

Reviews

A Dictionary of English Surnames: The Standard Guide to English Surnames. Reaney, P. H. and R. M. Wilson. Third edition with corrections and additions by R. M. Wilson. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1995. Paper: ISBN 0-19-863146-4. \$15.95.

The third edition of this posthumous and newly enlarged dictionary originally compiled by Percy Hide Reaney (1880-1968) now contains the histories of 16,000 surnames. The format follows that of earlier editions and its goal is still "to explain the meaning of names." A typical example, chosen for its rigorous attention to detail and for its subtle etymological nuancing, is the following:

Mole, Moles, Moule, Moules: (i) Geoffrey *filius Mol'* Hy 2 DC (L); Robert *filius Mole* 1191 P (L); William *Mole* 1279 RH (C); Martin *Mole* 1327 SRSf; William *Moale* 1642 PrD. OE *Moll* (m). (ii) Ernald *le Mol* 1210 FFL; Richard *le Mol* 1248 Fees (Ess); Robert *le Mol* 1327 SRWo. ON *moli* 'a crumb, small particle,' perhaps a nickname for a small man.

A few entries later, under its own rubric, the original OE *Moll* is defined as a pet name for *Mary*; and by browsing imaginatively this family of names can be further distinguished from a similar surname—*Mule, Moule, Moules* from OE *mūl*, 'mule', under *Mule*. But is this word, which would have become *mowl* in Modern English if it had not been ousted by the OF word for the animal, related to the OE personal name *Mūl* responsible for the placenames *Molesey* (East and West), the River *Mole* and *Molesworth*, whence that surname? This question is unanswered.

There is no index, so the original or most prominent variant of the surname must be established before it can be located. Sometimes surnames are cross referenced (for *Folger* the reader is referred to *Fulcher*), but not always (*Merrill* cited under *Muriel* is not listed separately). *Myers*, which Reaney traces to both (i) OF *mire*, 'physician' and (ii) ON *myrr*, 'marsh', is also discussed, but without cross referencing, under *Mayer/Mayers/Meyers* as an alternative form of that surname from OF/ME *mair*, 'mayor'. This generous overlap of information argues for browsing as the best means to maximize gleanings from this truly magisterial compilation of data in dictionary form.

Although his work is of immense use to genealogical researchers, genealogy is clearly not Reaney's primary concern and he cautions genealogists about the instability of surname transference during the Middle Ages. Instead, Reaney's interest in the "genealogical" information typically cited in the entries is to canvass the data for syntactic clues. Thus, *Reeves*, in addition to its occupational reference, can also be interpreted from a certain John *atte Reuese* recorded in 1327 in the SRWo (Subsidy Rolls for Worchestershire) as 'dweller at the border' of a wood or hill (ME *atter evese*, 'at the edge or eaves').

There are ten pages of "abbreviations/bibliography," and a 46-page introduction on the origins of English surnames that explicates various aspects of the process (font-names as bynames, patronymics, metronymics, diminutives, final -s, heredity of surnames, toponymics) and offers long lists of OE (e.g., *Algar, Beck, Bott, Kemble, Kipps, Wyman*) and Scandinavian surnames (e.g., *Drummond, Gunnell, Havelock, Rolf, Tookey*) based on personal names. This new edition includes some 4,000 additional entries (or 5,000 according to the blurb on the back cover) with their variants. A sampling of these additions includes *Abinger, Babbington, Bickerdike, Bowdler, Clegett (Claygate), Denzil, Eyton, Fail(es), Marnham, Marple, Moberley*, the above-cited *Mole, Raglan, Rudyard, Salcock, Snodgrass, Tabb* and *Tabletter*. Some of the material used for the new names comes from the files of P. H. Reaney preserved in the Library of the University of Sheffield, but much is based on the more recent research of Reaney's posthumous but similarly meticulous editor, R. M. Wilson.

For many of the more difficult names (such as *Barrat, Botterell, Bruce, Bunyan, Cummings, Dill, Firth/Thrift, Garnon, How/Howe/Hoo, Mallet, Oliphant, Olivier, Perceval, Rumbellow* and *Talbot*) Reaney provides fascinating mini-essays. Basil Cottle (1967) refers to Reaney's "article" on *Bunyan* in this dictionary as "brilliant." Reaney is skeptical about identifying *Bruce* with the no longer extant French town of *Brix* and disagrees with Dauzat that *Olivier* has anything to do with the olive branch as a symbol of peace (329). Reaney is probably right in denying the popular explanation of *Stewart* as 'keeper of the sty', which has no authority, and implies a more neutral 'keeper of the house'. This means, then, that the word *steward* in all the introductory linguistics textbooks as the classic example of semantic pejoration is a canard!

Formerly entitled *A Dictionary of British Surnames*, the emphasis on the "English" of the revised title seeks to clarify its policy of concentrating on English names to the exclusion of Scottish, Welsh, and

Irish names except when they are found “in English sources” or when “they coincide in form with specifically English surnames.” Thus, anglicized forms of Celtic names such as *Duncan*, *Meredith*, *Morgan*, *Murdoch* (introduced into Yorkshire before the Conquest by Norwegians from Ireland) and *Quinn* are included, while such names as *Cassidy*, *Kilgore*, *Slattery*, and *Sloan* are not. R. M. Wilson, in his “Introduction to the Third Edition,” recommends Black (1946, 1971) for Scottish names, MacLysagt (1969, 1978) for Irish names, and Morris (1932) for Welsh border names for “there seemed no point in reproducing information which could be found in their works.”

But this exclusivity will probably not impress American name seekers, for many of us do not always perceive the difference between English on the one hand, and Welsh, Scottish, or even Irish surnames on the other. The Scottish surname *Elgin*, for example, which associated with the famous Marbles of the British Museum and as the name of at least three cities in the US and Canada, is for many Americans quintessentially English and yet it is not to be found here.

Surnames taken from placenames are not usually etymologized because, as Reaney states in his original 1958 introduction, they are a “problem for others,” an alien terrain he himself would penetrate when his book, *The Origin of English Place Names* was published in 1960. Thus, in this dictionary, *Boswell* and *Nugent*, are traced to placenames in France; *Moffat* and *Maxwell* are identified as stemming from placenames in Scotland; and *Warfield* and *Borden* are given as placenames in Berkshire and Kent, and then examined no further. This is, of course, the standard practice of dictionaries when words such as *badminton*, *camembert*, and *limousine* are derived from placenames. The documentation ceases at the point of geographic identification, and a dictionary of placenames must be sought to pursue further etymological investigation.

