

*Reinventing Modern Dublin: Streetscape, Iconography and the Politics of Identity.* By Yvonne Whelan. University College Dublin Press, 2003.

The struggle for Irish identity from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup> century was played out on many fronts: military, political, literary, linguistic, musical, and theatrical, to name a few of the more widely researched areas of modern Ireland. However, no part of the struggle was more illuminating than the naming of streets, byways, statues, and memorials in the capital city of Dublin, a process whose labyrinthian social history is skillfully recounted in this book by University of Ulster cultural geographer Yvonne Whelan.

Whelan establishes as the foundation of her study a persuasive modern historical arc for the city itself. Dublin enters the 20<sup>th</sup> century as a "status city of the British empire," but quickly finds itself the seat of Irish resistance and, literally, the battleground for Irish independence. (The unrepaired bullet holes from the 1916 Easter Rising still adorn the O'Connell Street post office and remain a popular Dublin tourist attraction.) The ambiguous nature of post-colonial Irish independence, with the "cooperation" and involvement of the English government in Irish affairs, keeps nationalistic fervor simmering from Independence in 1922 well into the 1980s. Then at the end of the century, as both cause and effect of economically prosperous times, Dublin somewhat improbably casts off its internecine fractiousness and adopts a new climate of accommodation and progressive internationalism, "confident in its Irish, European, and global identity."

Whelan argues that this complex metamorphosis of modern Dublin is re-told and revealed in the history of the naming and re-naming of city streets and landmarks as well as the politics of statue-building and memorialization. A case in point (the fabric of her argument is woven from dozens of thoroughly researched cases in point), is the re-naming of the main street north of the River Liffey from Sackville Street (after an English Duke and military commander) to O'Connell

Street (for Ireland's leader of the Catholic Emancipation movement in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century). The thirty-eight year interval (yes, 38 years) from the initial proposal to the official re-naming of the street forms a confluence of the major social and cultural forces at work throughout Ireland two decades prior and two decades following Independence: the presumed economic value of British iconography (and corresponding presumed economic liability of Irish or revolutionary iconography); the nationalists' need for establishing a strong symbolic presence in their own country; and the internal machinations of Dublin's naming commission, planning committees, and other power brokers.

One eye-catching sidebar in this study is Dublin's rich history of unscheduled monument destruction, specifically the bombing of statues of British royalty and nobility whose names and personages dominated the cityscape in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Whelan charts the incendiary demise of King William III, King George II, Lord Hugh Gough, the 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Carlisle, the Earl of Eglinton, and the world-famous 1966 bombing of Lord Nelson's statue down to its pillar in "commemoration" of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Easter Rising.

Save only a labored dissertation-like defense of commonplace methodology and an unnecessary argument for the value of onomastics in the study of contested territory (does anyone truly doubt that value?), *Reinventing Modern Dublin* presents its readers with no major weaknesses but some limitations. This is not a beginners' text or introduction to Dublin. With its strong emphasis on rapidly evolving urban landscape and heavy reliance on well-selected maps and historical photographs, the book will be of little value to someone who has never been to Dublin's City Centre, St. Stephen's Green, or the monument-laden Phoenix Park. Yet a single visit should be sufficient to begin reaping benefits from Whelan's study, while advanced knowledge of the city and its

history will only enhance the value of this highly commendable work.

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*Selected bibliography of the onomastics of the Uralian languages.* Ed. István Hoffmann. Trans. Judit Szilvia Várnai. Debrecen [Hungary]; Helsinki: *Onomastica Uralica*. 2001-2002. Volumes 1a and 1b, 469 pp.; 25 cm. English. Series: *Onomastica Uralica*. ISBN: 9634725643ö; 9634725651; 963472566X; ISSN: 1586-3719. Soft cover. Price is 10 euro (+ postal expenses). Order from: Sziget Könyvesbolt, 4010 Debrecen, Egyetem tér 1.; Pf. 76., Hungary. A full version of *Onomastica Uralica* is available at the following Internet address: <http://onomaural.klte.hu>

These books are treasure houses of onomastic references in the Uralian languages. There are thousands of citations by appropriate language and category. There are over 300 journals or other sources listed. Some would be familiar to *Names* readers such as *American Speech*, *Onomastica Canadiana*, and *Onoma*, but others, such as *Baltistica* and the issues of the *International Fenno-Ugristic Congresses*, might not be. Indeed, most of the sources are probably unfamiliar.

