbit warren' was variously rendered *Conigar* and *Nicker* in different instances; such was the strength of the corrupting forces at work. It traces a name like *Cullane* (from *Collán* 'place of hazels') back to the year 1388. It explains that *Hackmys* is merely a corruption of *Eachinis* 'horse-island.' It lays bare the evolution of the English form *Gortnagrour* (derived from *Gort na gCreabhar* 'the field of the woodcocks') from *Gortnegrewer* in 1620 through *Gurtnagrouer* in 1840. It records mistranslations such as *Greenhills* from *Cnoc na Buaile Glaise* 'the hill of the green booley' – a "booley" was a milking-place associated with the practice of transhumance – and *Duckstown* from *Baile na Lathach* 'the town of the muddy place': here the word *lathach* signifying "mud" was confused with the word *lacha* meaning a "duck." *Léim an Fhia* 'the leap of the deer' degenerated into *Lemonfield.* The book demonstrates that some present day English versions came about through translation. The transliteration *Ballianmullin* (based on *Baile an Mhuilinn* 'the town of the mill') of 1617 ended up as *Milltown* on the O.S. maps. *Ballinlochane* (*Baile an Locháin* 'the town of the small lake') of 1655 eventually emerged as *Loughanstown. Bahersheganiffe* (*Bóthar Sceiche Gainimh* 'road of [the] whitethorn of [the] sand') of 1619 was converted into *Sandylane* for a time in the course of the seventeenth century. Lengthy older forms tended to become abbreviated; thus *Ladhar Chnoc an tSeagail* 'the *ladhar* of the hill of rye' of the mid-seventeenth century has been reduced to *An Ladhar*, a term which signifies "the high ground between converging glens or streams." *Leaca an Ghrianáin* 'the hillside of the eminent place' has been shortened to *An Leaca. Croichtín na Coille* 'the small croft of the wood' has become *An Croichtin.* Often the English rendering was inexact. Thus *Highmount* was derived from *An Mullach Ard* 'the high summit,' as the 1586 version *Mulloharde* bears witness. Most English versions resulted from transliterations, e.g., *Mongfune* was based on *Mong Fionn* 'white swamp'; *Moher*, on *Mothar* 'thicket'; *Caherass*, on *Cathair Easa* 'stone fort of (the) waterfall'; *Garraunboy*, on *An Garrán Buí* 'the yellow grove'; *Issane*, on *Easán* 'small waterfall'; *Ballinoran*, on *Baile an Fhuaráin* 'the town of the spring.' In some instance English names of the big houses constructed by the gentry in the eighteenth century became attached to the demesnes and supplanted the older Irish names: thus *Mountpleasant* replaced *Muiceanach* 'piggery,' *Mountshannon* supplanted *Baile an Ghaill* 'the town of the foreigner,' *Mountrussel* succeeded *Garraí an Phúca* 'the garden of the púca (a kind of fairy),' and *Jockeyhall* supplanted *Leaca an Mheantáin* 'the hillside of the titmouse.'

Some of these Limerick names like *Bruree* (*Brú Rí* '[the] abode of Kings') are very old: the first reference to it relates to the year

1088. Others, like *Castle Roberts* (*Caisleán Riobaired* 'the castle of Riobard') are of Norman origin – it is first documented for the year 1287 in the *Red Book of the Earls of Kildare*. Many, like *Briska More* (*Broisceach Mhór* 'broken, uneven ground') were first recorded in the sixteenth century. A number like *Boherroe* (*An Bóthar Rua* 'the red road') make their earliest appearance in documents in the mid-nineteenth century and presumably have no ancient provenance. That name-giving was an ongoing process is well illustrated by the common toponym *An Baile Nua* 'the new town,' various Limerick examples of which can be traced back to the years 1590, 1592, 1655, 1749, 1754, 1798, and 1840. Similarly the seventeenth century *Fearann na nGabhann* 'smiths' land' was replaced by *Cúil Raithní* (*Coolraine*) in the nineteenth century. *Móin an Iarla* (*Monearla*) 'the Bogland of the Earl' became *Garrán an Iarla* 'the Earl's grove.'

Because of the authoritative nature of this volume a great deal of light is thrown on the structure of Irish placenames, though the caveat must be entered that Co. Limerick is not necessarily representative of the toponymy elsewhere in the country. Nevertheless some interesting points emerge, such as the prevalence of names signifying ownership, occupation, or attribution. *Lissavarra, Lissanalta, Meenyline, Lisready, Ballyea, Farranatlaba, Knockadea, Derrygalvin, Garrynlease, Garryncahera, Ballylahiff, Ballygeana, Ballygillane, Ballyneety, Gortyvahane* all conceal surnames, while *Garryellen, Drommoher, Ballymorrisheen, Lissowen, Carrickittle, Kyletaun*, and the well-known *Garryowen* all mask personal names. Dedicatory names include *Cahernarry, Kilkeedy, Kilcullane, Kilcurly, Kilbreedy, Kilmoylan, Tobermalug, Tobermurry*.