But this roundabout route of charting the trajectory of geographic surnames requires an undue expenditure of patience, time and energy. And what is to be done when *Raimes/Reames* is identified as stemming from the French town of *Rames*, and yet Dauzat in his study of French placenames (1984) fails to register any such *Rames*? And what about *Gilpin*, which Reaney derives from the river, and Ekwall (1940), explaining the name of the river, claims it is derived from the name of the family? Some modern writers, such as Hanks and Hodges (1988) have abandoned Reaney’s cavalier practice and etymologize placenames as they occur in personal nomenclature—although unfortunately Hanks

and Hodges also fail to register *Raimes/Reames*. And the stubbornly unavailable etymology of *Elgin* is denied us even by Black (1946, 1971), who traces the name only to the map of Scotland, without even pinpointing its location (Moray County).

Despite the rigor that Reaney insists on in his own methodology (he lambastes journalists, who should know better, for perpetrating the transparent and fanciful etymologies they love to write about), he does not always supply the underlying facts that were undoubtedly clear to him in his own perception. Such old Germanic sources as *Ermenald*, *Rumbald* and *Sabaricus* (for *Armin*, *Rumball* and *Savary*) are sometimes left untranslated, and when these compound names are translated, the individual morphemes may not be identified for the convenience of the non-specialist reader. *Spickernall* is derived from ME *spigurnel*, 'sealer of writs', but the Middle English term is not broken down into identifiable morphemes.

Far more than his predecessor Ewen (1931), Reaney is fond of nickname theories to explain surnames and uses the indignity of many nicknames enshrined as surnames (e.g., *Casbolt*, *Crabb*, *Grubb*, *Pintel*, *Rump*) to emphasize that surnames were more often levied or assigned than adopted. In addition, some surnames derived from nicknames are, he points out, today unintelligible and the meaning of others is doubtful (does *Hare* mean 'fleet of foot' or 'timid'?). In light of the modern French *Tourneboeuf*, he upholds the nickname theory for the origin of *Turnbull* while keeping it distinct from *Trumble* and *Trumbull*. *Fallowell* /*Fallwell* is 'fall in the well', and *Tray* is a nickname from OE *trega*, 'grief, misfortune'. His interpretation of *Burr* for a person who is difficult to shake off is questioned by Hanks and Hodges (1988), who are nonetheless unable to provide a more convincing explanation.

Reaney is admirably thorough in listing variants of particularly prolific surnames. For *Rolf* he lists twenty-five variants, including *Rowe*, *Rowles*, and *Rule* and proceeds to distinguish them from *Ralf* (the source of French *Raoul*), for which he lists another sixteen variants, including *Raves*, *Raw* and *Rawles*. As concerns some American variants, however, he is not so meticulous. *Adair*, for example, is not listed under *Edgar*, nor *Owings* under *Owens*, nor *Pancoast* under *Pentecost*, nor *Rampling* under *Ram*, nor *Tichenor/Ticknor* under *Twitchen*. The necessary distinction that must be made between the near-homophones *Sheraton* and *Sheridan* can not be made according to this dictionary because the latter is not included.

Reaney is also thorough when considering the French names of Huguenot immigrants to England in the 1600s. These include *Brunet*, *Cazenove*, *Crusoe*, *Despard*, *Garrick*, *Lamotte*, *Layard*, *Le Fanu*, *Maturin*, *Plimsoll* and others, but once again he chooses not to etymologize them, and the work of other scholars must be sought. He also fails to list a Huguenot provenance for the surname of American courier Paul *Revere*, whose family, originally from the Channel Islands, were said to have borne the name *de Revoire*, meaning 'view' (Cottle 1967).

English nomenclature, like the English language generally, preserves a large number of forms (e.g., *Cowdrey*, *Flanner*, *Gulliver*, *Mustell*, *Poyner* and *Shrapnel*) borrowed from Old French (*coudraie* 'hazel copse', *flaonnier* 'maker of flawns', *goulafre* 'glutton', *mousteile* 'weasel', *poigneor* 'fighter' and *charbonnel* 'little coal') that have not survived into modern French. Because Reaney is not always committed to taking these words back to their remotest Latin or Germanic source, and because these words are not to be found even in an etymological dictionary of modern French, we are doubly at a loss should we wish to trace the most remote source of surnames such as these.

Reaney's half-hearted suggestion that *Sarratt/Sarrett* represents some kind of diminutive of *Sara* is probably off the mark, because the name, now often spelled *Surratt* in the US where it was borne by the woman executed for complicity in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, has been identified by Dauzat (1993) as coming from OF *serre*, 'mountain'. Reaney's OF antecedents for *Cottel/Cottle* should also be downgraded in light of Basil Cottle's Cornish etymology, 'wood by the estuary', although for non-Cornish bearers of the name Cottle concedes the possibility of OF *cotel* ('mail-coat' and 'dagger') as the etymology (1967). For *Rathbone*, Reaney concludes that no satisfactory suggestion can be offered, evincing uncustomary resistance to its probable identification with the place name of *Radbourn(e)*, as later proposed by Hanks and Hodges (1988)—even while observing under *Brisbane* that *bourne* is commonly pronounced as *bone*.

Some surnames still not included in the third edition are *Albee*, *Bascom*, *Buel*, *Defoe* 'dweller at the beech tree', *Darnley*, *Dandridge*, *Denyer*, *Durrell*, *Ketchum*, *Maverick*, *Pirtle*, *Ruggles*, *Runyan*, *Quested*, *Ticehurst*, *Trudgill* and *Trundle*. The editor remarks that spatial constraints in the earlier editions forced the omission of some of the more common names; so I suspect on the other hand that some notable omissions such as *Elgin* and *Dorsey* (which is not a variant of *Darcy*),

are much less common in Britain than in the US and were probably omitted precisely because they struck Reaney (and Wilson) as not worth the space. The strange currency of the surname *Bushrod* as a first name in Colonial Virginia is perhaps atypical and isolated enough to justify its omission, but the omission of other surnames of English origin that proliferated on this continent may not be so easy to excuse in a standard work that will no doubt come to occupy a prominent place on the reference shelves of most American libraries.

