

- a New Approach to Local Documents', Transactions of the Philological Society 1981, 67-117.
2. Gillis Kristensson, A Survey of Middle English Dialects 1240-1350: the Six Northern Counties and Lincolnshire, Lund Studies in English, 35 (Lund, 1967), 241-43.
 3. Eilert Ekwall, 'The Middle English \bar{a}/\bar{o} -boundary', English Studies XX (1938), 160-161.

JOHN INSLEY

Bad Königshofen/Grabfeld

GERARD TAVERDET (ed.), L'Onomastique, témoin des langues disparues: Actes du Colloque d'Onomastique romane de Dijon (27 - 30 mai 1981), Association bourguignonne de Dialectologie et d'Onomastique: Dijon, 1982, viii + 429 pp., 220 FF post free from the Association [c/o M. Taverdet, 22 rue de la Bresse, F - 21121 - Fontaine-lès-Dijon].

This Conference partly represented a breakaway by Romanists from the International Congress: further meetings are planned, starting at Le Creusot in 1984. Although focussed on France, its Proceedings - in which toponymics predominate over anthroponymics by about six to one (a paper on naming boats after saints being counted among the latter) - touch also on Belgium, Flemish as well as Walloon, and, more briefly, on Italy, Rumania and Greece; an index of the multitudinous name-forms cited would have enhanced the volume's usefulness.

The official theme of linguistic archaeology (does it suggest one for a Conference of our own?) is liberally interpreted; necessarily, topography and social and economic history and geography also play their parts. One paper considers the pre-IE elements, Basque and Iberian, preserved in the place-names of the Eastern Pyrenees, along the Gaulish frontier; another seeks evidence as to Romance pronunciation of Gaulish compounds. Others focus more narrowly: on the minor names of one commune and their affinities, from pre-Celtic to modern dialect; on one semantic complex, such as Celtic terms for 'marsh', Latin tree-names, medieval terms for 'farm' and for 'fallow', Franco-Provençal ones connected with building; on an individual place-name and its relevance to palaeo-dialectology; on the currency and the derivatives of a single element, such as Gaulish (or pre-Gaulish) bel- 'high' and *kalma 'bare plateau', Latin lucus and *cumdomus 'estate', Gallo-Roman nauda 'fen'. Others again analyze or edit early records, including a mid-fourteenth-century taxation-list from Bar-sur-Seine. An emphatically personal contribution is that of Pierre Bonnaud, who takes his native Auvergnat, threatened even more by Occitanian purism than by Parisian imperialism, and uses name-material to define its philological and historico-geographical identity.

Fair comparative material is thus here for students of Celtic and of Roman Britain. One paper encroaches more directly on what the Council likes to consider its special domain: Patrice Brasseur's field-name survey of Sark, where an archaic Norman dialect still just survives (cf. his articles in Annales de Normandie XXVIII (1978), 49-64 and 275-306). Field-names ('agronyms', 'microtoponyms') figure prominently here in the intensive studies of narrow areas; of wider application is Jean Germain's discussion of formats for their publication. Christian Camps's survey of current nicknaming in Agde echoes a recent preoccupation of our own pages [NOMINA V, 63-76, 80-1, 83-94, 95-104, and 121-3]; an insistence on social function, and in particular on mocking intent, contrasts most welcomingly with attitudes in some other recent work. With the long-term aim of working towards a new dictionary of French (or Romance) surnames, Dieter Kremer uses eleventh- and twelfth-century Occitanian records to illustrate some principles and problems of personal-name analysis, reminding us what a fine source for medieval colloquial usage might be found in the by-names, occupational as well as characteristic, fossilized as family-names.

Less specialized in interest is Paul Fabre's survey of the lamentable and still-declining state of Name-Studies in the French universities; pursued, if at all - as this very symposium stresses - mainly under Dialectology. Henri Draye gives a more cheerful review of place-name work in Flemish Belgium. Greater use of computers, for analyzing and mapping toponymic material as well as for storing it, is urged by H. J. Niederehe (from Trier in West Germany, where perhaps financial stringency bites less deep than in France and in Britain; his colleague Kremer in any case takes a more guarded view [p.308]). Jean Foyard expounds an eighteenth-century theory that place-names were, like language as a whole, ultimately derived from a few ancient phonæsthetic roots.

Kurt Baldinger, in his vote of thanks to the Mayor of Dijon, enunciated a universal 'principe méthodologique':

'Le sujet est choisi habilement puisque les noms sont tellement nombreux que leur nombre est presque inépuisable. Nous sommes pourtant conscients du fait que chaque nom expliqué définitivement est perdu pour notre science, que le domaine de notre recherche se rétrécit au fur et à mesure qu'on publie des résultats sûrs et que, finalement, nous perdrons inévitablement notre droit d'existence. Comme la statistique est à la mode, je dirais que 99% des onomasticiens en sont conscients. Il y en a quelques-uns, il est vrai, qui publient des travaux vraiment solides et irréfutables: ce sont quelques naïfs ou ingénus qui ne pensent pas à l'avenir de notre science. Mais, heureusement, c'est l'exception. Tous les autres procèdent autrement: ils prennent des hypothèses, en insistant sur le provisoire de leurs conclusions, de sorte que le sujet ne s'épuisera jamais' [page v].

CECILY CLARK

ADRIAN ROOM, Naming Names: Stories of Pseudonyms and Name Changes, with a Who's Who, Routledge & Kegan Paul: London and Henley, 1981, x + 349 pp., £9.75.

IDEM, Dictionary of Trade Name Origins, Routledge & Kegan Paul: London, Boston [USA] and Henley, 1982, vi + 217 pp., £7.95.