Furthermore there is now to hand reliable source material for a study of the structural elements in the placenames of the county. Among the more important of these are *baile* 'town(land)' (about 400 instances), *cill* 'church' (about 100), and *cnoc* 'hill' (about 100). *Gort* 'a field,' *cluain* 'a meadow,' *cúil* 'a corner (of a field),' *lios* 'an enclosure,' *gleann* 'a valley,' *drom* 'a ridge,' and *coill* 'a wood' all occur at least 25 times. Other significant elements include *garrai* 'a garden,' *móin* 'a bog,' *rath* 'a ringfort,' *cathair* 'a stone-fort,' *páirc* 'a field,' *ard* 'a high place', *bóthar* 'a road,' *cloch* 'a stone-structure,' *garrán* 'a grove,' *dún* 'a fort,' and *áth* 'a ford,' each of which forms part of at least 15 Limerick names. A great number of other elements, such as *gráig* 'a hamlet,' *mainistir* 'a monastery,' *oileán* 'an island,' *tobar* 'a well,' and *tuath* 'territory' are found less commonly. However, the assessment of the relative prevalence of individual elements is no easy matter, as many are masked by prefixes such as *sean-* 'old.' This particular prefix is found attached to *baile, buaile, cloch, cluain, cúirt, daingean, garrai, gualainn, paillís, ráth*, and *sráid*. Other instances of con-

cealment of elements include *Dúchoill Mhór* 'big black wood,' *Eachinis* 'horse-island,' *Maolráth* 'derelict rath' and *Míntulach* 'smooth hillock.' Furthermore many elements occur in a non-initial position, e.g., *buaile* in *Gord na Buaile* 'the field of the milking place' or *teampall* in *Ceathrú an Teampaill* 'the quarterland of the church,' or *garraí* in *Baile an Garraí* 'the town of the garden.'

A tiny handful of misprints ought to be corrected in a future edition. The translation of *Áth na bhFuinseog* (9) should read "the ford of the ash-trees" (plural), not "the ford of the ash-tree." *Airí Bhréige* is spelled incorrectly in the note on *Airí Bhuí* (1) though it appears in correct form higher up the same page. Presumably *Corrlis Thiar* and *Corrlis Thoir* (141) should read "Corrlios." In general, however, the work is free of such defects, though it does contain a number of minor inconsistencies. Thus *Garraí an Phúca* (Mountrusell [180]) is translated as "the garden of the púca," whereas *Abhainn Áth an Phúca* (1) is rendered "the ford of the pooka, goblin." It is difficult to understand why *Cragbeg* (142) is standardized as *An Chraig Bheag*, whereas *Craggard* is spelled *An Chreag Ard* (143).

One might quibble with a few of the interpretations. What function might a stone structure have had with regard to watercress (*Cloch an Bhiolair* [111])? Is it not more likely that the term *cloch* merely refers to a stone adjacent to the watercress bed? The equation of *leaca* with "hillside," as in *Leaca na gCoiníní* 'the hillside of the rabbits' (203), is a little deceptive. *Béal átha* is translated here as "fordmouth" rather than as "approach to the ford" (*Béal Atha an Mhuilinn* [69]). The definition of *Garraí an Scoilbín* (180) as "the garden of the small scollop" will do little to enlighten many readers. *Bun* is variously interpreted as "bottom," "mouth," and "low ground" (77–78). *Doirín* in one instance becomes a "small oakwood" (158), but in two other cases (157) is defined as a "small thicket."

But these are every minor points. A more serious criticism might be that inadequate attention is given to cartographic sources (particularly estate maps) as an end to the elucidation of the names. Nor is any attempt made to distinguish between the significance (if any) of variant forms of the name-elements, such as *clochar* and *cloichreán* (both translated as "stony place") and *drom* and *dromainn* (both defined as "ridge"). *Tulach* and *cnocán* are both equated with "hillock." *Gort* and *páirc* are both identified with "field." In fact this whole question of the appropriate rendering of the meaning of key elements is one of the weakest points of the work. Admittedly it is a topic beset with difficulties. Certain Irish terms have no exact English equivalent, for instance the word *ladhar*, which signifies "the high ground between converging glens or streams." Furthermore, there are certain archaeological features such as the *lios*

which have no real parallels outside Ireland: the translation "enclosure" is totally inadequate. One possible solution might have been to retain the Irish form of the elements in the translations. *Lios an Toiteáin*, for example, might have been rendered "the *lios* of the conflagration," *Tuar an Daill* as "the *tuar* of the blind person," *Baile na hInse* as "the town of the *inis*." This would have necessitated the inclusion of a small glossary in which the various nuances of these terms would have been discussed. The obvious disadvantage of this modus operandi would have been the need for continual cross-reference. But against that a major gain in clarity might have accrued.

It is difficult to find any other fault with this work. All in all it is a fine piece of scholarship and its publication marks a major milestone in Irish toponymic studies. It is to be hoped that this Limerick volume will be followed by many more county volumes in rapid succession. Unfortunately that is unlikely to occur, as financial cutbacks and official lack of appreciation have resulted in a decimation of the Placenames division of the Ordnance Survey. Perhaps some wealthy foundation might come to the rescue by sponsoring a number of volumes. Meanwhile Art Ó Maolfabhail and his colleagues must be complimented on a job well done.

Breandán S. Mac Aodha,
University College, Galway, Ireland

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The Book of Ulster Surnames. By Robert Bell. The Blackstaff Press, 3, Galway Park, Dundonald, Belfast, BT16 0AN, Ireland. USA Distributor: Dufour Editions, Byers Road, P.O. Box 449, Chester Springs, PA 19425-0049. 1988. Pp. 285. Cloth, $11.20.