English surnames of the United States are not considered in this dictionary, even when it was on this continent that several of these surnames, such as *Lynch* and *Buncombe*, actually became lexicalized. Among Reaney's successors, Cottle (1967) is much more concerned about English surnames in the United States and other English-speaking countries; Hanks and Hodges (1988) are very much attuned to the interests of their American audience; and Elsdon Smith (1956, 1973) addresses the American public specifically.

Reaney is constantly cited with deference by both Cottle (1967) and by Hanks and Hodges (1988), who seldom aspire to improve upon his scholarship. As with any pioneer, it is easy to find fault with minor features of Reaney's work but his rigorous methodology, alertness to detail, cautious judgment and talent for unraveling linguistic complexities, are basically unimpeachable and his scholarship deserves to be within easy reach of anyone with a lively interest in researching the surnames of England.

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Dictionnaire historique des noms de famille romans. Actes du 1er Colloque (Trèves, 10-13 décembre 1987). Edited by Dieter Kremer. (*Patronymica Romanica*, 1) Tübingen: Max Niemeyer, 1990. Pp. xxiii + 323. 174 DM.

Dictionnaire historique des noms de famille romans. Actes du Colloque IV (Dijon, 24-26 septembre 1990). Edited by Gérard Taverdet. (*Patronymica Romanica*, 6) Tübingen: Max Niemeyer, 1992. Pp. vi + 229. 104 DM.

By now, the vast Romance surnames project (known formally by its Latin name *Patronymica romanica* and more informally as *PatRom*) has become a familiar reality of the international onomastic scene, not only through the rapidly growing range of publications related to—or derived from—it, but also by the focus given to the 1993 International Congress of Onomastic Sciences and by a total of nine annual meetings already devoted solely to the project itself (Trier, 1987; Pisa, 1988; Barcelona, 1989; Dijon, 1990; Lisbon, 1991; Louvain-la-Neuve, 1992; Neuchâtel, 1993; Bucharest, 1994; Oviedo, 1995). But, apart from the late Michel Grimaud's review of the proceedings of the 1989 conference (*Names* 40: 144-145), it has received little notice in the pages of this journal. The two volumes now at hand allow us, in part, to remedy this omission.

The scientific core of the project is ultimately to be a major etymological dictionary, compiled in French and classified according to Latin prototypes, that presents and explains the surnames—primarily but not exclusively those of Romance origin—that have a certain degree of currency in any area of Europe using a Romance language. The articles in this work are intended to bring to onomastics a degree of completeness and scientific rigor comparable to those which characterize such monumental dictionaries as the *FEW* (*Französisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch*) of Wartburg (1922-) and *LEI* (*Lessico Etimologico Italiano*) of Pfister (1979-). The articles will thus be far more extensive than their concise counterparts in Hanks and Hodges' admirable *Dictionary of Surnames* (1988).

Associated with the principal PatRom reference work will be a series of language-specific dictionaries, each compiled in the relevant modern language itself and intended for the use of a fairly broad non-specialist public. Complementary documentation from first names, as well as from surnames found in countries outside Europe and from non-Romance-speaking areas, will be used abundantly in determining etymologies and in providing explanations. Accurate reconstruction of name histories will depend largely on archival sources: personal name documentation will be systematically collected especially from those of the tenth, thirteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries, which typify successive stages in the overall development of Romance-language nomenclature. The ongoing production of a *Bulletin interne* ensures communication and sharing of information among researchers engaged on the project as it evolves.

PatRom's overall strategy and guidelines for research and publication were hammered out during the 1987 meeting in Trier (the title of the published proceedings uses the French exonym: *Trèves*), which brought together an array of 42 eminent specialists—experts not only in specific Romance-speaking areas, but also in other languages that, in various ways, have significantly affected personal naming in Romance. A first series of formal presentations given at that meeting provides a general panorama of studies in personal naming. Papers with a more specific focus were grouped, perhaps somewhat arbitrarily, into five wide-ranging sessions: personal naming history, typology, and terminology; practical background and documentary sources; contact zones and transitional areas; general dictionaries and proper names, etymology and

morphology, language and title of the PatRom dictionary; organization, computerization, bibliography and publications. Each major session gave rise to discussion that went from the particular to the more general, from the theoretical to practical decisions about how collaboration on the PatRom project would be effected. The volumes before us include both the texts of the formal papers and summaries of the general discussions.

Perhaps paradoxically, very few Romance surnames are derived directly from the classical naming system of ancient Rome and its colonies. The stages in the breakdown of the Latin system were explained and excellently documented, in that 1987 meeting, by Professor Iiro Kajanto. If one may generalize about the other formal papers (usually given in various Romance languages, but with two exceptions in German), the focus tends most often to be either on description and assessment of studies that already exist or on information about the wealth of extant source material—both historical and contemporary—that still awaits full investigation. In this enterprise, Portuguese, Galician, Catalan, Rhæto-Romance, Occitan, and Sardinian are well represented alongside (Castilian) Spanish, French, and Italian: indeed, as the 1987 presentations show, a considerable number of the most thorough studies already available may serve as models in treating the personal naming of the largest Romance language communities.

It is the vast scale of the potential data base that presents the greatest challenge to the experts engaged in the PatRom project: Holger Bagola (287) estimates the number of speakers of Romance languages in Europe alone at some 190 million, and, according to a study by E. de Felice (quoted by D. Kremer, xiii), more than a quarter of a million differently spelled surnames can be found in Italy—a figure that, according to a 1979 study by the late Michel Tesnière, is matched at least by France. It follows that more than a million Romance-language surnames could well be recognized in Europe. (Truly comprehensive present-day documentation is less accessible than might have been imagined: considerations of confidentiality limit the onomastic value of such data as can be obtained from official records). Naturally, a considerable number of these surnames readily fall into etymological groups, and a high proportion of them are extremely rare. The planned dictionaries must inevitably be selective, but it is far from easy to decide what must, provisionally at least, be excluded.

Following on from the Barcelona meeting of 1989, the 4th PatRom colloquium, held in Dijon in 1990, aimed in large measure at further

fine tuning of the procedures agreed upon earlier. Though the published proceedings were this time limited to the texts of formal presentations, they still include discussions of the methodological difficulties that a certain number of collaborators had encountered in the process of compiling sample dictionary articles. Should data be presented in a geographically consistent order, even when in some articles this would conflict with an observed historical sequence of influences (Maria-Reina Bastardas, 4-8)? To what extent is it appropriate to standardize the presentation of articles that deal with personal names derived from place names (Jean-Pierre Chambon, 69-92)? How is one to resolve inconsistencies in data derived from previously compiled indices of personal names from cartularies and other historical sources (Maria Giovanna Arcamone, 147-151)?