There are at least twenty languages in the Uralic group. There are three main branches: Finno-Ugric, Samoyedic, and Yukaghir. The Ural mountains are the assumed home of the proto-Uralic language. Finno-Ugric includes some languages that are familiar: Finnish, Estonian, and Hungarian. It also includes some languages that are not so familiar and which are included in this bibliography: Ingermanland languages

(Vote, Ingrian, Finnish), Karelian, Livonian, Vepsian, Saami, Mari, Mordvinic, Komi, Udmurt, and Samoyed. Volume 1a has chapters on seven Balto-Finnic languages by different authors. Peeter Päll has the chapter on Estonian. He cites about 900 onomastic references in several categories: Bibliography, General Onomastics, Placenames, Personal Names, Other Names, and Applied Onomastics. The languages involved besides Estonian include: English, Finnish, German, and Russian. The other chapters are similar in structure. The one on Finnish is by Eeva-Liisa Stenhammar; on Ingermanland [Ingria] (the region of Northwest European Russia whose ancient inhabitants were Finns) by Marje Joalaid; on Karelian (the border area between Finland and Russia) also by Marje Joalaid; on Livonian (the northwestern shore of Latvia) by Marje Joalaid and Lembit Vaba; on Vepsian (Karelian Republic and an area in St. Petersburg province) by Marje Joalaid; on Saamic (northern areas of Norway, Sweden, and Finland) by Kaisa Rautio Helander and G. M. Kert.

Volume 1b continues the series. Many of the languages discussed are in the CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States). The section on Volgaic languages has two parts, Mari (Mari Republic, Volga region) by I.S. Galkin and O.P. Vorontsova; on Mordvinic: Erza (Mordvin Republic, just south of Niznij Novgorod Oblast) and Moksha (western Mordvin Republic) by Sándor Maticsák and Nina Kazaeva.

The section on Permic languages has two parts: Komi (Komi Republic and parts of Archangel and Murmansk Provinces) by A. G. Musanov; and Udmurt (Udmurt Republic, Volga Region) by Lyudmila Kirillova. The section on Ugric languages has: Hungarian by Edit Hlavacska and Valéria Tóth; and Samoyedic languages (Siberia) by Sándor Szeverényi and Beáta Wagner-Nagy.

Reading over the bibliography one cannot help be struck by the wealth of bibliographic material on these languages. It is also striking how many branches of Uralic languages have existed in what is now the Russian Federation.

Perhaps many would have thought of Russia as mostly embracing Slavic languages.

The Hungarian section is especially complete and reflects well on the authors. Other very important sections are on Estonian and Finnish. There is an author index.

*Hungarian onomastics in Onoma*. Eds. István Hoffmann, István Nyirkos, and Ferenc Ördög. Trans. Judit Szilvia Várnai. Debrecen [Hungary]; Helsinki: Onomastica Uralica. 2002. Volume 1c, 260+ pp. 25 cm. English. Series: *Onomastica Uralica*. ISBN: 9634726615; ISSN 1586-3719. Soft cover. Price is 10 euro (+ postal expenses). Order from: Sziget Könyvesbolt, 4010 Debrecen, Egyetem tér 1.; Pf. 76., Hungary. A full version of *Onomastica Uralica* is available at the following Internet address: <http://onomaural.klte.hu>

Part 1c is devoted to bibliographies of Hungarian onomastics that appeared in issues of *Onoma* over the years. The first section, Bibliographies, contains the onomastic bibliographies that appeared annually in *Onoma* from 1954 to 1993. They are by Sándor Mikesy, Károly Gerstner, and Ferenc Ördög.

The next section, The History of Hungarian Onomastics, has five articles by H. Draye, Loránd Benkő, Karl Nehring, and two co-authored by Ferenc Ördög and László Vincze.

