

Reviews

GORDON COPLEY, *Archaeology and Place-Names in the Fifth and Sixth Centuries*, British Archaeological Reports: British Series 147, Oxford, 1986, 151 pp., £10.

In the past two decades, place-name scholars in England have applied themselves in part to establishing a broad relative chronology for English place-name types. Following Dodgson's seminal paper on *-ingas/-inga-* in south-east England (*Medieval Archaeology* X (1966), 1-29), Cameron, Dodgson, Gelling and the present reviewer, *inter alios*, have analyzed a range of name types of Celtic, Latin and Old English origins and the broad framework of a chronological sequence of generics in place-names has begun to emerge. In general, such discussions have been those of philologists with only an unsystematically acquired knowledge of the companion disciplines of archaeology, history and geology which are essential ingredients of the potage of settlement studies. In preparing his *Archaeology and Place-Names in the Fifth and Sixth Centuries*, Copley took as his starting point the archaeological remains of the earliest Saxon and Jutish settlements in the south-east and then attempted to relate English place-names to such established sites in order to throw fresh light on the tentative broad chronology for names proposed by the philologists. Such an approach was long overdue.

Copley organizes his materials in two principal sections. The first treats fifth-century sites in detail (pp. 23-79). The second, which is a postscript, is entitled "'Early" and Sixth-Century Sites' (pp. 80-108); here the sites are treated much more summarily. This postscript is extended by a further postscript on the region south-west of Cambridge and that of the lower Avon valley, both probably settled by folk of Saxon culture (pp. 109-15); here the author makes no attempt to differentiate between fifth- and sixth-century remains.

A typical entry in the detailed discussion of fifth-century sites presents the place-name most closely associated with the archaeological site, the dates of its earliest appearances in records, an interpretation of it, an account of the archaeological materials found at the site, an indication of the number of late Roman sites within a ten-mile radius, the number of pre-English names within the same area and also that of "'Early" English place-names'. These last are defined as names in *-hām*, *-ing²*, *-ingahām* and

-ingas. Next come descriptions of the site's 'agriculture' and of access to it. Each site entry thus provides a wealth of worthwhile material concerning the individual *locus*.

The presentation of the "'Early" and Sixth-Century Sites' is disappointing by comparison. Place-names, earliest recordings, interpretation, and reference to place-name discussion are provided, plus a brief description of the archaeological remains and the publications treating them. The postscript to this postscript is treated in the same way.

Although the study ostensibly presents us with a rigorous, systematic response to place-name chronology through the medium of archaeology, the result appears confused and confusing. An introduction, which is at the same time the analysis of the materials to follow in combination with an on-going explanation of processes and the layout of site articles, is not a lucid beginning (pp. 1-22). More importantly, one suspects that there was a hidden agenda to Copley's research, namely the re-establishment of the greater antiquity of *-ingas/-inga-* place-names: hence his introduction and his treating especially that region which Dodgson examined when questioning, in 1966, the conventional historical wisdom regarding *-ingas/-inga-*.

The title of Copley's study, *Archaeology and Place-Names in the Fifth and Sixth Centuries*, obscures the fact that this is primarily a study of Saxon and Jutish sites in south-east England. It begs the question to what extent we can accept as general truths, applicable to the whole of England with its variety of terrains and mix of early Germanic cultures and peoples, the results of examining a limited area. Copley's assertions concerning names in *-hām* illustrate the problem. He notes that

the differences in the two distributions [i.e., of *-hām* and of *-ingas/-inga-*] are insufficiently marked to be of any great significance except in casting serious doubt on the theory that *-ingas* names imply secondary settlement and *-hām* primary settlement (p. 4).

There are several points to be made here. The first is that it has never been claimed that *-hām* is always a marker of primary settlement. Names such as *Kirkham* (Yorks.) from OE *cyrice-hām* and *Bispham* (Lancs.) from OE *biscop-hām* dispose of this notion, while place-names from OE *wīc-hām*, where the prototheme is directly from Latin *vicus*, or those such as the East Anglian *Swaffham* in which the ancient tribal name *Suebi* is compounded, illustrate just how early place-names with the generic in *-hām* can be. Secondly, in the Midlands and East Anglia, place-names in *-hām* bear little relationship to those in *-ingas*. One must

emphasize that Lincolnshire, for example, shows an almost diagrammatic distinction between regions of *-hām* names, those of *-ingahām* names and those of *-ingas* names, with names in *-hām* relating significantly to early archaeological sites. In other words, what may be true of the Saxon and Jutish south-east of the country need not be true of Anglian areas to the north. Thirdly, it seems inappropriate for the author to cite the evidence of distributions without providing any distribution map whatsoever. The piece cries out for the visual. We need to see clearly how Copley's evidence refutes such a simple disengagement of Anglo-Saxon pagan burial-sites and *-ingas/-inga-* place-names as is presented in Dodgson's map of Surrey, for example. The cumulative detail of the section on fifth-century sites is, as presented, very difficult to retain and apply.