Papers that provide supplementary reference material include Éric Loquin's review of French law concerning personal names (31-38), Dominique Fournier's study of matronymics in Normandy (39-68), Pierre-Henry Billy's typology of personal names derived from place names (93-133), and Billy's survey of the names given to foundlings in France in the period 1793-96 (134-145). More specific geographical areas are treated in papers on surnames in the French department of Pyrénées-Orientales (Georges J. Costa, 12-23), first names in Pisa that are Germanic in origin (Roberto Rosselli del Turco, 176-184), Nordic names in southern Italy (Franco de Vivo, 185-202), and Romance surnames in northeastern Yugoslavia (Milorad Arsenijević, 203-220). A concluding article by Dieter Kremer is devoted to interdisciplinary cooperation in onomastic studies (221-229).

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Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya. By V. E. Staltmane. Moscow: Nauka, 1989. Pp. 112. Price: 1 Ruble, 90 Kopecks, paper.

In *Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya* [*Onomastic Lexicography*], V. E. Staltmane offers an introductory study of onomastic lexicography and provides readers with a typology for delineating a host of different forms of onomastic dictionaries. Staltmane's volume has its origins in her long and distinguished career as a Russian linguist, and *Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya* continues her program for discriminating onomastic lexicography's place as a specific discipline of general lexicography, a project that she inaugurated in her 1986 volume, *Slovoobrazovanie: Teoriya i Metodika Onomasticheskikh Issledovanii* [*Word Formation: Theories and Methods of Onomastic Research*]. Well-known in Slavic linguistic circles for her attempts to historicize Latvian onomastics in such volumes as *Iz Istorii Latishskikh Familii: Istoricheskaya Onomastika* [*The History of Latvian Surnames: Historical Onomastics*] (1977) and *Latishskaya Antroponimikaya: Familii* [*Latvian Anthroponyms: Surnames*] (1981), Staltmane adorns *Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya* with useful introductory forays into general linguistics, general and onomastic lexicography, and onomastics. As Staltmane playfully notes in her preface, this volume will "be interesting for all those who go in for proper nouns" (2). Additionally, *Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya* provides students of onomastics with a text that establishes the places of naming and lexicography within the larger body of contemporary Slavic linguistics.

Staltmane's preliminary chapter, "Theoretical Premises for Onomastic Lexicography," underscores the introductory nature of her volume through its careful attention to the treatment and definition of the terminology endemic to a study of this kind. In addition to tracing the history of onomastic lexicography (including discussion of Slavic, as well as Western, critical approaches to the discipline) Staltmane features chapters allotted to the study of proper nouns in general dictionaries. She devotes particular attention to the analysis of historical, etymological, and normative dictionaries as well, and supplements each selection with a judicious commentary and a generous array of examples. Staltmane's commentaries draw upon a wealth of divergent international dictionaries, from Albert Dauzat's *Dictionnaire étymologique des noms de famille et prénoms de France* (1951) and P. H. Reaney's *A Dictionary*

of *British Surnames* (1966) to Russian volumes such as Max Vasmer's *Etimologicheskii Slovar' Russkovo Iazika* [*Russian Language Etymological Dictionary*] (1986-1987) and V. A. Nikonov's *Opyt Slovar' Russkikh Familii* [*Empirical Dictionary of Russian Surnames*] (1972). Written expressly for students of general linguistics and for those readers simply attempting to traverse the broad range of available onomastic dictionaries, Staltmane's volume communicates the practical value of the study of onomastic lexicography to a diversity of scholarly pursuits, including (among others) linguistics, literary criticism, and cultural studies.

Staltmane devotes the latter portion of *Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya* to a survey of the different classes of proper nouns. Her discussion of anthroponyms, for instance, illustrates her abiding interest in charting the origins of Russian patronymics and surnames in an effort to reveal their fundamental significance in the creation of Russian etymological dictionaries. Likewise, in her treatment of toponyms, Staltmane draws upon the precepts of geography and cartography while providing cogent examples of their importance to lexicographical study. In addition to featuring similar chapters on zoonyms and mythonyms, Staltmane offers a useful analysis of poetical onomastics, affording particular attention to the etymology, phonetics, and grammatical structure of proper nouns. In her examination of "Devil," for example, she discusses the anthroponym in terms of its stylistic and semantic traits, as well as in regard to its variant forms and usages in a variety of languages. Staltmane concludes her exploration of onomastic lexicography and its relevance to literary criticism with attention to the origins and derivations of character names in the works of Chekhov and Tolstoy.

In this way, Staltmane demonstrates the broad possibilities of onomastics and underscores the potential value of her volume to students from a wide range of scholarly disciplines. For advanced readers, however, the principal benefit of *Onomasticheskaya Leksikografiya* may yet lie in its documentation of a host of Slavic onomastic and lexicographical sources from the 1980s—an era that saw a significant critical surge in the Eastern response to a variety of linguistic issues. Staltmane lists hundreds of Slavic monograph publications regarding a dearth of linguistic topics ranging from etymology, onomastics, and lexicography to grammar, sociolinguistics, and orthography. Staltmane's attempt to catalogue the riches of Eastern linguistic research effectively captures

the shape and nature of an era replete with scholarship devoted to language study, and the expansive bibliography that concludes her volume provides testimony to the special esteem that Slavic scholars reserve for onomastics and lexicography in particular. Such elements reveal the value of Staltmane's volume to students and advanced scholars alike, for it functions admirably as both an introductory text as well as a means for historicizing the recent accomplishments of a thriving academic discipline.

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Islamic Names. By Annemarie Schimmel. *Islamic Surveys*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh UP. 1989. xii - 137.

Among the personal naming systems of the world's societies, Islamic personal names are one of the most elaborated and one of the most structured. The author notes in the Introduction that in Arabic virtually every word in the language has been at one time or other used in a personal name. While that may be an overstatement, there appear

to be few prohibitions against any common noun or verb serving as a personal name. The relative freedom of name choice suggests that Arabic personal names may reflect similarly unrestricted patterns of naming, but that is clearly not the case. In fact, Arabs are given personal names according to a reasonably fixed procedure, providing a clear organizational pattern.