These are both bedside books, gossipy and dippable, dealing in whimsicalities rather than systems or principles. Nevertheless, a claim on our daytime, indeed professional, attention has been staked by their display at our Bangor Conference, and fully registered by their arrival on our Reviews Editor's desk. The topics, at least, are rich in socio-onomastic implication.

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In Pseudonyms, Mr Room chats about names which people have (mainly) picked for themselves rather than having had thrust upon them: from Anna Akhmatova, Muhammad Ali (olim Cassius Clay), Irving Berlin, Lewis Carroll, George Eliot, Margot Fonteyn, William Hickey and Ho Chi Minh to Saint Paul, Edith Piaf, Rasputin, Saki, Tintoretto, and so on. A seventy-page introduction precedes the main catalogue raisonné. Forty supplementary lists follow it, classified by the form or the motivation of change. Next stands a Who's Who-cum-index. Five appendices list: the 173 pseudonyms used by Voltaire and the 198 used by Defoe; selected lovers' pet-names culled from The Times's Valentine-columns of 1978 ('From Chublet to Booger-Face' - presumably of different genders, but which is which?); some wrestlers' ring-names (Gorilla Monsoon, Whiskers Savage); and, lastly, four pagefuls of supposedly improbable 'real' names ('. . . after all, there could be no pseudonyms or name changes without an original name to start with' [p. 339]). How much of human life is here! And all is great, good, clean fun; inconsequent enough, too, not to dispel a courted drowsiness.

Naïvely pedagogic - disabusing us of the notion that surname derives from sir(e), translating each foreign tag, instructing us how to sound the French alphabet - this book hardly, notwithstanding the invitation to review it, aims at NOMINA-readers, as indeed its show-bizy bibliography confirms. In Chapter I surname-creation and genealogy are greatly over-simplified. Throughout, the world-view reflects an innocent Anglo-American-centricity: noting how immigrants into America had their names Anglicized wholesale, 'Would people,' asks the author semi-rhetorically, 'ever change their English names to foreign ones?' [p. 8] - only if they were low enough cads to go on the stage, is the answer implied.

Life itself keeps slipping askew. For criminals, it is suggested, 'to have no name at all would be an excellent idea, since then the murderer would stand a good chance of escaping undetected' [p. 11]. A plagiarist is said to 'undergo a name change' when substituting his own name for the true author's [p. 19]. 'Our surname', we are assured, 'will probably continue to be borne by our own children' [p. 1] - not, surely, if 'we' are respectable Englishwomen.

The forebodings thus aroused are swiftly fulfilled. Nowhere is the basic premiss stated that the concept of a 'real' name is already elastic, because convention allows, perhaps expects, not only varied hypocoristic play upon first

names but also, even more, surname-changes consequent upon adoption, step-relationships, inheritance, marriage, and ennoblement. Hence few - foreign anthropologists apart - might find noteworthy those changes (unnoted indeed here) experienced by, say, Margaret Thatcher, née Roberts, and by Lord Dacre of Glanton, né Trevor-Roper. Yet, apart from symbolizing social structures (wherefore rebels against naming-customs are far from being so silly as they sometimes sound), these accepted changes should form the yardstick for measuring the more extravagant ones. Not so here. For women, surname-change upon marriage is, even in the 1980s, taken for granted; other familial name-customs get hit-or-miss treatment. Ennoblement (not to speak of the reverse process favoured by the one-time Lord Stansgate) is ignored.

This failure of definition lets in items barely ranking as 'change' at all: for instance, the Victorian Mrs Beeton; Confucius, a straight Latinization of the philosopher's Chinese name; Desi Arnaz, using the main elements of the actor's 'full' name; and (Don) Ameche, a 'phonetic' respelling of Italian Amici. Among genuine changes listed a good few are conventional rather than pseudonymous: Julie Andrews denotes a Julia whose stepfather was called Andrews; Richard, né Jenkins, adopted Burton from the benefactor whose legal ward he became; and Mozart's librettist took Lorenzo da Ponti from the bishop officiating at his adult baptism. As for the Americanizations of (Fred) Astaire from Austerlitz and (Maria) Callas from Kalogeropoulos, these were not effected by the celebrities listed but by their parents. Under all these heads one could, but for fear of alienating our Reviews Editor, go on down the alphabet . . .

Focussing (if that be the mot juste) on showy, not to say show-biz, pseudonyms partly blurs the view of name-change as rejection, or assertion, of group-membership. Yet even flamboyant fantasies obey social imperatives, and much folk-wisdom is therefore (give or take the howlers) garnered here for the winnowing. As Mr Room himself remarks, so closely do name and identity merge that name-change commonly forms part of a rite de passage and only in extreme cases, such as elevation to the Papacy, is the break clean. Time and again, as he shows, a new name, be it cartoonist's pseudonym or refugee's permanent identification, covertly asserts its bearer's 'real' identity by encoding - abbreviating, translating, anagrammatizing, or otherwise playing on - the original form (the modes acceptable for temporary pseudonyms should have been more sharply distinguished from those preferred for serious renaming). Alternatively, people seeking a new surname often take their mother's, or their maternal grandmother's: a practice here acknowledged, but without note of how it reveals patriarchy as less deeply engrained in the folk-consciousness than official usage would pretend.

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Well before setting eyes on Trade Names, I had noted the warm welcome it enjoyed from the media: from The Times's 'Diary' [28.iv.82, p. 14], Miles Kington's review in The Sunday Times [9.v.82, p. 43], and Radio 4's 'Stop the Week' [15.v.82] - to mention only such items as casually caught my eye or ear. Still, I had also perused Pseudonyms, and perhaps that nipped any budding parti-pris.