This work consists of a very brief but exceedingly well-written and informative introduction (five pages), a core section which treats of the principal surnames of Ulster alphabetically (248 pages), a short but useful glossary (four pages), a select bibliography (two pages), and an index (twenty-six pages).

The author, born in Belfast, read Modern History at Queen's University and now works in the historic Linen Hall Library in his native city. This has given him ready access to the extensive Genealogy Collection in that institution which houses a treasure-trove of family histories. In addition he has drawn on the work of his predecessors in the field of name studies, particularly that of the late great scholar Edward Mac Lysaght.

A volume of this nature might be tested under the headings originality,

reliability, completeness, balance, and relevance. In the absence of specific references it is difficult to assess the extent to which the entries are based on original research. Obviously it would detract greatly from the readability of the work if such documentation were to be provided in each instance. However, the reader quickly forms the impression that there is a good deal that is new here and that the author has done a very efficient job in collating material from a great number of varied and often unpublished sources.

It is also difficult to check the reliability of the material, and for the same reason. Using the touchstone of family names with whose history one is personally familiar, one can fairly safely presume that the other entries (some five hundred of them) are equally dependable.

It is easier to test for completeness. Twenty surnames were selected at random from the 1991 edition of the Northern Ireland telephone directory. Twelve of these appear as separate entries in Bell's volume, while a further three were dealt with under related headings. Only *Crooks, Bowman, Quirke, Laird*, and *Templeton* were unindexed. In view of the great diversity of Ulster surnames a seventy-five percent coverage must be reckoned very commendable in a work which only claims to deal with the principal families.

If fault can be found with the study it is in respect to balance. The entries vary considerably in length. Some names, such as *Baxter, Blair, Harkin, MacGarvey*, and *Mills*, are given a very summary dispatch, whereas others, like *Anderson, Campbell, Greer, Hamilton*, or *Maccallion*, are treated much more generously in terms of space. This would not matter if there were some clear basis for the discrepancy, but that appears to be lacking. It is disconcerting, to put it mildly, to find the principal Ulster family all through recorded history—the *O Neills*— dismissed in a mere fifty-four lines while *relatively* insignificant families, such as *Galbraith* (thirty lines), *MacCabe* (thirty-six), and *Stewart* (fifty-two), are accorded disproportionate space. The second most important sept (the *O Donnells*) is granted fewer than twenty lines; even the *Alexanders*, the *Allens*, the *Colhouns*, the *Conways*, the *Frazers*, the *Thompsons*, and the *Turners* are treated more generously. The entries for some of the other great Gaelic families such as the *Maguires* and the *O Hanlons* are disappointingly skimpy. The *Kanes* fare better. All in all the Plantation families receive more extensive treatment than do the native Irish ones. This may reflect the author's lack of familiarity with source material in the Irish language, coupled with the fact that official documentation since the Plantation period tended to discriminate against the native inhabitants of the Province.

The justification for including the snippets which round off some of the entries is unclear. Information of the type "The sculptor Patrick

MacDowell, 1799–1870, was born in Belfast" would best be reserved for a dictionary of biography.

The writing is lucid. The material is well organized. The volume is well produced and well-bound. Misprints are very rare. The work would be greatly improved by the inclusion of some proper maps. Perhaps this might be remedied in a new edition. All in all this collection merits a strong welcome. It will find a worthy place on the shelves of every serious toponymist.

Breandán S. Mac Aodha,
University College, Galway, Ireland

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Jones' Dictionary of Old Testament Proper Names. By Alfred Jones. Kregel Publications, P. O. Box 2607, Grand Rapids, MI 49501. 1990. Pp. xv + 382. Cloth, $22.95; paper, $16.95.

Biblical Names: A Literary Study of Midrashic Derivations and Puns. By Moshe Garsiel. Bar-Ilan University Press, Ramat Gan 52900, Israel. 1991. Pp. 296. Cloth, $30.00.

The dictionary by Jones is surely the best one-volume edition of Old Testament proper names available. Arranged in English alphabetical order, the 3,600 names represent "through the same name being borne by various persons or places, nearly" 16,500 names. The text also has a long history: "the original plan of the present Volume was suggested to the Author, by the Rev. Canon Wordsworth, D. D., in the year 1848." It was originally published in London by S. Bagster and Sons in 1856. The edition noted here is a reprint but has been keyed by the publisher to *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*.

A comparative table of ancient alphabets covers Hebrew, Arabic, Syriac, Phoenician, Ancient Hebrew, and Ancient Greek. A second "Table of Alphabets" lists Arabic, Ethiopic, Armenian, Coptic, Greek, and German alphabets. Each entry occurs in English, then Hebrew, with English transliteration, and then Greek, with English transcription. The etymology is next, usually moved through at least Hebrew and Greek, with root explanations and different meanings in different languages. The main gloss gives biographical information on the name or significance if a place, plus any biblical and historical information needed, with Old Testament references. A list of occurrences of the name rounds out the entry.

The user may find some spelling differences: *Elisheba* instead of *Elizabeth*; *Rephael* in place of *Raphael*; *Beth El* in place of *Bethel*, and

certainly others. It is helpful that Jones usually lists the now standard English version. Scholars of Hebrew and Greek may disagree with some of the transliterations, but the ones here have become accepted usage, with some influence from Jones.