The book focuses on Arabic but provides supplementary information on other Islamic societies. The author notes that the same principles and patterns that one sees in Arabic also apply to Turkish and Persian, with some minor variations. The scope of coverage is thus extremely broad indeed, given the richness of the sources of personal names, the complexity of the systems, and the inclusion of Arabic, Turkish, and to a lesser extent, Persian. Professor Schimmel surveyed an impressive range of archival and literary sources, extracting a profusion of personal names. The index of personal names itself covers 30 pages, but the bulk of the book is devoted to a discussion of names according to categories based on name type and social function.

Chapter I gives an overview of what is referred to as the structure of a name, where "name" refers to the sequence of names that an individual typically has. Each name has (1) a *kunya*, father of x (Abū x) or mother of x (Umm x), (2) an *ism*, the actual personal name, (3) a *nasab*, a name relating an individual to his or her forefathers, and (4) a *nisba*, pointing to one's native place, national or religious allegiance. In addition, there is the *laqab*, nickname, which is widely utilized, given that many individuals may have the same *ism*, and which may eventually develop into a proper name or an honorific. The author discusses each of these basic name types, providing example after example and giving sources and meanings. An *ism*, for example, can be derived from a noun, verb, adjective, participle, and those can be declinable. Their sources can be from the Qur'ān (*Atā Allāh* 'God's gift'), they can be from the names of animals (*Asad* 'lion'), from plants (*Basbes* 'fennel'), from natural phenomena such as astronomy (*Shams* 'sun'), weather (*Yagmur* 'rain') and landscape (*Jabal* 'mountain'), from household goods (*Bakraj* 'coffee pot'), from abstract nouns (*Iqbāl* 'good fortune', and even *Wadād* 'love'). The relationship between the name of an object or quality and the corresponding personal name can be one of assumed or desired characteristics, e.g., the cunning of a fox, the strength of a lion, the desire for a virtue such as patience, or it can be more mundane, as simply an object that was first seen by the name-giver immediately after an infant's birth, e.g., a coffee pot.

The *kunya* is much more restricted, since it references a son or daughter, but it can also be an honorific, and some individuals had more than one *kunya*, one for war and one for peace. Moreover, some *kunya* were attached collocationally to certain proper names (*isms*), and they could also be attached to *isms* or *labaqs* to reveal intellectual or moral qualities or to point to physical or individual peculiarities or qualities, e.g. *Abū Huraya* 'father of a kitten'.

The picture that emerges from the Introduction alone is an extraordinary richness of personal name sources, types, meanings, and associations with other cultural and natural phenomena. The remainder of the text of the book elaborates even further on those features. Chapter II addresses the multitude of procedures and processes that go into the naming of a child, Chapter III is on religious name-giving, Chapter IV focuses on the naming of girls, Chapter V is a rich account of nicknames, and Chapter VI is a detailed and informative discussion of name changes and transformations. In addition to the text and the index of names, there is an appendix on notes on Turkish family names, an index of places, ethnic groups, and languages, an index of Qur'ānic verses, a glossary of technical terms, extensive notes, and a bibliography.

The book is an excellent reference and compendium for Islamic names, and it should be of interest and use to both Islamic and onomastic scholars. It is an unusually detailed study, providing a wealth of names and related naming practices and associations and interpretations. The amount of information becomes, in fact, almost too dense, making the book at times difficult to read. The density is complicated by the extreme differences across languages and styles of transcription and transliteration and by the sheer variation in form that can be used in Arabic. As the author notes, the forms *Qāsim*, *Qassem*, *Gassem*, *Gacem*, *Casem*, *Kasim*, and *Ghasim* are all the same name, just transcribed differently, and when one moves from Arabic to Turkish and sees, to take only one example, that *Jalāl ad-dīn* becomes *Celalettin*, the magnitude of the problem begins to be revealed. Professor Schimmel is to be commended for bringing the extreme diversity and detail into a very interesting and highly useful document.

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African Placenames: Origins and Meanings of the Names for Over 2000 Natural Features, Towns, Cities, Provinces and Countries. By Adrian Room. Jefferson, NC and London: McFarland & Co., 1994. x + 245 pp.

This impressive reference work began as a dictionary of place names in southern Africa, compiled by the author and Julie Wilcocks. While that work was nearing completion, a publication on the same topic appeared (Raper 1987). The author decided, consequently, to extend the coverage to all of Africa, and, seven years, later the volume under review was published. Mr. Room deserves commendation for the willingness to undertake a task of that magnitude. Moreover, he accomplished his objective admirably. The book is an impressive dictionary of the major placenames of the continent of Africa and adjacent islands.

The scope of the project can be seen partially from the fact that Africa has at least 1,000 and perhaps as many as 2,000 distinct languages. An exact number of languages is difficult to specify, since definitions of language can shift according to areal, political, and historical considerations, and the division between language and dialect can be even more difficult and arbitrary. Africa is clearly, however, one of the most diverse areas of the world language-wise, and the author had to work with many different languages in several different language families. A second major consideration is that the history of Africa is long and complex. North Africa has long been associated with the European Mediterranean and with the Middle East. Placenames of North Africa derive from Greek, Latin, Phoenician, but especially from Arabic. Native languages are also placename sources, Berber in particular, and Ancient Egyptian and Coptic also made contributions. European contact and eventual colonization also provided an overlay of English, French, Portuguese, Dutch, Spanish, German, and Italian placenames, often replacing the native terms. Many of those names have been replaced, in turn, with indigenous placenames, as first political and then cultural independence occurred.

The book's Introduction, though brief, contains a wealth of information about sources of placenames. Room follows the typical division of the continent into North Africa, West Africa, East Africa, Southern Africa, and Central Africa, making sure that the present-day countries are identified as members of one of the regions. Sketches are then provided of each region, identifying the principal characteristics of

the history of placenames and giving the major sources of the names. A rationale is also provided for the information given in the entries and for the organization of the information. Each entry heading is followed by the present country of location and, to varying degrees, location within the country. An account of the name's origin and meaning is then given, with appropriate historical, topographical, and biographical information and references. As the book's title indicates, there are slightly more than 2,000 entries.

The author notes that the coverage is far from complete, due in large part to the general absence of detailed studies from East Africa, Central Africa, and West Africa in particular. Those areas are consequently less well represented in the dictionary. The author is also aware that inaccuracies undoubtedly are present, given the scope of the project, the number of languages, and the difficulty in many instances of obtaining information that is not solely anecdotal. Errors are undoubtedly present, but a somewhat cursory and random search found only one. In the Introduction, *Nairobi* is listed as from Swahili, when in fact it is from Maasai. The entry, however, has the correct source.