One ponders the nature of Romano-British survival in various parts of England and its possible influence on the patterns of the place-names which we have inherited. For example, our evidence suggests relatively strong Romano-British survival in the south-east, while in Lincolnshire and East Anglia it seems to have been negligible. Is this a factor in such a preponderance of *-hām* names surviving in the east and not in the south-east? Or have a greater number of place-names in *-hām* been lost in the south-east because of a more widespread later division of such estates there and renamings in *-tūn*? Our knowledge of the history of land division in various parts of the country is patchy to say the least. It may well be that in the south-east, as Copley suggests, there are 'no compelling topographical or archaeological reasons for believing that *-ham* was in use earlier than several place-name terminations' (p. 3). In Lincolnshire and East Anglia there are such reasons.

In discussing *-ingas/-inga-* formations, the author observes that both types 'are essentially the same' (p. 3). Is this true? An *-ingaword* or an *-ingatūn* surely denoted a precise location of limited size. By contrast, a name in *-ingas* was a folk name with all the attendant complications of its becoming restricted to a settlement via, perhaps, its having earlier named a *regio*. And it is not always clear what Copley means by '*-ing* names' (as on p. 3). Presumably he is using the term to refer both to *-ingas* and to *-ing²* formations, despite their being very different in kind.

One of the problems of Copley's approach, as he himself recognizes, is that of associating a particular place-name with an archaeological site. This is of especial importance when we consider the nature of a place-name type. How can one, for example, meaningfully associate an archaeological site with a place-name in *-gē*? *Lyminge* has focused onto a settlement: but

what of *Surrey*? What of names in *-hām* which may well have signified estates of some magnitude (*Bispham* is hardly 'the homestead of the bishop')? What of the great multiple estates such as those with names in *-dūn* (proven in use very early)? Such names shift in the landscape. In Nottinghamshire, *Farndon* (OE *fearn-dūn* 'fern-covered hill') is on the flat valley-floor of the River Trent with no vestige of a hill for miles around; it must once have referred to a large estate taking its name from the hilly country to the west of the Trent Basin.

Copley's underlying approach to the dating of place-names is valid and long-needed: that is, looking initially at archaeological sites and then building patterns of relationships with types of place-names. But, as presented, each article in the section on fifth-century sites assumes an early date for names in *-hām*, *-ingahām*, *-ingas* and *-ing²*, in advance, as it were, of any chronology developing from the archaeological evidence. The author notes that *-tūn* 'is the [generic] most frequently associated with sites of the pagan period' (p. 5). If the frequency of the association of a generic with pagan sites is meaningful, then by Copley's method *-tūn* is surely important and early. By contrast, because of what he sees as the lack of association of *-hām* names with pagan sites in the south-east, the author discounts them as possible ancient markers. But when discussing personal names in place-names, Copley concludes that 'the *-ingas* and *-hām* place-names associated with early sites are so ancient that they hark back to a period of the language from which some of the vocabulary has been lost' (p. 9). As we know from historical evidence, *-tūn* often denotes late subdivision of larger estates; and, because it is the commonest place-name type extant in England, it is the likeliest to be associated with pagan remains and yet not be an indicator of the earliest settlements. One has to sympathize with Copley's lament that 'the tentative conclusions reached in this study are disappointingly negative' (p. 20).

The way in which the evidence is presented makes it difficult for the reader to distinguish the wood from the trees, to bring into focus any real achievement. One senses that the author set out to prove a point, to re-establish the antiquity of *-ingas* names, and that it is in this respect that his findings have proved 'disappointingly negative'. The accumulating postscripts suggest an increasing impatience in the process of search for the elusive philosopher's stone.

BARRIE COX

DELLA HOOKE (ed.), *Medieval Villages: A Review of Current Work*, Oxford University Committee for Archaeology, Monograph No. 5, Oxford University Press: Oxford, 1985, 223 pp., 97 line-drawings, £19.50.

Despite its attractive front cover, this is not a book which will appeal to a popular market. It is (or perhaps one should now say 'was') an attempt at a 'state of the art' survey of current research programmes centred on medieval settlement in the countryside. In this respect, the title is slightly misleading since the collection includes several papers which have little or nothing to do with villages *per se*.