Jones certainly has influenced compilers of baby-name books and some scholars who have worked in the etymology of "given names" taken from the Old Testament. Probably the compilers did not know that they have been so influenced, for they tend either to create fanciful etymologies that will please new parents or to plagiarize from each other. In tracing through a stack of such collections, I can now see that many of the etymologies ultimately came from Jones, for it is most doubtful that any of these compilers knew enough Hebrew and Greek to work from an original text. Anyway, the Jones dictionary is a precious find for authors of personal name texts.

This standard reference deserves a place in the library of anyone interested in names, including placenames. Many entries are placenames, apparently all that occurred in the Old Testament. A few of the more famous ones are *Shiloh, Jordan, Nod, Beth El, Nob* 'high place,' *Nineveh, Lebanon, Carmel, Salem, Galilee*, and *Goshen*. But the dictionary somehow means more than a few entries. Few would know that the name of *Shem*, the third son of Noah, means "name." Jones noted that it carries the connotation of "celebrated, distinguished," "probably because God conferred on him the honour of being a progenitor of the blessed Messiah; and because he was a great opposer of idolatry."

Professor Moshe Garsiel in *Biblical Names* did not note any punning significance in *Shem*, but he does screen the Old Testament for name-puns, concluding that "many hundreds of puns upon names are to be found throughout the Bible." Although the subject direction of Garsiel's intense study differs from that of the Jones dictionary, a comparison of the two is informative. They work through the same names and they quote, occasionally diverging according to text used, the biblical passages pertinent to the names, concluding with the same etymologies. For instances, note the placenames *Mahane Dan, Kirjath-jearim, Eschol*, and *Baal-perazim*, occurring on the first few pages of Garsiel's text.

The differences in intent and interpretation, however, are paramount. Garsiel gives extremely close readings to prove that the names in many instances mean more than the surface etymology would indicate. He calls the connotations puns, since they are "wordplay on names, name derivations, and interpretations of a midrashic ['explanatory'] nature which are applied within the biblical text." For instance, *Baal-perazim* is a placename in which there may be "an authorial observation in praise of

the ancient name giver who unconsciously gave a name surprisingly fitted to later events; . . ." Garsiel translates the passage from Samuel 2:

> ... and David smote them there, and said, The Lord **has broken through** (*prs*) my enemies before me like a **breaking through** (*prs*) of waters; therefore he called the name of that place Baal-**perazim** (*prsym*).

He then notes that the biblical author was "well aware that this name, containing as it does the name of Baal, was familiar to the Canaanites long before David's appearance; and certainly he would not willingly attribute to David such a choice of name when it is stated quite explicitly that the victory was achieved with the help of the Lord." Garsiel concludes, "We should therefore interpret the text as an exclamation of wonder at the harmony between the old name and the events narrated." He gives *Babel* as another name with the same characteristic.

Other points made by Garsiel are that a difference must be made between a scientific etymology and a biblical name explanation. The etymologist, such as Jones, would analyze according to linguistic forms and comparisons, while the biblical explanation would be based on "the assumption that the name is unique and that it was given in accordance with a specific occasion," having very little if anything to do with the linguist's true etymology. We might call the biblical authorial etymology (really an explanation) folk etymology or perhaps simple creativity. That would be missing the point: "the explanations function as a literary device and are designed to enrich the literary unit."

Another area of research is called Midrashic Name Derivation (MND), an interpretation that infuses a name with meaning in relation to past events, or looks forward to some future incidents. This differs from the biblical name explanation in that the latter always attaches a reason for the name, while MND does not give any explanation why a particular name occurs. In working through such names, Garsiel looks into sound effects (alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia), "word play, subtle riddles, concealed meanings, key motifs, etc." These devices enrich a text and also call for close attention to the context if interpretation is to be valid or worthwhile. Garsiel devotes the book to such interpretations, definitely enhancing the reading of the text and giving subtle interpretations of the names that occur.

Without quoting extensively from the text and without using Hebraic script, it is difficult to display the insights that Garsiel makes in interpretations, ones quite different from what are normally considered etymological. Chapters are devoted to sound effects, puns, and aural connections; name derivations without sound effects; MNDs corresponding to omitted

names of people or nations; tradition and innovation in MNDs; and appropriateness of names to literary units. Along the way are sections on MNDs of places, alternations in form and structure, names of similar meaning found close together, links between a person's name and his or her fate, and a host of other sections with packed information.

This is also a text that onomatologists (or anyone interested in biblical studies) should have available. The approach probably can be used in other studies, especially in medieval and early Modern texts. In English, Edmund Spenser approaches name formation creatively, not etymologically. Other, earlier epic writers did the same. The linguist's etymology is a relatively modern invention and has for some texts been misunderstood. This study is a good corrective—as well as a brilliant exposition and explanation of biblical names.

Kelsie B. Harder
State University College of New York at Potsdam

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Unusual & Most Popular Baby Names. By Cleveland Kent Evans. Signet Books, Publications International, Ltd., 7373 N. Cicero Ave., Lincolnwood, IL 60646. 1991. Pp. 192. Paper, $3.99.

Many naming-the-baby books are on the market, but none has the authority of this one by Professor Evans, who has become the American Name Society's major resource for the study of the names that parents bestow on their children. Evans has made studies of incidence, meaning, ranking, and naming customs in the United States. He is called upon continuously by the media for commentary on personal names and the ways of naming. In addition, he is an excellent scholar in onomastics and is contributing articles of major import in the psychology of names.