The book also has a glossary and four appendices. Those, in order, are dates of the major European explorations of Africa, the official names of contemporary African countries, names of the official and major indigenous languages and major religions of each country, and a list of the dates of independence of each country. Lastly, a useful select bibliography is provided.

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More Names and Naming: An Annotated Bibliography. Comp. Edwin D. Lawson. Westport, CT: Greenwood. 1995. Pp. xix+298. \$69.95.

This annotated bibliography is a magnificent accomplishment and is a mandatory reference for anyone with an interest in personal names. It consists of articles, books, chapters, theses (including undergraduate), magazine and newspaper reports dealing with personal names that have appeared since Lawson's earlier *Personal Names and Naming* (Greenwood 1987). This volume also includes some earlier publications previously omitted; moreover, this volume is a valuable guide to the literature on names in a wide range of areas including stereotypes, ethnic and racial relations, linguistic processes, historical shifts, religion, psychological features of interaction, kinship and the like.

The literature is expanding at an increasing rate. The 1952 Elsdon Smith personal names bibliography included some 3400 articles and books up to that point. The 1987 Lawson bibliography included some 1200 words on first names published in the intervening 35 years. Now, eight years later, this new bibliography lists an additional 2200 new publications. Keep in mind that the two earlier publications are still important since the two Lawson bibliographies are not cumulative—they list newer words or older ones that were missed. (On this score, I hope Greenwood keeps the 1987 Lawson volume in print since it remains an important reference work).

There are several features of this book, also found in the previous Lawson work, which make the bibliography exceptionally valuable. The annotations are both brief and yet amazingly helpful. In almost all cases the annotation should enable one to decide if a closer examination of the publication is likely to be worthwhile for the purposes at hand. The bibliography casts a wide net which captures scholarly, semipopular and popular materials on personal names. Of course, one can think of appropriate publications that are not in this bibliography, but that is inevitable given the diversity of outlets and fields that deal with names. As a matter of fact, the diversity of sources and publications caught in Lawson's net is really impressive. The only requirement for inclusion is that the article either be in English or, if not, at least have an English abstract. Recognizing the limitation this can mean for some purposes, Lawson recommends consulting *Onoma* for bibliographies from non-English sources. Even with these restrictions, it is amazing how much Lawson finds. For example, the *Icelandic* section includes four

publications on personal names, as well as a fifth cited in the index in the back of the book. Along with four different references in the earlier Lawson volume, one can start with nine different publications on Icelandic personal names. Keep in mind that for each of these references Lawson provides a concise overview of the publication.

There is a coded table of contents at the front, which has a variety of useful listings; for example, there is a heading called *Change of Name*, which has a subheading on *Entertainers*; there is one on *Stereotypes and Names*; another on *Ancient Middle East*. The latter has subheadings for *Akkadian*, *Aramaic*, *Assyrian*, *Egyptian* and *Hittite*. Much of the Contents is coded by specific ethnic, or national, or cultural categories and then subsets within. For example, there is a listing for *African: General*, which is followed by subheadings for *Bini*, *Ghana*,... *Zulu*. Or there is a listing for *Maltese* and then a subheading on *Maltese Nicknames*. In addition, there are separate Subject and Author indexes. The entries are usually very helpful. The *Change of Name* category listed in the Contents incorporates about three and a half pages of references, but many, many more references dealing with name changes are found under the *Change* category in the subject index at the back of the book.

I have one criticism, however. In some circumstances, the *Content* category is either very broad and/or little is done in the more detailed *Subject* index to find other relevant references. For example, *Sociological Aspects of Names* includes a total of five publications. I have no problems with the ones included, but this is obviously a very incomplete listing. The more detailed subject index in the back is not particularly helpful, referring to one other publication as well as the other five. Likewise, *Naming Process: Patterns and Practices* is a rather vague classification, although in this case there are many additional references in the Subject Index. On the other hand, *Naming Process: Historical Patterns* is clearer to me, but I am quite confident there are far more publications relevant to this category than are shown in either the Contents listing or the Index. This is, of course, inevitable since most articles—let alone books—are classifiable by several different key words. At any rate, it is a minor complaint; one way or another, the indexing allows you to work your way through the volume to find what you need.

In a nutshell, this bibliography is a grand accomplishment, which should be of great value for a long time to come. It is difficult for me to imagine how anyone with an interest in personal names can get

along without this book; and it is also hard to see how either general or scholarly libraries can get along without Lawson's bibliography. It is almost certain that the reader will discover relevant and unknown words by either leafing through the index or simply randomly selecting a few pages in the book. I expect to find this to be an invaluable treasure in the years ahead for both my own work and as an aid to students looking for the existing work on any topic that touches on names. Onomastics owes Edwin D. Lawson a great deal.

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Noms et lieux de Québec: Dictionnaire illustré. Commission de toponymie du Québec. Sainte-Foy: Les publications du Québec. 1994. Pp: xxxv:925. \$79.95 CND.

More than 6,000 entries, some 500 color illustrations and 35 maps make up this unique tribute to the toponymic heritage of Québec. An impressive dictionary indeed, that learners and enthusiasts of Québec culture will want to consult again and again. It is a must in the library of anyone interested in French landscape nomenclature in North America.

The title underscores one of the distinctive features of the work. This dictionary goes further than the mere onomastic treatment of geographical names in the sense that it illustrates not only names but also the places to which they relate, hence the importance of the carefully chosen and sometimes breathtaking illustrations that punctuate the dictionary. This spacial, as opposed to purely linguistic, approach allows not only for the explanation of names *per se* but offers a better understanding of the environment they occupy, the memories they evoke and the collective identity they help craft within the culture of Québec.

The data bank of the Commission de toponymie du Québec contains some 250,000 names, of which approximately 163,000 were officialized by the end of 1993. Selection of the 6,000 entries was based on both the representativity and the relevance of these officialized forms. Names of administrative entities such as municipalities, townships and provincial electoral districts were systematically included, as were those of indian reserves and aboriginal villages. Names of cities and villages, natural features such as lakes, rivers, islands and bays were selected on the basis of importance, historical relevance, and originality. The end result is a fairly reasonable and well balanced profile of the toponymy of Québec.