The third section, Studies, has reprints of articles by Béla Kálmán ("Parallele Ortsnamen in mehrsprachigen Gebieten"), István Sipos ("La formation des noms de famille vivants en milieu de langue étrangère, Katalin J. Soltész ("Die stilistische Funktion der Eigennamen"), Loránd Benkő ("Das neue ungarische etymologische Wörterbuch und die Namenforschung"), and Ferenc Ördög ("Der Eigenname im Unterricht").

The final section, Onomasticians, gives biographical material on eminent scholars. These include: Dezső Pais, János

Melich, Stefan Kniezsa, Géza Bárczi, Ladislaus Gáldi, Sándor Mikesy, and Elemer Moór.

The book contains a wealth of material that would not be easily available for most scholars and thus is a tremendous contribution. The bibliography section has thousands of items.

*History of the study of toponyms in the Uralian languages.* Ed. István Nyirkos. Trans. Judit Szilvia Várnai and Pál Lieli. Debrecen [Hungary]; Helsinki: *Onomastica Uralica*. 2002. Volume 2, 275 pp. 25 cm. English. Series: *Onomastica Uralica*. ISBN: 9634726909; ISSN 1586-3719. Soft cover. Price is 10 euro (+ postal expenses). Order from: Sziget Könyvesbolt, 4010 Debrecen, Egyetem tér 1., Pf. 76, Hungary. A full version of *Onomastica Uralica* is available at the following Internet address: <http://onomaural.klte.hu>

The first three issues of the series are a selected bibliography of onomastic studies in Uralic languages. This fourth issue deals with the history of placename research. It is a historical summary of the work of onomasts in the study of settlement names and hydronyms.

The first essay by Mihály Hajdú is on the history of onomastics from earliest times. Marja Kallasmaa reports on the status of Estonian names going back to the eighteenth century. Terhi Ainiala and Ritva Liisa Pitkänen review onomastic research in Finland. These three essays are followed by the work of G. M. Kert on Saami toponymy of the Kola Peninsula, by O. P. Vorontsova on hydronyms of the Mari El Republic, by Sándor Maticsák and Nina Kazaeva on Mordvinian placenames, and A. G. Musanov on Komi toponyms.

Finally, there are the contributions of L. Y. Kirillova on Udmurt toponyms, István Hoffmann on the last thirty years of Hungarian onomastics, Gábor Székely on Ob-Ugric toponymic research, and Sándor Szeverényi and Beáta Boglárka Wagner-Nagy on Samoyed research.

Taking all four issues, we can see they are an outstanding contribution to personal names and to placenames. *Onomastica Uralica* represents the only source available in English for much if not most of the items and will be of real value for scholars. The editors have already published some of the material in Hungarian, Estonian, and Finnish. Plans call for publication of these languages plus Russian for the series.

At the price, *Onomastica Uralica* is a real bargain. Highly recommended for libraries that have onomastics collections and collections dealing with Estonia, Finland, Hungary, and members of the Russian Federation.

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*Personal name studies of medieval Europe: Social identity and familial structures.* Edited by George T. Beech, Monique Bourin, and Pascal Chareille. Studies in Medieval Culture XLIII. Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA 49008-5432: Medieval Institute Publications, Western Michigan University. 2002. 205 pp, 1 graph, 5 family charts, 9 plates. \$40. Hard cover. ISBN 1-58044-063-0; \$15 Soft-covered. ISBN 1-58044-064-9.

The editors have brought together thirteen papers which were presented by a group of scholars as part of a colloquium "Personal Name Studies and the History of the Family" during the 32nd International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, in May 1997. This publication is significant because most of the contributors are Europeans and most of their previous publications have been in French, Portuguese, and Spanish. All of the papers here are in English. This gives those who are

not proficient in those languages an opportunity to learn a great deal about medieval names and naming that would otherwise not have been available.