Publications International has long been a publisher of popular books on names, as well as books on other "practical" subjects. Their guides to parental naming have been well received and have no doubt provided good information for those who have the responsibility of naming the newborn. Fortunately, this text is edited by a scholar in the field.

The sensible introduction contains material on what a name means, what is in a name, how we name babies, names today, where name fashions come from, names among African Americans, Hispanic names, regional differences in first names, most popular names, spelling and meaning, and "a word to the wise." Most readers of *Names* would be familiar with the information,

but it is written very well indeed, and even one knowledgeable in the mores of naming will learn from the way Evans presents the material.

He lists, for the United States in 1989, the top 500 names for boys and the top 500 for girls. The first ten among boys are *Michael, Christopher, Matthew, Joshua, Andrew, Daniel, Justin, David, John*, and *James*. The boys' most popular names still are very much biblical. The last ten in the 500 are *Solomon, Ahmad, Cary, Chadwick, Dimitri, Ezekiel, Moses, Tremaine, Tucker*, and *Vaughn*.

Name fashions for girls are more volatile, with some new ones pushing toward the top. The first ten for 1989 in this country are *Brittany, Ashley, Jessica, Amanda, Sarah, Stephanie, Samantha, Nicole, Jennifer*, and *Caitlin*. An analysis of these would be beneficial. The last ten of the 500 are *Richelle, Audra, Whitley, Shakira, Noel, Jenelle, Skylar, Juanita, Rasida*, and *Daphne*.

In the dictionary proper, the names are listed alphabetically in two sections, one for boys and one for girls. A short list of very unusual names immediately follows each of the gender sections. Each entry follows the common spelling of the name; the popularity of the name (numerical, 1 being the most popular and 500 the least in the count); origin of the name; meaning; a famous person, character, or work of art with the name; and variations of the name. I will chose a name familiar to me as an example, and I will not editorialize on it. First, from the boys' section:

> **Kelsey** (470) Place name in Lincolnshire, England, probably "Ceol's Island." Kelsey Grammer (actor). **Kelcey, Kelsay, Kelsie.**

From the girls' section:

> **Kelsey** (32) English place name, "Ceol's island." **Kelci, Kelcie, Kelcy, Kellsey, Kelsea, Kelsee, Kelsi, Kelsie.**

With variants, the 1,000 names expand into probably 5,000 (some of these being merely spelling variants), a goodly number for a parent or set of parents in a hurry to choose a name.

Evans gives a concise account of naming practices and also the problems facing the name-giver – if the name-giver is serious. Parents are not known for thinking straight at the birth of a child; too often the choice of name reflects the muddleheadedness or often plain silliness of "proud" mothers and fathers. He lists a few 1980s names out of the thousands that litter the namescape: *Charmin, Devious, Frenzy, Mischief, Nausea, Shackles* (7). Although it may not be easy to find out which of the parents

actually names the child, such information would be welcome. My suspicion is that more children are named by mothers than by fathers. Whether this is of great significance would be a matter for a name psychologist to consider.

This ephemeral-type book by Evans has merit beyond its ostensible purpose and definitely is a floor above the ordinary baby-name book in supermarket and drugstore racks.

Kelsie B. Harder
State University College of New York at Potsdam

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Monterey County Place Names: A Geographical Dictionary. By Donald Thomas Clark. Kestrel Press, Post Office Box Q, Central Valley, CA 93294. 1991. Pp. xxviii + 737. Cloth, $29.95; paper, $21.95.

A few years ago (in *Names* 35.1 [1987]: 43), I praised Donald Clark's *Santa Cruz County Place Names* in these words: "A major contribution to the study of geographical names, this county text is as complete as such a work of research and writing can be." Being a traditional interpreter of the capacity of the human to perform in a predictable manner, I considered that the Santa Cruz book was the product of a superior onomastic mind, not knowing or even verging on the knowledge that I was dealing with an onomastic superman, one whom I now know must be a modern-day Faustus who has sold his soul to the devil that hounds name researchers for a lifetime that will last until he has completed, in hardly less than 1,000 pages each, a geographical dictionary for every county in California, and then like Scheherezade telling her stories do the same for the other 2,000-plus counties in the United States, before being reined in to survey the placenames for space, hell, and heaven, after which, who knows? But let it be said that no one has ever compiled the geographical names of one county as well as has Clark. Now, another county can be added, and this compilation is, well, better than the one before.

First, the book is a beautiful specimen of production, the text and format designed by Clark, composed on his computer, and the camera-ready copy prepared by him, a virtuoso desktop publishing job. We of outer light can only look on in envy. In all respects, this is a book produced by a scholar who has a mastery of working a text from conception to publication. He gives credit to John D. Jernegan, who had already begun an exploration of the background to places in Monterey County, the

material left to the library at the University of California at Santa Cruz after his death in 1980. Clark agreed to complete the project. The "Foreword" was written by Sandy Lydon, a historian of the Monterey Bay Region and also the author of the "Foreword" to the Santa Cruz text.

In "Introduction," Clark recounts his undergraduate days at the University of California, where George R. Stewart was his advisor and his teacher in three classes, one a special class with Clark as the only student. Clark further cemented his relationship to name study by falling in love with and marrying Emily Espenshade, daughter of A. Howry Espenshade, author of *Pennsylvania Place Names*, one of the earliest state placename texts. And, yet, Clark became a practicing onomatologist rather late, although he was a charter member of the American Name Society. He has made up for the lost time with a tenacious vengeance, now recognized by having a place named in his honor, the courtyard at McHenry Library, and, according to Lydon, the area around Monterey Bay will be called "Clark Country." The book has been reviewed many times in California newspapers and magazines and has been called "a blockbuster," "magnificent," "fascinating guide," "best seller," "indispensable," "fresh, fresh, fresh," and "factual and fabulous," descriptive terms seldom applied to placename texts.