One should bear in mind, however, that restricting the nomenclature to official names means that several toponyms in current local usage have not been included. While this does not appear to be a major handicap, there are instances where such omissions will disappoint more than one reader. Such is the case of *Hauterive*, a municipality which was integrated into *Baie-Comeau* in 1982. In spite of the amalgamation, the former name is still widely used locally and readers will look for it in vain in the body of the dictionary. However, an index at the end of the volume does provide for these cases with appropriate cross-referencing.

The monumental task of researching and writing the various entries began in 1987 and involved a team of more than twenty people, many of whom belong to the staff of the Commission de toponymie. An interim progress report was published at which time it was announced that the work would be launched in the fall of 1992, "if all goes well." (Mayrand 1991:21). One suspects that concerns over standardization along with the many revisions, additions, deletions and corrections involved in the final steps of production were more time consuming than expected as the dictionary was finally presented to the public two years later in November of 1994.

The volume is unlike any work previously published in québécois toponymics and can justly be described as monumental. It goes beyond, both in depth and scope, the much outdated works of Roy (1906) and Magnan (1925). Entries provide, in most cases, the origin of the toponym with discussion of folk or competing etymologies, name changes and variants where applicable. In addition, readers will appreciate the succinct historical overviews of the places and features themselves. Some articles appear to be better researched than others, but this seems unavoidable in a book in which so many people were involved and where efforts were spread over so many years. There are

cases where results of recent research appear to have been overlooked, such as the possible Arabic origin of the placename *Montréal* (Michalski 1992), but overall the level of scholarship, as can be evidenced by the substantial bibliography of source material, is well in keeping with the highest onomastic standards and will appeal to a broad cultured audience.

Readers should be aware that a close relationship between the non-linguistic referent and the place name has resulted in several entries being provided for the same name. For instance, there are three entries for the placename *Pontiac*: one for the electoral district, another for the municipality and finally a third for the regional country municipality. Lexicographers would have preferred a single entry with three subsections as all three names derive from the same etymon, but since the dictionary is more entity oriented and deals with places as well as names, readers will have to overlook this potentially irritating inconvenience and be careful to distinguish between several possibilities when looking up entries.

Among the shortcomings of the work, one must mention the lack of phonetic transcriptions whenever there is more than one possible rendition of names in French. Although there is some discussion here and there within the body of articles of the possible pronunciations of toponyms such as *Boucherville* and *Notre-Dame-du-Laus*, this is not done systematically and unless one is familiar with local usage, placenames such as *Plessisville*, *Bagot*, *Bagotville*, *Ripon*, *Ahuntsic*, *Morin Heights*, *Montcerf*, *Magog*, to say nothing of aboriginal names, may well be rendered incorrectly. Such transcriptions serve a useful purpose in well known proper name dictionaries such as *Le Petit Robert 2* (1985) where readers are informed of the pronunciation of similar placenames in France such as *Montargis*, *Montrachet*, *Quesnoy*, *Questembert*, *Rambervillers*, etc., where orthography is not always a good indicator of pronunciation. This weakness should be corrected in a future edition.

Readers of *Names* and other onomasts not familiar with *la langue de Molière* will be disappointed that such an important work is presently available in French only. From a North American perspective, this means the dictionary will reach a very limited readership. While one can appreciate the usefulness of such a publication within Québec, one should not underestimate its appeal outside its boundaries. After all, this book relates to the cradle of French civilization in North America and would certainly attract more readers if it were made more accessible.

Perhaps the Commission could have the dictionary translated into English and eventually into Spanish in the same way it handled its *Méthodologie des inventaires toponymiques* (Hudon 1986, 1987). The wealth of information and the high quality of the dictionary fully warrant the investment.

In all, this is a work in which the Commission can justifiably be proud on more than one account. It sets a benchmark against which future endeavors of this kind will be judged but more importantly, it is to be saluted as a major and substantial contribution to French onomastics in North America.

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The Guinness Book of Names. By Leslie Dunkling. 7th ed. Enfield, Middlesex: Guinness Publishing, 1995. Pp. 272. £11.99.

This new edition of an established popular book on names, first published in 1974, follows much the same pattern as the 6th of 1993 with, however, an additional and interesting chapter.

It is perhaps worth reminding readers of this review, in the unlikely event of their being unfamiliar with the book, that it contains chapters on many aspects of names and naming, from the general to the particular. Following an introductory chapter on the nature of a name, five chapters are devoted to first names, two to surnames, and one each to nicknames, British placenames, New World placenames, street names, pub names, house names, and trade names. A penultimate chapter then considers miscellaneous types of names aside from these categories, and a final chapter is given over to various sorts of "name games." The book concludes with a select bibliography of books on names that the author regards as useful, including eight of his own, and a comprehensive index. The book as a whole is basically a straightforward, readable, and logically presented text interspersed with informative tables, panels, and entertaining quotes.

The 6th edition had 16 chapters, four of which were on first names. The additional fifth chapter of this 7th edition is also on first names, but is offered as a selection of significant extracts from literature in which either the writer of the fictional work or one of its characters comments on a first name. A few quotes of this type were already present in the 6th edition, but their number has now been considerably increased. The chapter containing them, headed "First names appraised," has almost 300 quotes ranging in length from a few words to whole paragraphs, with the names themselves categorized by the author as "pretty," favored (at the time of the quote), or "annoying," and ordered in these three subgroups accordingly. (The "annoying" group is the largest.) Here is a typical quote, with a comment on the name *Adarene* from Edna Ferber's *Giant* (1952):

It was she who had been playing the piano. Adarene. One of those names that sounded made up.

The book overall undoubtedly remains the standard popular work on names. It is a pity, however, that the opportunity was not taken, while adding new material, to correct typos and other (mainly minor) errors

in previous editions. Thus there is still an incorrect biblical reference on what is now p. 19, a misspelled wine on p. 85, a garbled Russian word on p. 116, a list of Czech names stated to be Slovak (not quite the same) on p. 117, an omitted authorial name on p. 128, and some inaccurate stage name protonyms on p. 149. Further, although the extra pages of text since the last edition involved a renumbering of the hundreds of names in the Index, the page references of the 6th edition have not always been correspondingly altered, so that a cross-reference to numerology leads to p. 228 (names of hairdressers) instead of p. 245, while for a list of river names the reader is sent to p. 158 (criminal nicknames) instead of p. 175. Also, an ingenious flowchart for naming a baby on p. 87 advises the reader to see names "high on 1993 lists," although these no longer exist, having (quite properly) been updated to 1995 lists.