The books indeed show similar approaches. Here too the basic premisses are inadequately defined: it must be at least a moot point whether a full dictionary entry ought, unless justified by striking anecdote, to be allotted to any name consisting

simply of the original trader's or inventor's own (e.g., Addis, Bally, Bata, Bendix, Cessna, Chrysler, and so on [cf. pp. 3, 12, 14] or that of the original place of manufacture (Bournville, Longines); for such items simple listing would amply have sufficed. Inconsistencies abound: thus, Dry Sack - surely a tautology based on the Shakespearean (sherris) sacke, apparently from Fr. sec [see NED], the scrap of hessian sometimes figuring as a marketing gimmick being just a rebus - is relegated to an appendix of 'unexplained' names [p. 206], whereas full entries grace not just the equally unexplained Tio Pepe but also scores of other such, from Adamsez to Zubes (the latter perhaps representing, at my guess, 'jujubes for the tubes').

Predictably, from one who finds Mars bar 'alliterative' [p. 116], the formal side of naming gets short shrift - markedly shorter, indeed, than in Pseudonyms. Whereas prefixed qualifiers are treated in the Introduction [pp. 4-5], suffixes are relegated to an appendix [pp. 196-202]. The 'erratic' spellings repeatedly noted [pp. 4, 8, 16, etc.] are but weakly linked with the legal embargo on registering common generics [cf. p. 8]. Despite insistence on the recurrence of certain letters, notably o and x [pp. 193-6], nothing is said of the usefulness, for services often sought in the Yellow Pages, of an initial early in the alphabet. The mention of Dúnlop (tyres) disregards the shifted stress peculiar to this context [p. 3; cf. Dunlop cheese, distinct in other ways too]; and the entry for Maclean [ing one's teeth], the mispronunciation involved. Interactions between trade-names and current usage get skimmed. The everyday verbs generated by some over-successful product-names (to hoover [why not the logical back-formation *to hoove?], to xerox) are legalistically censured. Unremarked is the occasional adoption-back by household-name traders of colloquial diminutives such as Woolies and Marks and Sparks (vide the latter's cord jeans).

Again the readership envisaged combines magpie curiosity with minimal general knowledge. Avon is defined as 'a river', the Dolomites as 'a mountain group' [p. 13]. No foreign term escapes a gloss: not Allegro, beau [p. 5], Corniche, Corona, Gauloises (with a third-form history lesson, the like of which also encumbers Drambuie), rex [pp. 5, 198], nor Vespa. Among pet-food names Felix is singled out as unusually opaque [p. 12, cf. 76]; my own favourite, the French Canigou, is far too exotic for this company. The reader is not credited even with gumption [glossed p. 87], let alone the wit to etymologize Brillo, Mirro, Mobiloil, Sifta, Aero (chocolate) or Smarties. 'Saints' names', it is explained, 'are usually prefixed by "St" ' [p. 5]. The implications of qualifiers like Express and Sovereign are spelt out [p. 5].

Ventures into connotation veer between the over-literal and the surreal. A shoe-factory's name is linked with the local bishop's style [p. 128]. Any link between Maltesers and 'Maltese' is gravely discounted. Supposed, and supposedly helpful, free associations include 'jaguar' with Jaeger (but it's [jeIgə], surely), and the 'Oxbridge' (rectè: principally Oxford) sense of viva [vaIvə] with the car-name (surely [vi:və], as with España). Helpful? If these did work, they would per contra, and especially the former with its threat of a wildcat loose in the most correct of ladies' outfitters, send your Oxonian lady-reviewer to cower beneath the desk. But it is the supposed unhelpful associations that really reveal a knack of finding noon at 2 p.m. Of Typhoo it is remarked, almost with puzzlement, that 'the suggestion of "typhoid" ' seems not to have harmed the product's popularity; any 'viral' undertones in Virol are, upon consideration, rejected. Nor, it seems, has the name 'Omo, . . . with

its "threat-face" appearance . . . and suggestion of "homosexual" ' at all queered that marketing pitch [p. 14, cf. 130]. Although Fairy Liquid and Snow get only passing mention [p. 31, s. n. Ariel], their qualifier is listed among the signally wholesome [p. 4]; the underworld sense of 'cocaine' for snow seemingly goes unnoted.

Various gaps may surprise us. Galaxy, with its pun on lac(tic), is missing from the Mars constellation [but cf. p. 9]; missing too are the myriad TV, pop and space-age names for confectionery, ice-creams and savoury nibbles. The note on Dyane fails to observe the 'goddess'-theme characterizing Citroën names; Avenger and some other over-macho vehicle-names are ignored. Cosmetic- and shampoo-names are under-represented: no Amami(-night), despite its (Italian) etymological possibilities; no Camay soap, with its cameo-motif (cf. the identical French soap, Camée). Although the puzzlingly culinary Persil is almost explained, where are Daz, Rinso, Tide and Surf (the latter, through its rhymes with 'scurf' and 'the Turf', perhaps suggesting a bookie with dandruff)? Where is the Falstaff cigar, a heftier stable-mate of the Hamlet [p. 89]?

Even more than with Pseudonyms, this book's weakness lies partly in detachment from everyday life, in this case from the educative power of ITV 'break' and super-market shelf. No training in applied psychology, just normal self-awareness, is needed to tell one (as Mr Room does not) that it is with luxury items that brand-name magic is, for profit or loss, most potent: thus, although with its present name a much-advertised chocolate biscuit is not for me, yet renamed as, say, Newmarket the same confection might rapidly become my staple, my vice. Detergent, on the other hand, sells by supposed cost-effectiveness rather than by image, and hence perhaps better as an 'own' brand (a topic here neglected; but see, for instance, The Times, 26.i.82, p. 16) than under a fancy name. There remain, in mass as well as individual psychology, mysteries which Mr Room, with his blanket categories of '(un)favourable' and '(un)helpful', never attempts to plumb.