But the book, after all the justifiable kudos, is a placename dictionary, with alphabetical entries, detailed glosses of the onomastic fact, that is, the origin of the name, along with historical and reference notes, feature type, location, and variants. It contains 2,719 main entries, representing 2,542 distinct placenames, plus 134 entries that are duplicate names. At the end of each chapter (corresponding to an alphabetical letter, with some groupings) is a quotation ("name tag") from a text that generally is concerned primarily with placenames, the best one being "More nonsense has been written on place-names than on any other subject except, perhaps, that of surnames"—P. H. Reaney. The end matter contains a bibliography (twenty-three double-columned pages), a bibliography of maps (eighteen double-columned pages), and an index of entries, personal names, variant names, and cross-references (seventy-five triple-columned pages), and an onomastic portrait of the author, written by himself, which deserves a look for its reflection of Clark's wonderful sense of humor and his account of being a "certified onomastic nut."

The text is pretty much the same as other county placename compilations, just better. After all, naming habits seem to be pretty much the same everywhere, with names first being descriptive, taken from the landscape, then incident names, then possessives as people begin to own places, then commemoratives after all the settling is done and nostalgia commences for

homes far away. Here, too, layers of names occur, with American Indian names surviving in some places, covered by Spanish names still in use, and then the English names coming into being as the Easterners came west sweeping the Indians away and finally usurping the places of the Spanish.

The California name that has had the most influence on me is *Monterey*, for at the Presidio of Monterey I was inducted into the United States Army in 1944. Monterey came into existence when the bay was named *Bahía de Monterrey* in 1602 by Sebastián Vizcaíno, in honor of Gaspar de Zuñiga y Acevedo, the fifth Conde de Monterrey, then Viceroy of New Spain. The spelling was changed over the years to *Monterey* (originally from *monte rey* 'mountain of the king'), the linguistic explanation being that a difference in the pronunciation of *r* exists between English and Spanish pronunciations. The place in Mexico retains the original, *Monterrey*. Clark devotes over twenty pages (319–40) to places named *Monterey*. The county has also taken the name, as has the city and the presidio ("garrison"), along with about forty other places.

Naturally, many Spanish and Spanish-derived names still exist. The real Spanish ones are still pronounced in Spanish, since the county has many Spanish speakers in it. The derived ones are, of course, spoken in English pronunciation patterns. Parenthetically, Clark does not provide pronunciations, which some would consider a fault, but in a county text such information is not absolutely needed, although for an outsider some pronunciations would be welcome, such as for *Flaccej*, *Pinal* 'pine,' *Cañada, Chualar, Cienega, Ichxenta*, and *Pach-hepas*, but the others will depend pretty much on the language of the speaker.

Always a few "curious names" can be found, words called disparagingly in another context "two-headed calves" by Raven I. McDavid. *Agenda*, formerly a hamlet and a station, may have been a transfer from Agenda, Kansas, which, according to John Rydjord (*Kansas Place Names*), was so named when the town meeting was held and someone asked what was on the agenda and learned that the naming of the place was included. Another version claims that it was named "as a word meaning things to be done." *Apple Pie Ridge* takes its name from Apple Pie Inn. *Bathtub Creek* is descriptive of "a series of circular pools in bedrock granite in the lower portion of the stream." *Bear-Killed-Two-Calves Creek* resulted from a name that two small boys gave to a spring in the vicinity where their family lost two calves. *Hiding Canyon* probably is derived from a personal name, maybe *Hyden*. *House of the Four Winds* (also *La Casa de los Vientos*), an adobe, was built in the mid-1930s and "named for the handwrought iron weathervane, the first in Monterey." *Imusdale* is a compound of *Imus Dale*, a change made by postal officials in Washington. *Isabella Meadows*

Cave was named for Isabella Meadows. *Jesus Flat* honors Jesus Vasquez. *La Chance Creek* was named for the Antere P. Lachance, early settler. *Lady Bird Rock* (also *Johnson Rock*) bears a plaque marking the dedication of Bixby Bridge by Mrs. Lyndon ("Lady Bird") Johnson.

Lovers Point, besides an apostrophe controversy, may be a shortened form of *Lovers of Jesus Point*. A place for both religious worshippers and harmonious lovers, it is called variously *The Point*, *Organ Point* (because of the bass notes of the ocean waves hitting the rocks), and *Spooney's Point*. *Never Again Ridge* was named "in 1970 by two botany researchers who said 'never again' after a trip through brush, scrub oaks, and other handicaps." *Professor Row* is the nickname of "a section of a Carmel-by-the-Sea street" where professors from Stanford and the University of California had their homes. *Salad Bowl of America* is the nickname for Salinas Valley, while *Seacoast of Bohemia* was a popular nickname for Carmel. *The Ganges* was so named "out of a sense of respect for the sanctity of this lovely small creek in a perfect redwood forest." *Zen Face* is a feature of which one might say "has an immutable quality reminiscent of the Zen experience."