In his foreword, Patrick Geary (Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, University of California, Los Angeles) points out that written sources of the medieval period are about the elite and the affairs of the great. Personal names and naming patterns can demonstrate aspects of the lives of ordinary people through business and other records. There were no "rules" that parents followed in selecting personal names. We do not know who chose the names, whether it was father, mother, or godparent.

George Beech (Professor Emeritus of History, Western Michigan University), in the preface, gives some of the background for the colloquium, describing movements that led to meetings that brought together French, German, Italian, and Spanish scholars. Beech points out that tentative conclusions are: (1) there is a need for basic facts of naming practices for different parts of the medieval world, (2) there is a need for the comparative approach, (3) it is dangerous to assume that naming customs were uniform for all people at a given time, and (4) it is important to go beyond the raw onomastic data to see what contemporaries thought about the assigning of names.

The individual papers are grouped into five sections: Part I: Methodology, Part II: Personal Names in the Early Middle Ages, Part III: Personal Names in Southern Europe, Part IV: Personal Names and Cultural Contacts, and Part V: Personal Names in the Later Middle Ages.

Monique Bourin (Department of History, University of Paris I, Sorbonne) leads off the presentations for Part I: Methodology with her "How Changes in Naming Reflect the Evolution of Familial Structures in Southern Europe (950-1250)." She points out that names practices varied and the regional differences were great. There was an evolution

marked by the appearance of double names. There is the question as to whether the development of surnames was because of increasing homonymy or was to show the male line. In order to answer this question, especially as it applies to the non-elites in the community, data such as wills and burial places need to be studied. Genealogies are good but need to be carefully evaluated. She points out that primogeniture did not occur in a region such as Languedoc until the late thirteenth century. She concludes that "the broad outline of the evolution in naming is mainly the sign of socio-political changes, the rhythms of which are not exactly those of the economy and kinship structure."

Pascal Chareille (Department of History, Tours) also deals with methodology with his "Methodological Problems in a Quantitative Approach to Changes in Naming." He explains that there are two approaches: the macro-analytic level and the micro-analytical level. The macro-analytic level deals with groups. However, the data are varied and there are several factors involved. Nevertheless, he has set up several criteria. For a corpus of data, he suggests (among other steps) that calculations be made for: (1) the average number of individuals per name unit of 100 individuals, (2) the proportion of the five most common names, (3) the minimum number of names necessary to include at least half of the unit, (4) the rate of homonymy. The micro-analytic level deals with the family level. It can show through genealogical techniques how the two-name pattern developed more quickly in some families or regions than others.

Régine Le Jan (Department of History, University of Paris I, Sorbonne) introduces Part II: Personal Names in the Early Middle Ages with "Personal Names and the Transformation of Kinship in Early Medieval Society (Sixth to Tenth Centuries)." She uses data from aristocratic families to show the change from the naming by variation where names repeated name elements such as a father named *Deorovaldus* having a wife named Bertovara naming their daughter

*Deorovara* to a naming repetition. Children tended to be named after their fathers. Religion was also a factor in that name repetition reflected Christian ideals about the role of paternal authority in the family. Further, repetition of a name showed a link between a royal name and the capacity to rule. Only legitimate sons carried the royal name.

Lluís To Figueras (Department of History, University of Gerona [Spain]) begins Part III: Personal Names in Southern Europe (Tenth to Thirteenth Centuries) with his essay "Personal Naming and Structures of Kinship in the Medieval Spanish Peasantry." He shows that the peasants were slower to change to the system of double names than were the aristocracy. The reason is that for the aristocracy there was a link to inheriting estates. For the earlier part of the time period, there was plenty of land. Later, ownership of land became more important and was linked to inheritance.

The next article in Part III is by Pascual Martínez Sopena (Department of History, University of Valladolid) "Personal Naming and Kinship in the Spanish Aristocracy." She evaluated three historical genealogical texts from northern Spain dealing with members of the aristocracy from the twelfth to the fourteenth centuries. At the beginning of the period, one son was not favored above all the sons. However, as time went on, some sons received the father's entire name, traditional surname (linked to a particular ancestor and were inherited from him, or they were linked to a region), *nomen + nomen paternum*. The transference of property to a single heir was also tied to this.