For all its shortcomings, this book can, however, inform and chasten: never, to my shame, had it dawned on me that Thames and Hudson represented the fluvial rather than the human face of publishing. And, of course, like its twin, it is fun, stuffed with titbits such as strategies for selling writing-paper to the illiterate [p. 110], the rural inspiration behind Turtle Wax, the naming of Milton antiseptic after the poet, that of the Liberty bodice from the store (and the store from its founder) rather than - as folklore had it - from alleged comfort in wear, and the presence behind Berlei corsetry of a Mr Burley.

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Certain incidental felicities like 'concentrated essence of beef and manufacturer' [p. 44] bring us back to the main charge against both these books: of a pervasive - worse, patronizing - sloppiness that 'popular' intent [Trade Name Origins, p. 3] in no way excuses. If I have seemed to be taking an axe to crack monkey-nuts, dismembering on the desk what was meant only to beguile on the pillow, I am unrepentant. Certainly both books represent feats of compilation from scattered sources, many of them in their own way rare and obscure; and for bringing the materials together and to public notice Mr Room deserves our congratulations as well as our thanks. Yet, whereas the themes promised comedy of manners, even satire, the treatments

hardly get beyond slapstick, if that. Too often, a labouring literalness defeats even the books' primary object: an entertainment needs more, not less, crispness of style than an academic monograph, more wit and ironical edge, more complicity with the reader. Just as 'The Last Night of the Proms' presupposes the performers' confident professionalism, so ought literary fun to rest on accuracy, logic, stylistic skill, and some philosophical consistency. Still, as the French proverb points out (albeit with an unacceptable sexism), we are foolish if we expect of anyone more than (s)he has to give.

CECILY CLARK

ADRIAN ROOM (compiler), *Place-name Changes since 1900: a World Gazetteer*, Routledge & Kegan Paul: London/Henley-on-Thames, 1980, xxii + 202 pp., £8.95.

Although they are not mentioned specifically among the intended audience ('geographers, historians . . . libraries . . . anyone who regularly works from maps of the world') listed by the publisher on the dust-jacket of Mr Room's book, members of the onomastic persuasion will certainly find much of interest in it. Any record of a name-change is important as evidence not only of the dynamics of name-production but also of the process of name-replacement, involving an indeterminate period of alternation.

In an introductory statement of the book's aims, sources, and arrangement, it is made clear that the changes listed are 'for the most part, those that have been officially decided' (p. ix), and some general trends in the official re-naming of places since 1900 are discussed. The highest proportion of names in the Gazetteer are those of China and the USSR ('of the total number of about 709,000 populated places in the USSR probably as many as half have had their names changed in some way since the revolution. As a general policy, all religious, monarchical and ethnically undesirable names are out . . .') (p. vi). Since the broad principle is said to hold 'that the more turbulent the history of a country, the more numerous are its re-namings . . .') (p. v), it is not surprising that hardly any examples are listed from the United Kingdom: even Enham Alamein in Hampshire (p. 39), which was Knight's Enham before 1945, commemorates a battle fought on foreign soil. Iceland is said to have changed none of her place-names since 1900 (p. viii), but no explanation is offered for this conservatism. Although not mentioned by Mr Room, the relative powers enjoyed by local, as against national, legislative and administrative bodies must play some part in the eventual success or failure of any attempts to re-name places in the modern world.

The alphabetical list or Gazetteer which forms the main part of the book has been collected from two main sources: published gazetteers or atlases; and information supplied by the officials of individual countries. Fifty of the printed works consulted are listed in the Bibliography, while the Acknowledgements (pp. xx-xxi) bear witness to the interest in the project shown by the staff of the many national bureaux concerned with the official names of places. Individual entries in the Gazetteer give the present name of the place, its status, location, former name(s) this century, and the years this century in which the former name or names were officially used. The following three names may be taken as examples:

- (p. 91) Mali. Republic, northwestern Africa: French Sudan (-1902, 1920-58), Senegambia and Niger Territories (1902-04), Upper Senegal and Niger (1904-20), Sudanese Republic (1958-60).
- (p. 179) Yamhsien. Town, southeastern China: Yamchow (-1912).
- (p. 185) Zhdanov. Town, Donetsk Oblast, Ukrainian SSR: Mariupol (-1948).

All entries are cross-referred from their old to their new names. Three Appendices provide lists of (1) the official names of countries as of 1 November 1978, (2) administrative and territorial divisions of the USSR, and (3) letter-forms used in the transliteration of Russian names.

The three main types of change or variation revealed by the Gazetteer are those that might have been predicted. They are as follows: the total replacement of one name by another; the replacement of one element in a compound by another; and the linguistic adaptation of name-spellings, due to the imposition of a new official language or a new official orthography in a country. Familiar to most readers will be at least some of a group of place-names whose members occur as examples of both the first and second of the above types. These are the many names which are commemorative of political figures and whose favour in official eyes lasts only as long as that of the individuals they commemorate. Among the victims of this phenomenon are people of such diverse beliefs as Eva Perón (the name of both La Pampa, a province, and La Plata, a city, in Argentina between 1952-55); Livingstone (the name of Mosi-oa-Toenja in Zambia until c. 1970); and Molotov (Peak Molotov, Molotovabad, Molotova, Molotovsk, Molotovskoye, etc., in the USSR, whose names were changed to others after Molotov's expulsion from office in July 1957).