The Introduction states that the volume is expected to have a useful life of only five years. Given that most of the papers were presented at an Oxford conference in 1982, it seems appropriate to assess the usefulness of these papers at the end of that period.

The volume comprises an introduction, then sixteen articles by fifteen contributors. After introductory remarks by Trevor Rowley and what is essentially a prefatory contribution by Peter Sawyer, there follow five papers which concentrate on methodology, and ten case-studies, of three of which Wharram Percy provides the subject matter. It is, however, far from a simple division, since all the methodological contributions use case material and the case-studies offer a wide range of research strategies. Indeed, the papers that centre on Wharram Percy, in particular, are about strategy rather than being an attempt to serve up the results.

As one might expect from such an active research area, there are paradoxes, and even contradictions, between some of the papers, which there has been no attempt to resolve. One example will suffice. In an essay which looks further than most towards systematization, Brian Roberts offers a series of models to assist in the examination and analysis of village plans or maps. Many historians remain hesitant about the relevance of seventeenth-, eighteenth- and, even more so, nineteenth-century map material to the study of the medieval village. Paul Harvey takes the unusually well-documented communities of Cuxham and Boarstall (Oxon.) to make precisely this point, demonstrating the difficulties of mapping medieval villages from contemporary sources which, for Boarstall, include a sketch map of 1444-6.

There is a real attempt to draw case studies from as wide a geographical area as possible, including Wales, Scotland and Lancashire. In the sense that this enables the volume to encompass as many of the specifically regional research constraints as possible, this is admirable. The volume is the more varied, and as a

result the richer, for the inclusion of studies of non-nucleated or dispersed settlement on Dartmoor or in the Lancashire lowlands.

Perhaps the strongest impression from the whole is the high level of current commitment given to this research area. Many of the papers offer interim results only, but display a welcome degree of ingenuity and flexibility in techniques. Among the research tools on show, one obvious omission is that of Aerial Photography, perhaps on the assumption that, after Beresford and St Joseph, this can now be taken for granted. Another is the comparatively low profile of field-name studies, an omission less easy to understand.

Social and economic history functions within this time-scale through detailed case-studies, the results of which can then be compared and common experiences identified. Such a process requires a reasonably numerous and representative sample of investigations from which to draw conclusions and on which to test them. The study of the medieval village may now be passing from the primary phase of research, when all studies are essentially historical anecdotes, relevant only to themselves, towards a situation when greater comparisons are possible. If so, then this work is an important contribution. However, there is within its pages an occasional and somewhat pessimistic sense that, while much is being achieved on the journey, few researchers have much confidence in their destination. If this be true, the final statement which we should expect from most research programmes will be unremittingly interim in nature, even by the subjective standards of conventional history. Even for Wharram Percy, there is doubt expressed as to whether or not the end result of forty years' research will be a substantial increase in our understanding of the rural past or just an ever-increasing list of questions to which we have to subject an unusually unresponsive body of data. It is, however, on the basis of that project that Philip Rahtz offers us the wider time-scales within which the archaeology of the rural community should be studied, along with a comprehensive research and management scheme by which to pursue the objectives.

The need for excavation which is both more extensive and more systematic is stressed in several contributions, although papers like those of Richard Morris and Della Hooke demonstrate that much can be achieved without cutting a turf. How can such enhanced strategies be utilized on a regionally effective basis without a substantial increase in funding? It remains to be seen, but it would not benefit the study of the British countryside as a whole if research money were henceforth to be funnelled into an

unrepresentatively small sample of sites, leaving entire regions effectively unresearched.

Many of these papers will appear in references for years, maybe even decades, to come. That is their individual justification. The volume is justified by the need to marshal a corpus of papers of such variety and offering such a range of stimuli and present it to as wide an audience as possible.

At the last, it would be improper to omit mention of two minor irritations in the presentation. There is no index. Nor is there any attempt to rationalize or systematize the very numerous illustrations, which are bewildering in the variety of their symbols and hachuring. Both shortcomings might have been remedied without undue difficulty, but neither detracts from the undoubted academic value of this useful and attractive volume.

N. J. HIGHAM

D. J. STAGG (ed.), *A Calendar of New Forest Documents, The Fifteenth to the Seventeenth Centuries*, Hampshire Record Series V, Hampshire Record Office for Hampshire County Council: Winchester, 1983, xli + 346 pp. + one plate, £8.00.