Such nits are not serious but even so irritate. Nor is the new chapter immune from fresh slips. Authors' names are misspelled (victims include H. B. Creswell, L. E. Tiddeman, Garrison Keillor, Robert A. Heinlein, J. I. M. Stewart, and Margaret Atwood) and some titles go awry (Jean Rhys wrote of a *Wide Sargasso Sea*, not a "Wild" one, Saki's story told of *The Secret Sin of Septimus Brope*, not "Snope," and the hero of Smollett's novel was *Humphry Clinker*, not "Humphrey").

I only mention such things because to the author names obviously matter. I also feel that, given the vagaries of name fashions, it would have been useful to have a date for each quote. A comment on *Molly* in 1866 (Elizabeth Gaskell, *Wives and Daughters*) was topical then but is hardly so now, and what is said about *Melanie* in 1981 (John Updike, *Rabbit is Rich*) already seems dated, a mere 15 years on. Such date information would add considerably to the interest and value of the quoted extracts.

The author is obviously free to recommend this book or that in his select bibliography, but I am not too sure whether he singles out early editions of some works because he regards them as superior or because he is unaware of later ones. William Freeman's *Dictionary of Fictional Characters* (1967), for example, has now long been superseded by Martin Seymour-Smith's *Dent Dictionary of Fictional Characters*, published in 1991, while Geoffrey Payton's *Payton's Proper Names*, a pioneering work when it first appeared in 1969, was revised and updated by John Paxton and reissued as *The Penguin Dictionary of Proper Names*, also in 1991.

Let us in the meantime enjoy Leslie Dunkling's latest offering, and look forward to a revised, 8th edition a couple of years or so from now—and maybe a real bumper number for all English-speaking namelovers in 2000!

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Geoname Digital Gazetteer

The Geoname Digital Gazetteer is a fascinating software package which, though limited, portends a rich future for onomastic scholars. Created by GDE Systems using the huge data collection of the US Defense Mapping Agency (which is, no doubt, why no US geographical names are included—presumably the defense establishment is not expecting an attack from Toledo), the compact disk data base provides an enormous potential for placename studies of countless varieties. If the potential user of this digital gazetteer is the type of person who can spend long periods of time browsing through a dictionary, then caution is advised, because the disk contains more than four million worldwide names found in over 200 countries.

The promotional material for this software states that the database can be queried in a variety of ways depending upon the particular questions which are being asked—by country, feature, type, name, or area, for instance, but those who demand the sophistication of Windows 95 or the speed associated with much smaller data sets will be disappointed. Users will need to be very careful with how they set up their queries or they will certainly spend long periods listening to their computer humming and staring at an unchanging monitor screen while they contemplate how they should have presented their question. And yet, there is great value to this package after one masters its idiosyncrasies. One valuable feature designed in by the creators is that the results of searches may be exported to other databases or spreadsheets where they can be variously sorted, a feature which makes it possible for the name scholar to more completely manipulate the material toward particular research ends. One hoping to use this product to its fullest will certainly want to devote adequate time to mastering it and the first

step in that journey should begin with the printing of the contents of GEOName Help which can be found by pulling down the Help window found on the main menu bar. Here are useful headings for finding assistance, but, before exploring much further, I strongly recommend that the directions found in Using GEOName - Examples: Example Queries be followed first in order to get a general feel for how this enormous collection of names can be best (and most efficiently) searched. While the directions are adequate, I hope that in future releases they can be made a little more user-friendly. In fact, I have been told by the creators that they will be.

In one example the user is invited to Search for all Second Order Administrative Division Names in Haiti. After a number of choices made by clicking the mouse on a series of selections I had a 25 second response time (and times will vary depending on the speed and capacity of the machine being used) until I was presented with an impressive list of, I assume, all of the 45 Arrondissements in Haiti along with the longitude and latitude of each, some variant names, and several other codes associated with the individual names. The name researcher can well imagine the value of such data, especially when doing comparative studies or when attempting to track the placement of names on new environs by settlers from another country. Spatial and temporal studies both would benefit from the richness of this collection. We can imagine from this one example, for instance, some interesting studies that might arise from naming practices in areas where Haitian immigrants to this country have settled, especially when one has easy reference to many of the names which these new arrivals have in the onomasticons which they carry with them.

As I stated earlier, though, the new user of The GEOName Digital Gazetteer must practice with the system. It is very easy to present a query to this package which results in the computer churning for a long period and producing no results. It is important to structure the queries in such a way that enough fields have been specified to keep the software from embarking on a wide-open search involving thousands of possibilities. I encountered the most difficulty myself in this regard when accessing the name map portion of the software where two clicks of the mouse enable a search of untold names within a specified geographic rectangle bounded by latitude and longitude. I have not yet been able to, for instance, specify a small enough rectangle within which I can retrieve a list of all the streams in that area. The searches, to date,

just continue on until I stop them. One sample suggested in the documentation (which, by the way, must be printed out directly from the help menus since the disk does not come with printed documentation although I am told that a manual will be provided with the next revision) suggests searching for the names of all of the populated places in Romania. The result of 29,100 such records indicates once again that care is required in structuring queries, both from the point of view of reducing the amount of time to receive results as well as from the perspective of usefulness. It is usually not productive after all to set out on a mission to boil the ocean, so to speak. You would not want to set your printer, for instance, to the task of printing all 29,100 names in this search unless you knew exactly what you had planned to do with the results. Most printers will get 25 names from Geoname to a page, so if you plan to print out many such large responses you had better have a pretty sizable paper and ribbon (or toner) budget. On the other hand, to transfer those 29,100 names, for example, to a spreadsheet where they can be variously sorted might well present the researcher with a very valuable method for solving onomastic problems. Perhaps, then, the most valuable aspect of Geoname to onomastic researchers is its ability to produce export files which can then be manipulated by other software packages. The cost of this software package is probably prohibitive for many researchers but, if you can be classified as an educator (and the seller's definition is very broad), you may purchase the disk for \$450 with a not insignificant annual update cost of \$300. On the other hand, noneducators are required to pay \$995 initially and \$400 for each annual update. Cost aside, though, here is an easily accessible software package designed to open new horizons for the onomastic scholar. Those interested may contact GDE Systems at P.O. Box 509009 San Diego, California 92150-9009. Telephone: (619) 675-2623.

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