What is striking in the material collected in the Gazetteer is not the type, but the scale, of the replacement of old names by new and the apparent acceptance of such changes as a legitimate political act of any national government. It would be interesting to know what proportion of the inhabitants of re-named places still call them by their former names a generation or more after such imposed changes. Mr Room observes (p. vii) that 'Russians still talk of the Battle of Stalingrad', rather than of Volgograd, the name of the place since 1961; possibly some of its oldest inhabitants still think of it as Tsaritsyn, its pre-1925 name. One consequence of an often unavoidable reliance on official sources (in all periods of history) is that we are not informed of the length of the continued 'unofficial' use of a name once it has been discarded by the makers of the records. Official influence on the form of the names of administrative centres has always been great. For the medieval period, it is often thought of as merely affecting the spelling of such names, but some name-changes, or name-modifications, must also have been imposed for the convenience of supra-local administrators (for example, when several estates in the same area had been named by reference to the same natural feature). Sweeping changes imposed by central government for reasons of political dogma are however a feature of the modern, rather than of the medieval, world.

Mr Room's book will prove of great use to those studying twentieth-century history and international affairs. It may also stimulate some further research into the circumstances under which the more individual of these names have changed since 1900. A future edition is promised (p. xxii) which will be more comprehensive, which will eliminate a number of the date queries, and which will include any new changes made since publication of the present edition. Consideration might also be given to a companion volume, more difficult to research, listing and, where possible, explaining all recorded place-name changes in the world prior to 1900.

ALEXANDER R. RUMBLE

DAVID HILL. *An Atlas of Anglo-Saxon England*, Basil Blackwell: Oxford, 1981 xii + 180 pp., 260 Maps and Figures, £16.

Dr Hill describes his *Atlas* as 'an attempt to display all the evidence on Anglo-Saxon England that can be placed in a topographic or chronological framework' (p. xii) and offers the maps and diagrams of which it consists as 'an illustration and a starting point' (*ibid.*) for students of the period. While it cannot be taken to be definitive, not only because Anglo-Saxon studies are still advancing steadily but also because of its own errors and omissions, the *Atlas* does have a distinct advantage, in its thematic approach and its book-format, over the agglomerate and rather unwieldy Ordnance Survey maps of *Britain in the Dark Ages* (2nd ed., 1966) and *Britain before the Norman Conquest* (1973).

Although stated specifically only once (on the front turn-in of the dust-jacket), the date-range of the *Atlas* is limited to A.D. 700-1066, the period for which we have fairly contemporary written sources relating to Anglo-Saxon England. Most of the illustrations are new, the rest being adapted from those which have appeared separately in recent work by various individual historians, geographers, numismatists, and archaeologists. After a brief *Introduction* which places the British Isles within the wider context represented by the eleventh-century world map in British Library Cotton MS Tiberius B. v, the *Atlas* is divided into five sections. The first section illustrates the general, national *Background* (nos. 5-40), and shows features such as land quality, average annual rainfall, coastline changes, forest cover, aspects of bias in the written sources, and a list of 'Kings and princes' 700-1066. The second section (nos. 41-134) is entitled *The Events* and contains many detailed illustrations of both specific occurrences and more general themes, above all, Viking above all, Viking trade and settlements within the period c. 731-1066. The following three sections display information concerning Anglo-Saxon society in so far as it reflects aspects of *Administration* (nos. 135-87), *The Economy* (nos. 188-236) and *The Church* (nos. 237-60). There is a short *Bibliography* (p. 167) and an *Index* of places named in the illustrations (pp. 168-80). Within these broad divisions of the book, groups of related illustrations are each introduced by a brief commentary, which includes references to the secondary literature.

Various standard sizes of map are used in the *Atlas* according to the amount of information to be included and the particular context in which it is placed. Some of the most successful illustrations are those which show a narrow chronological series of events, such as the movement of Viking armies c. 789-896 (nos. 49-64) and 980-1016 (nos. 108-29), or which display the contents and geography of a specific historical document, such as the Burghal Hidage (nos. 149-53), the will of King Alfred (no. 148), and the manning of a ship from the estates of St Paul's, London (no. 165). The so-called 'Itineraries' of various Anglo-Saxon kings are less useful than their title suggests, since they can do no more than record the king's presence at a particular place at very infrequent intervals and cannot really illustrate his progress in more than a very general way, as the surviving place-dates are only the smallest tip of a very large iceberg of lost information. Most of the maps and diagrams are quite clearly drawn, although the line marking the coast is rather too thick in the smaller maps, leading to some confusion between symbols, islands, and inlets. The lists of 'Bishops' (nos. 259-60, which helpfully include Popes) and the table of events showing

'The Vikings in the West 780-959' (no. 47) are very cramped and hard on the eyes and the use of double-page spreads for them would have been preferable.