Monterey County is one of the more famous literary places in the United States. Salinas Valley was the home and writing center for John Steinbeck, and *Steinbeck Country* is now the name applied to the Salinas Valley, Monterey Peninsula, and adjacent areas – "all chosen as the locale for many of the novels and short stories of John Steinbeck, Nobel laureate." Clark finds irony in the current fad for naming places, buildings, eateries after Steinbeck, since the good folk of Salinas had earlier "vilified and excoriated Steinbeck" (543). Clark provides entries for *Steinbeck Country, Steinbeck House, Steinbeck Memorial, Cannery Row, Tortilla Flat*, and about forty other places with connections to Steinbeck's works.

Robinson Jeffers was the poet of the Big Sur, living there from 1919 until his death in 1962, with *Jeffers Country* as Clark's name for the Monterey Peninsula, Carmel, and the Big Sur Coast. Big Sur was the setting of much of Jeffers' narrative poetry. Clark lists *The Women at Point Sur, Tamar, Cawdor, Thurso's Landing, Roan Stallion*, and *Bixby's Landing*, but Jeffers also made use of the placenames and landscape for many of his poems, narrative and otherwise. He built mostly by himself the famous Tor House at Carmel. In his "Index" Clark lists some forty placenames connected with Jeffers and his works.

Robert Louis Stevenson also lived in Monterey for a time in 1879 when he was "in pursuit of the woman he loved and later married" (339). Since 1949 property of the State of California, the house he lived in is now *Stevenson House*, with rooms containing Stevensoniana. Stevenson wrote

about and visited many of the places in Monterey County. Clark lists in his "Index" fourteen placenames, with information in the glosses, usually Stevenson's comments. For instance, *Goat Ranch* was named by Stevenson, a ranch belonging to Jonathan Wright. Stevenson was cared for by Wright after "being found near death nearby." *Spyglass Hill Golf Course*, located at Stevenson and Spyglass Hill Roads, was named in honor of Stevenson, "and each of the 18 holes is named for Stevenson's 'Spyglass Hill' and fictional characters or other landmarks in *Treasure Island*, such as, 'Long John Silver,' 'Blind Pew,' 'Billy Jones,' 'Skeleton Cove,' and 'Jim Hawkins' " (540). Some people believe that Point Lobos "provided the inspiration" for *Treasure Island* (407).

Lillian Bos Ross called the Big Sur "a state of mind" (38). Henry Miller, who made the Big Sur his home for many years, wrote that it had "a character all its own" (38) and used it for the setting of his *Big Sur and the Oranges of Hieronymus Bosch*. The poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti had a cabin in Bixby Canyon, where many Beat Generation writers visited him, including Jack Kerouac, who uses the area for his novel, *Big Sur*. The area became a mecca for poets and artists in the late 1950s and 1960s, many going there to be near Henry Miller, or just to live in a climate that did not demand much of them. The receptiveness of the area to them began much earlier.

In 1903 two real estate speculators formed the Carmel Development Company and offered to sell and lease land cheaply in Carmel-by- the-Sea to artists and writers: "Among those who responded were George Sterling, Mary Austin, Upton Sinclair, Sinclair Lewis, William Rose Benét, and Robinson Jeffers" (74). Jack London, also a member of the colony, was a friend of another respondent, Henry Lafler, a poet and editor of *The Blue Mule* and the *Argonaut*, both publications familiar to literary historians. *Lafler Canyon* was named for him, and London described Hafler's "Marble House" in *Valley of the Moon*, years before it was built, a literary historical puzzle that Clark tries to but does not unravel (256–257). Mary Austin, whom no one seems to read anymore, wrote some thirty volumes and was a founder of the colony along with the male writers and is remembered with *Mary Austin Park* in Carmel. George Sterling, another writer now seldom noticed, has ten places connected with his presence, including *George Sterling Park* in Carmel. *Yankee Point* was renamed *Point of Foam* by him. He was closely associated with Ambrose Bierce, Joaquin Miller, Jack London, Mary Austin, and others. The literary influences in the county are expertly covered by Clark, with full and even detailed mini-biographies given for all the writers.

Clark adds a quality to his texts that I have seen used by only one other

name researcher, Hamill Kenny. He quotes extensively from sources and then makes a decision for himself, still allowing his audience to choose among possibilities. Kenny's decisions, needless to say, were final, whereas Clark is more open. He will also enter into his glosses, *Fizwater Canyon* being an instance: Fizwater Canyon is near Vineyard Mountain. Clark writes, "I must admit that I wondered about 'fizwater' near a 'vineyard'; it conjured up notions of sparkling wine." He sometimes quotes beyond the onomastic fact, as in the *Idlewild* gloss: "In 1903 Idlewild was advertised as 'The Idlewild Family Resort and Campgrounds with the best trout and ocean fishing on the Coast. Board and Lodging, $7 and $8 per week.' "

He also tends to give the number of children in a family and their names, as in *Murphy Crossing*, named for John Murphy: "The Murphys were parents of six children: Margaret, Mary, Ella, Annie, Julia, and John Dennis Murphy." In the entry *Murray Creek*, Clark names all the children, either in quotes or separately: Carl, Ernest, Mary S., Luella M., Daisy I., and Permelia. In *Notleys Landing* Clark notes that William Franklin Notley and his wife Carrie Adelia Shelly Roberts had seven children: "Dorothy, Oscar, Florence, William, John, Francis, and Godfrey, plus Austin, Mrs. Notley's son by her previous marriage." Apparently, whenever Clark saw a name, he recorded it. Somehow this hardly-a-habit communicates a sense of completeness to possessives, humanizes them. They also serve as a reminder of the extensive research that Clark has done for each entry.