This volume is a sequel to *A Calendar of New Forest Documents 1244-1334*, also edited by D. J. Stagg for the Hampshire Record Series and reviewed in *Nomina* IV (1980), 97-9. The high standard of editing has been maintained. Surnames have been faithfully transcribed as they appear in the documents, as have those place-names where the spelling is of interest because it is early or previously unrecorded, or where identification has not been possible. All the documents, except two, are printed here for the first time, and concern the proceedings of the Forest courts, the earliest being a swainmote of 1487 and the latest a Forest Eyre of 1670. In addition, the editor has provided appendices listing Lord Wardens or Keepers of the Forest from the fourteenth to seventeenth centuries, and Forest Officers 1487-1489, 1622, and 1660-1670. There is a most useful introduction on the legal and economic management of the Forest and a comprehensive index of names.

It goes without saying that calendars of documents provide a particularly convenient source of material for students of names. The volume under review provides plenty of evidence for continuity and change among family names in the New Forest. It is interesting, for example, to compare the surnames indexed in this volume with those in the earlier volume of *New Forest*

Documents. Of 153 names beginning with *S* recorded between 1244 and 1334, only 26 (17%) reappear in documents from 1487 to 1670. These 26 names constitute slightly less than 30% of the 90 names indexed in the later volume. Such statistics trigger important questions in one's mind. To what extent do the calendared documents reflect the name stock at any one time? How much migration was there into and out of the New Forest? How many of the surnames recorded between 1244 and 1334 were hereditary? Presumably hereditary naming was the normal practice in Hampshire by the fifteenth century. However, on p. xi of the preface to the present volume, Stagg draws our attention to several late fifteenth-century instances of an individual's surname exactly corresponding to his occupation (*viz.* those of fletcher, butcher, merchant and saddler). Were names and occupations both hereditary, and, if so, for how many generations?

Perhaps the most valuable of the later documents are the grants of forest rents made in 1608, 1609, 1613, and 1631, for they provide not only detailed information on the inhabitants of the Forest, their status or occupation, and their landholdings, but also abundant evidence for the names of fields, closes, and other plots of land.

Publishing material of this kind and with this standard of scholarly care opens up opportunities for those engaged in name studies, and the far-sighted policy of the Hampshire County Council in publishing this excellent record series is to be warmly applauded.

PETER McCLURE

R.W.V. ELLIOTT, *The Gawain Country*, Leeds Texts and Monographs, n.s. VIII, University of Leeds School of English: Leeds, 1984, 165 pp., unpriced.

Alliterative poets of the fourteenth century seize every opportunity to describe dramatic scenery, whether of distant lands, as in *The Wars of Alexander*, or at their own back door, as in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. Their topographical vocabulary is both wide-ranging and precise, consisting of the terms applied to their own hills, woods and rivers, mainly in the North-West Midlands.

In this collection of previously published studies, R. W. V. Elliott examines this vocabulary, paying particular attention to terms rarely found outside the North-West Midlands and providing useful analysis of their distribution and signification. It is thirty years since he first claimed to have identified the site of

the Green Chapel in *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* as Ludchurch, north of Leek in Staffordshire. Every visitor will agree that this is a thoroughly 'wysty' place; and, even if the identification is not entirely convincing, Elliott's essay on the names and scenery in the locality increases our understanding of the kind of landscape the poet was describing and the topographical terms he used for doing so.

Other chapters look at words used by this group of poets for hills and valleys, woods and forests, and streams and swamps. These should be read in conjunction with Margaret Gelling's *Place-Names in the Landscape* (London, 1984), which discusses many of the same terms, using the topographical rather than the literary evidence. Thus her discussion of OE *hop* assembles and analyzes all the place-name evidence, from which it is clear that the meaning of *hope* in alliterative poetry, 'small enclosed valley', is too widespread to have originated from the ON cognate *hóp*, as suggested in Smith's *Elements* and followed by Elliott. The absence of ON *bekkr* from alliterative poetry, which Elliott mentions but does not explain, is particularly interesting in the light of Gelling's discussion of its patchy distribution in place-names, for it is less common in Lancashire and Cheshire, the home of alliterative poetry, than in the surrounding counties. Elliott rightly says that the term *cumbe* in *Mum and the Sothsegger*, a poem probably from Gloucestershire, is 'clearly visualized with a sense of topographical precision'; Gelling supplies that precision, discussing the application of *cumb* to bowl-shaped valleys with three steep sides, and commenting on its frequency in Gloucestershire to refer to the Cotswold valleys.