Given the date-range of the *Atlas*, it is just excusable that there is no inclusion of maps showing the place-name evidence for Celtic Survival, the course and nature of the Anglo-Saxon Settlement, or the persistence of heathenism. However, very little use is made by Dr. Hill of place-name evidence and we read (p. 46) that this is because 'in general, it tends to illustrate themes not touched upon here'. Only six of the 260 illustrations show specifically toponymic themes: no. 41 is a map of the places named in Bede's *Ecclesiastical History* and also shows the nomenclature used therein to describe fortified centres; no. 68 shows 'Scandinavian place names of Eastern England' (limited to those ending in -by and to the 'Grimston' hybrids); no. 69 is a very generalised map of 'Scandinavian place names in the north and west' (of the British Isles); no. 104 shows Anglian place-names in Scotland (after McNeill and Nicholson); no. 195 is a map showing the areas in France in which Germanic place-names occur, for comparison with no. 194 which shows the areas in which open-field systems were used; and no. 211 shows the usage of various descriptive terms applied to towns in the north of the Carolingian Empire in the mid-ninth century. Toponyms are also interpreted to mark a possible Anglo-Saxon vineyard in no. 196 (at Radwinter; see *PNEssex*, p. 512) and three selected Anglo-Saxon mills in no. 197. Elsewhere, however, place-names occur as site-markers rather than as meaningful items. Although it is right and proper that much space in the *Atlas* has been allocated to the illustration of the better-known historical sources, readers of *NOMINA* will regret that more use has not been made of place-name evidence, particularly on a regional or local scale. Among suggestions for inclusion might be regional maps showing the interrelationship of English and Scandinavian place-names and their association with land quality; names reflecting the management of areas of ancient woodland; and at least one estate-boundary with notes on the boundary-points and the economic viability of the area delimited.

With an eclectic work of this kind it would be a miracle if there were not opinions or items of information which individual specialists would challenge (such as the possible location of Brunanburh in no. 100; cf. *PNCheshire* iv. 237-40 for arguments in favour of Bromborough, Cheshire). Much more reprehensible however is the very disturbing number of actual errors of transcription in no. 4, the 'Diagram of the Cotton Tiberius world map', which appears opposite a photograph of the original (no. 3). Among the many misreadings are *Deira* for *Daria* [*recte Dacia*], *Gothea* for *Gothia*, *Sud Bryttas* for *Sud Bryttas*, *Athense* for *Athenas*, *Pisidia* for *Persidia*, *Jericho* for *Hiericho*, *Dividus* for *dimidia*, *Anterior* for *citerior*, and *Cunocophales* for *Cinocephales*; words and some names (e.g. *Mesina*) are also omitted. A much more accurate transcription is that published as long ago as 1895 by Konrad Miller in *Mappae Mundi: Die ältesten Weltkarten* (Stuttgart), iii. 29-37, to which readers of Dr. Hill's *Atlas* should refer.

Emendments to some other information in the *Atlas* may be made as follows: in no. 20, the map showing the coastline near Hastings in 1066, *Battle* should appear as *Senlac* (cf. no. 229); no. 26, a distribution-map of Domesday Book population, shows the 1086 situation, rather than, as stated on p. 17, that in 1066; the earliest manuscript of the Tribal Hidage (British Library Harley MS 3271) is of the first half of the eleventh century, rather than 'tenth-century' (p. 77); and *?CEARN* in no. 189

should be identified as Charmouth (not Cerne, under which it is indexed on p. 170), see R. Forsberg in *Namn och Bygd* 30(1942), pp. 151-3.

Printing- and drafting-errors should also be amended as follows: no. 129, for Canute read Cnut (cf. nos. 124-6); p. 92, for 'Sawyer, charter no. 1363' read 'Sawyer, charter no. 1383'; no. 229, for Aswell read Ashwell; no. 239, the date beside this map of Anglo-Saxon dioceses should read 900 rather than 940, since the West Saxon dioceses were reorganised in 909 (cf. no. 240); no. 245, Winchester, for Birinius read Birinus; p. 167, for LIBERMANN read LIEBERMANN; p. 168, for Aliscros read Atiscros; p. 169, sub Bickleigh, add 154; p. 170, sub Cerne, delete 130 (and 189, see above); p. 171, and nos. 148, 159, for Damarham read Damerham; p. 176, and no. 253, for Prittleswell read Prittlewell; p. 177, sub Senlac, for 259 read 229 (and add 20, see above); p. 177, for Shaknoak read Shakenoak.

Dr Hill has managed to present a lot of information about Anglo-Saxon England in a manner which has a great deal of visual impact. Students of names are advised to approach it in the spirit in which it is offered, as a 'personal view' of the evidence (p. xii). If used with the same degree of caution reserved for other secondary works on the period, and not treated itself as a primary source, it should prove a handy addition to the available secondary literature describing the geographical and chronological context of Anglo-Saxon society between 700 and 1066.

ALEXANDER R. RUMBLE

DELLA HOOKE, *Anglo-Saxon Landscapes of the West Midlands: The Charter Evidence*, B.A.R. British Series, 95: Oxford, 1981, 380 pp. + 77 Figs., 4 Tables, £15.00.

Since the time of Maitland and Round, the extensive body of west midland charters relating to the counties of Worcestershire, Warwickshire, and Gloucestershire have formed the basis of considerable, and at times acrimonious, debate. Whilst the authenticity, rights and privileges and even the nature of society that is revealed have been fully explored, the numerous boundary clauses that accompany the charters have been surprisingly overlooked. Since the pioneering studies of G. B. Grundy in the 1920's and 30's, only H. P. R. Finberg's studies of Gloucestershire have devoted much attention to these important sources. In a series of recent articles, and now more fully in this B.A.R. research report, Dr Hooke has done much to fill this lacuna in our knowledge.

Anglo-Saxon Landscapes of the West Midlands centres its attention upon the boundary clauses and the detailed evidence they provide for landscape description. Part I is an introduction to the literature and sources for the study of landscape in the Anglo-Saxon period. The main substance of the work is found however in the middle two of the book's four sections. Part II deals with the origins and nature of the boundary clauses and the light they shed upon the territorial organisation of the Hwiccan sub-kingdom. Part III examines in detail the linguistic terms used in the clauses and how they can be related to Anglo-Saxon landscapes. The conclusion (Part IV) attempts to draw these threads together by providing a picture of selected regional variation in the agrarian landscape.