This county placename text deserves additional commentary and probably comparison with texts of lesser quality, but such would add an embarrassment of riches and cause embarrassment to other county placename authors. The two county books by Clark deserve and are receiving highest accolades for careful scholarship, historical accuracy, full and informative glosses, and wit that permeates the entries. A humble man, he wears his onomastic cap jauntily.

Kelsie B. Harder
State University College of New York at Potsdam

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Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America. Edited by Frank R. Abate. Omnigraphics, Inc., Penobscot Building, Detroit, MI 48226. 1991. 11 volumes. Cloth, $2,000. Each volume separately, $250; CD-ROM, $2,000; also available in a Computer Magnetic Tape Version, price not listed.

No places in the United States are named *Tsongas*; *Cuoma* is also missing. *Bush*, however is plentiful. Five "pop pl" and five "locales" bear this name, not to mention *Bush Addition*, *Bush City*, *Bush Corner*, and two places named *Bushville*. Throw in *Bush Butte* and *Bush Ditch*, the many *Bush Creeks* and *Bush Mountains*, etc., and we can count over 300 cases of *Bush*. But *Bush* must take second place, at least onomastically, to *Clinton*, with over 400 examples, including forty-four populated places. Not that forty-four states have towns named *Clinton*; Pennsylvania alone has four and Ohio three. And *Perot*? Louisiana claims the only feature in the country with this name: *Bayou Perot*.

All of this can be found in the *Omni Gazetteer*, an eleven-volume listing of some million and a half names of populated places, geographic features, structures, historic sites, and almost everything else fixed to the ground (except streets and roads), bringing together all of the names available from several federal data bases, principally from the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), an ongoing project of the Domestic Branch of the Board on Geographic Names (BGN) of the US Geological Survey.

Volume 10, *National Index*, is an alphabetical listing of all the country's placenames, from *AAA Tank* in New Mexico to *Zzyzx Springs* in California. Each name is cross referenced to one of the nine regional volumes, where we find more detailed information. Volume 11, *Appendices*, is a potpourri of useful geographic information, including the National Register of Historic Places, Indian Reservations, Airports, and Elevated Landmarks and Structures.

Each regional volume is divided into several state lists, arranged alphabetically in double-columned pages. Each entry includes the placename (active post offices include the ZIP code), population figures for many but not all populated places or the feature type (from the BGN's list) for the others, the county, the name of the USGS topographic map quadrangle on which the feature can be found, the latitude and longitude to the nearest second, and the source of the data. If the BGN has made a decision on a name, the date of that decision appears. For those features with known elevation that number, in feet, is given.

A very useful guide to the *Gazetteer* appears in the front matter. Four original essays by scholars well known to ANS members are also there. Kelsie Harder's "Introduction" is a concise overview of the study of American placenames; Leonard Ashley's "Weird and Wonderful U.S. Place Names" covers that part of name study that fascinates all of us and probably drew us into the field in the first place, the odd and unusual names; William Filby discusses the way placenames can enhance genealogical research; and Patrick McGlamery provides a practical guide to the use of maps. All of this

material is reprinted in each of the nine regional volumes.

Since a reference book of this sort is only as good as the sources it draws on, it should be remembered that most of these names come from the unfinished GNIS project, Phase II of which had been completed for only thirteen states at the time of compilation of the *Omni Gazetteer*. Thus, most of the data comes from Phase I, which collected only those names appearing on USGS maps. Editor Frank Abate makes this limitation clear in his preface. Until Phase II, a systematic search for names not on the maps, has been completed for the whole country—and the target date is still far away—a work like the *Omni Gazetteer* must be considered tentative. Phase II, which has as one of its goals the recording of historical names, has also been uneven, depending on the resources and skills of the cooperating agencies. A typical problem is the hundreds of temporary post offices, names of which are usually equated with placenames. In fact these offices often moved from farm to farm, and to assign precise coordinates to a country post office is often pointless. The same problem holds for rural schools, sometimes built on skids to simplify moving nearer to where the children were. Both North and South Dakota, with Phase II completed, have column after column listing historical schools. *School Number 1* appears 156 times in the North Dakota list, each with its precise location. Perhaps this is useful information, but it seems to me to clutter an already large book.

Another problem cannot be blamed on source material. County names are listed for most states, but not all. For example, nine states have a Clinton County, including Iowa, but Iowa's is strangely missing in the *Omni Gazetteer*, although the *Clinton County Courthouse* is there among the historical buildings. Four states have a Carbon County. The *Gazetteer* leaves out Wyoming's and Montana's. Curiously, for the other two, Carbon County, Utah, is labeled "civil" while Carbon County, Pennsylvania, is a "pop pl."

But these few problems should not detract from the value of this attractive and very useful reference work. The layout and typesetting are very nicely done. Typographical errors seem almost totally absent (but *Trimms Hill*, the highest point in Wisconsin, in the end papers of volume 11, should be *Timms Hill*). The bindings are strong, the paper archival quality, and the covers attractively designed. Even if a library cannot afford the whole set, it should at least have the *National Index* and the regional volume that includes its state.

Thomas J. Gasque
University of South Dakota, Vermillion