Robert Durand (Professor Emeritus, University of Nantes) continues Part III with his "Family Memory and the Durability of the *Nomen Paternum*." He studied the Portuguese aristocracy from the last part of the eleventh century until the fifteenth century. He points out that the *nomen paternum* promoted three conceptions of the family: (1) brothers and sisters had equal rights of inheritance, (2) relatives as

guardians of the family honor and inheritance, and (3) remembrance of the ancestors.

Benoît Cursente (Director of Research, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France Méridionale et Espagne, University of Toulouse le Mirail) follows with his "The French Midi reflected in personal names." In his analysis of different areas, he concludes that the two-element naming system was common by 1100. He also thinks that the troubadours influenced the naming pattern along with the spread of the Occitan language.

François Menant (École Nationale Supérieure, Paris) contributes next with "What were people called in communal Italy?" His report combines studies done by Austrian, French, German, and Italian historians in Northern and Central Italy from the single name period of the High Middle Ages to the time of the modern two-name system. He shows that the evolution did not take place at an even rate in different locations, that the urban centers were more advanced than the more rural areas, and that the evolution of naming reflects that of society.

Jean-Marie Martin (Director of Research, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Centre d'histoire de civilisation Byzantines, Paris) concludes Section III with his "Personal names and family structure in medieval southern Italy." This also represents the work of several scholars. The report explains that the region was composed of many small cultural areas using different laws (Roman, Byzantine, Lombard), different languages (Latin, Greek, Arabic) and having different religious affiliations (Islam, Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox). Sicily and southern Italy reached the two-name level more slowly than central and northern Italy.

Part IV: Personal Names and Cultural Contacts is introduced by Carlos Laliena (Department of History, University of Zaragoza) with his "Personal names, immigration, and cultural change: *Francos* and Muslims in the medieval crown of Aragon." After the Moors were driven out

of Spain, numbers of immigrants from many kingdoms and provinces came to Spain, though mainly from France. They kept their naming patterns, which were different from those of the local residents. A group with yet a different naming style, the Muslims, also existed in the area. While the usual Muslim name might have several elements, Christian authorities had their own way of reducing a Muslim name to two elements. However, within the Muslim community, people retained their Muslim names.

Marie-Adelaïde Nielen (Archives Nationales, Paris) completes the section with "Families of Outremer: A source of traditional naming customs." Her study was based on a genealogical document, the *Lignages d'Outremer*, originally written about 1270 and expanded about 1306-07. It deals with forty families of the Latin East, their marriages and their families. There are almost 1,300 individuals that are cited. In her analysis of masculine, family, and feminine names, she concluded that the families preserved the traditional names and naming rules of the West.

Patrice Beck (Department of History, University of Paris I, Sorbonne) introduces the final section, Part V, Personal Names in the Middle Ages with "Personal naming among the rural populations in France at the end of the Middle Ages." While at the end of the thirteenth century 10-20 percent of laymen and 25-30 percent of clerics lacked surnames, there was an evolution over the next two centuries so that surnames took over. The influence of the Church became stronger, influencing the choice of the first name, baptism, and godparents.

Joseph Morsel (Department of History, University of Paris I, Sorbonne) concludes the section and the book with his "Personal naming and representations of feminine identity in Franconia in the Later Middle Ages." He used seals on documents to demonstrate the role, status, and family connections in the evolution of names and identity.

The selections together represent a tremendous showcase of the body of knowledge on the role of onomastics in describing the evolution not only of the modern two-name style from the single name but also insights into the evolution of the family and kinship system, the role of the Church, and economic change. What is clear is that this evolution did not proceed at a uniform rate. Some areas were slower to change than others.

There are citations of articles and books throughout. The bibliography at the end contains over 220 items, many of which are probably not familiar to many Americans. These references are a mine of information on the Middle Ages.

The authors show what a powerful tool onomastics can be in understanding the change in the Middle Ages that led to the development of the modern period. The authors have performed a valuable service. This book is highly recommended for libraries with medieval history collections and onomastic collections.

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