The work stems from the author's Birmingham doctoral dissertation and is underpinned by the meticulous 'solutions' of the boundary clauses that formed part of that study. A list of boundary clauses, together with selected 'solutions', appears in the Appendices. The problems of converting dissertations to readable publications are manifold and Dr Hooke must be congratulated on avoiding the worst of the pitfalls. However, much of the discussion still retains the tentative style of the cautious candidate unwilling to expose their neck to the possibility of the external examiner's sword. The background work of solving the bounds 'on the ground', albeit a subjective exercise, does confer considerable strength to the discussion of landmarks. Dr Hooke is able to relate the terminology of the bounds to a detailed knowledge of local topography, which when taken together with the usage of these terms in the general currency of place-names provides considerable illumination to our view of the pre-conquest landscape.

The approach adopted is an inter-disciplinary one, combining archaeological, historical, and place-name evidence with the spatial viewpoint of the historical geographer. Whilst this 'synthetic' approach affords many insights, particularly in terms of an overview of the whole Anglo-Saxon period, it does open itself to criticism from individual specialists. Historians may well be dismayed at the tendency to treat 'charters' *en masse*, almost as a single contemporaneous source removed from the date or context of their grant. The majority of west midland charters concern the Church of Worcester and obviously reflect the growth and development of its estates as well as attempts by that church to retain and order its

possessions. Boundary clauses are not necessarily contemporaneous with the accompanying charter and the richest in detail of the former are relatively late in date, being associated with grants of laenland in the period during and after Oswald's bishopric (A.D. 961-92). Whilst Dr. Hooke argues for the antiquity of these bounds it is also evident that not all parts of that church's estates were alienated in this manner and, even in those parts that were, Domesday Book reveals that the Church had been assiduous in retaining in demesne both the best agricultural land and the majority of the woodland.

The lack of temporal perspective within the context of the growth of the major ecclesiastical estates not only detracts from the discussion of territorial organisation, but also limits the analysis of boundary terminology. We do not learn, for instance, whether the terminology of the later leases was significantly different from that employed in the earlier estate grants. Also, place-name scholars might feel that the reliance upon existing, and often somewhat antiquated, transcriptions of the boundary clauses (by Kemble and Birch) diminishes the discussion of individual boundary terms.

There is always a danger that the reviewer will concentrate attention on what is felt lacking in a work rather than that which the author actually contributes. What Dr Hooke does contribute from her very detailed analysis is the extent to which the resources of this area were exploited during the Anglo-Saxon period. An admirable series of maps charts the distribution of both the more obvious agricultural and woodland terms as well as a range of other linguistic elements relating to enclosures (e.g. croft, haga); routeways; mills; fisheries (e.g. waer, haec); quarries (e.g. pytt, crundel); and features of archaeological interest (e.g. burh, dic, hlaw). The regional summaries relate the disparate strands together well and argue a strong, if not unfamiliar case, for continuity of occupation in the Avon valley and north-east Gloucestershire. Dr Hooke is also able to demonstrate the early and considerable exploitation of woodland areas, such that, even in an area as richly endowed with woodland as the west midlands, the Anglo-Saxons by no means viewed it as a totally expendable commodity. Indeed, in certain areas, such as the marl plain of Worcester, there is increasing evidence that much woodland may have been regenerated since Romano-British times.

Despite the somewhat static view of the Anglo-Saxon landscape that is presented, Dr Hooke has added many colourful pieces to the kaleidoscope of our knowledge of the period, even if all the pieces do not as yet fall into a coherent pattern. After reading this work one is even further convinced that R. V. Lennard's famous description of the England of William I as being 'an old country' could with equal justification have been applied some five centuries earlier.

J. D. HAMSHERE

B. S. MAC AODHA, ed., Topothesia: Essays in Honour of T. S. Ó Máille, Galway, 1982, xxi + 179 pp. + 1 plate, 6 figures, 2 maps, £12.50 (IR£15), including postage, from The Secretary, Department of Geography, University College, Galway, Éire.

It is not every year that a member of the Council for Name Studies is honoured by a collection of essays, and this volume is a delightful one of its kind. Professor Ó Máille has been publishing articles on place-names since 1946 (and on other matters since before the war), and place-names form the longest section of the classified bibliography which precedes the essays. The collection itself has a thoroughly international flavour, including discussions of place-names in various parts of Europe, and in North America. Its emphasis (as the title indicates) is strongly geographical rather than philological: most contributors have paid attention primarily to the meanings of place-name elements as ways of describing the landscape. Being restricted in this way, the volume reflects only one aspect of its recipient's wide interests; the advantage is that there is cross-fertilisation between the essays, with many covering similar topics in different geographical areas.

The essay by Pierre Flatrès discusses the different words for describing the natural features of the landscape in Brittany. He concludes that the wide variety of terms in use is more an aspect of dialectal variation than of geomorphological precision. It is worrying to be told that komm 'trough' is not found in place-names, since Bernard Tanguy has published apparent examples of its occurrence (paralleled in Cornwall). One would like to know what the element in Com, Coumou, etc., is instead.

There follows a collection, by three American geographers, of place-names used as common nouns in English. The list includes 'hamburger', but not its derivative 'beefburger', nor such nonce-formations as 'vegeburger' and 'dragonburger', all of them implying that hamburgers contain ham. 'Sandwich' and 'cardigan' are not listed, so that the authors miss the idea (whose was it originally - Paul Jennings's?) of the interesting results in English if the Earls of those respective places had had each other's interests.

The third essay, by the American geographer Meredith Burrill, discusses the difference between the ways in which geographers and other people look at the landscape: when one finds that the place-name categories are not as precise as one would expect (as several essays here do), it can be explained on the basis of this difference.

Ian Matley compares the mountain toponymy of the Scottish Highlands, Norway and Romania. Anglo-Saxonists (and Romantic poets) will be relieved that he finds no indication that the Gaels are more responsive than their Germanic neighbours to their natural environment. Romania is more distinctive, both for geomorphological reasons and because of the different economic uses made of the mountainous regions. However, like Flatrès, Matley finds some of the variety of Romanian words to be due to dialect rather than precision.

Aino Naert studies a strongly Swedish area of southern Finland and shows, from the minor names in early documents, that the Finnish language continued to

flourish long after it had been supposed, from other sources (or rather, the lack of them), to have died out.

Deirdre Flanagan contributes a useful collection of early forms for the name Belfast and for other Irish names of the city; the original name was Fearsad 'sand-bank', whence Béal (Átha) Feirste 'the mouth (of the ford) of the sand-bank', which goes along with a group of other names in Béal Átha-. (Watson found that in Scottish Gaelic beul-átha 'ford-mouth' was common in speech, but rare in place-names.) The river name Farset is a back-formation.

Henri Wagner studies the supposedly Brittonic background (based on one or two of the names) of an early Irish tale, Esnada Tige Buchet 'The songs of the House of Buchet', and gives a valuable interpretation of an obscure poem related to it. The Brittonic nature of the names is not uniformly convincing (Banba, for instance, could well be Irish - cf. Scottish Banff, etc.); and the change of Old Irish *aichtenn 'gorse' to aittenn is not unique in its loss of ch before t (cf. the same change in Old Irish littiu 'porridge' and otrach 'dung-heap'); however, this does not affect his main thesis, that the woman's name Eithne may be borrowed from Welsh elthin 'gorse', in the sense 'pubic hair'.

W. F. H. Nicolaisen, the second of two Council members to contribute, gives a historiographical account of the reception in Scotland of Joyce's Irish Names of Places (1869-1913). Egon Felder gives an archaeological and philological discussion of the only named Celtic shrine in southern Germany; the name survived for long after the shrine had ceased to be used. The discussion of Gaulish nem- and its cognates in words meaning 'sacred place' is most useful, but I would like to know more about the 'large wood in Cornwall' called Nemea; perhaps the names Nymet and Nympton in Devon are intended, rather than Nemea, which is in Greece.

Christian Matras gives an account of Faroese place-names containing words of Gaelic derivation; it is particularly notable for giving the complementary Faroese evidence on *ærgi 'shieling', alluded to by Gillian Fellows Jensen in the Journal of the English Place-Name Society 10 (1977-78), page 18, and in NOMINA 4 (1980), page 68. For explaining the names of Great and Little Dímun in the Faroes, Matras cites Martin Martin's Timan, a lost name for Eilean Mòr in Loch Snizort, Skye. Even closer, however, is Eilean Dìomhain, off the south-east of the Isle of Jura, containing Gaelic dìomhain 'idle, worthless' (the name was translated in 1549 as 'the Idle Ile' by Dean Monro): this might well be applied to the precipitous Faroese islands.

D. P. Blok discusses the common Gallo-Roman place-name suffix -iacum as manifested in northern Belgium (plus two in southern Holland). It entails a methodological problem, for it is to be distinguished, apparently, from the common Dutch suffix *-ikja-; yet the near-exact conformity of the two distributions to modern national boundaries is rather suspicious. Moreover, of the thirty-five Belgian names listed as containing -iacum, only eleven at most actually show forms in -iac-, etc.; the rest are in the same documentary condition as numerous Dutch names in -eke or -ike. It seems as if national habits among modern philologists may be more significant than is usually reckoned with.

Domenico Silvestri examines certain place-names held in common on both sides of the Adriatic sea, between Italy and the Balkans, and distinguishes northern and southern 'dialects' of the place-names. The conclusions are necessarily based on rather few names, many of them doubtful, as Silvestri points out. Botolv Helleland contributes a piece complementary to that of Ian Matley, an account of the ways in which the place-names of a single community in western Norway reflect cultural activities. Here the value of Helleland being a native of the area concerned, and thus also dealing in his native dialect, is apparent, for he is able to draw fine distinctions between similar landscape terms (e.g. for valleys, hills and streams).

E. R. Seary's survey of Newfoundland place-names covers, in chronological order, Portuguese, French, English, Basque, and Irish names, concluding, however, with native Indian names, some of which are perhaps the earliest. There is much of interest. For this reviewer, the information that there are fourteen sets of tidal rocks called 'The Brandies' (English dialect brandise 'trivet') is of value, for as well as the Irish instance that Seary cites, there are three further cases in Cornwall. One may doubt whether 'blue', as applied to hills, necessarily indicates Irish influence; compare the Blue Mountains outside Sydney, Australia, and Housman's 'blue remembered hills'.

The volume concludes with a geographical survey of common elements in Spanish place-names by Breandán Mac Aodha, including some derived from Arabic (Medina 'city', Guad 'wadi, winterbourne'). Overall, it is well-produced (except for Silvestri's essay, where the hyphens and dashes are hopelessly confused and the Greek has been badly mauled). In contents, like all the best festschrifts, it is slightly quirky, and very stimulating. Professor Ó Máille must be well pleased with his gift, and all place-name scholars will be grateful to Professor Mac Aodha for bringing the collection together, and to 'Óg-Thomás' for being the cause of it.

O. J. PADEL

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