The term *clough* is defined by Elliott as 'deep valley, ravine', certainly its meaning in some cases. There are, however, several curious instances where the *clough* is described as 'high' (e.g., *Morte Arthure*, 941, 1639). In context this cannot mean 'high (i.e., upland) valley'; rather it must refer to the high sides of a ravine. With this might be compared the ME place-name *Halteclo*, *Haltclogh*, etc., (taken to involve OFr *halt* > *haut*), which develops later into *Haltcliff* (Cumb.), as mentioned by Gelling, p. 88. Presumably *-cliff* is here a substitution of a commoner term, similar in form and also, in this context, referring to the same topographical feature.

Elliott's discussions of three terms in the rich topographical vocabulary of *The Wars of Alexander* require modification:

wald: the suggestion that in line 3792 the word is used to refer to 'arid, treeless countryside' (p. 123) cannot be entertained. The term is repeated in line 3799 and in both cases means 'woodland',

as is confirmed by the reference in line 3795 to *þe wod*.

spene (cf. ON *spenni?*): this seems to have developed the generalized sense 'place'. In line 4162 it clearly cannot denote 'place with thorn bushes', which Elliott (p. 128) derives from OFr *espine*, 'thorn', in view of the poet's vivid description of the locality as:

all of wast fildis,

Quare nouthire holtis was ne hilles ne no hiþe eggis,

Bot all as planir & as playn as a playn table. (4136-8)

The word is most fully discussed by Smith, *PN Yorks. ER*, 330-2.

lawe: the sense 'pass between hills' (p. 90) fits aptly in the context of line 5485; it is, however, derived not from OE *hlāw* but from ON *lágr*, that is, it represents *MED loue* n. (3) 'a low place, a valley' rather than *loue* n. (1) 'a hill, mountain'. The poet uses the same word to mean 'ground' as opposed to 'stars' in line 5514, describing Alexander's aerial ascent:

How þat he liftid miþt be fra þe lawe vn-to þe liþt sternes.

THORLAC TURVILLE-PETRE

GEORGE R. STEWART, *A Concise Dictionary of American Place-Names*, Oxford University Press: New York — Oxford, 1985 (in Britain, 1986), xl + 550 pp., Paperback, £6.95.

When, in 1970, this volume was first published in hardback under the title *American Place-Names: A Concise and Selective Dictionary for the Continental United States of America*, its author, the novelist-scholar George R. Stewart, already established as one of the foremost students of names in the United States through his earlier narrative *Names on the Land* (1945), won considerable praise for what was, to all intents and purposes, a landmark in the study of North American toponymics, i.e. the first nationwide compendium of its kind based on the best evidence available at the time and on proven principles of scholarship and research. Although maybe not its equivalent in all respects, here was at long last a New World publication to be placed beside the four editions of Eilert Ekwall's *Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names* (1936, 1940, 1947, 1960), its reliability guaranteed by the quality of the sources the author had consulted and listed as proof in his extensive bibliography. Even this genuine and well-deserved admiration for Stewart's achievement, however, never tried to conceal the fact that this was a 'first' and that subsequent systematic and rigorous research might well augment, improve, confirm, correct or contradict Stewart's findings. After all, the

study of place-names in the United States had only recently received a considerable boost through the formation of a *Place-Name Commission* by the American Name Society, promising, at that time, the organization of state-centred place-name surveys, covering the whole country like a patchwork quilt.

While the euphoria about the potential impact of these surveys on the study of place-names in the United States, and perhaps even in North America as a whole, may have been premature, nourished by hope rather than realistic thinking, the ANS *Commission* and its activities, guidelines and general encouragement have nevertheless had considerable influence on toponymic research in the U.S., one tangible result being Robert Rennick's *Kentucky Place-Names* (1984). Similar 'dictionaries' have come, among others, from Texas, Indiana, and Maryland, and there is now, of course, also Kelsie B. Harder's *Illustrated Dictionary of Place-Names, United States and Canada* (1976). North of the border, in Canada, in addition to *The Macmillan Book of Canadian Place-Names* (1978), place-name compendia covering several provinces have also been published. Eighteen more volumes of *Names* and a host of monographs and articles have also, since 1970, made noteworthy scholarly contributions to the subject, both in its local immediacy and in its theoretical implications.

None of this lively and substantial advance in scholarship is reflected in the paperback edition of Stewart's *Dictionary*, to whose 1970 text not one word has been added, just as if the intervening sixteen years had never been and as if the dedicated work of many competent labourers in the vineyard had never happened. The OUP appears to have lost a great opportunity here, even if any kind of minimal 'revision' had been limited to a few pages of addenda to the Bibliography, in which the latest items listed date from 1967. When the decision was taken to republish Stewart's compendium, it must have been either forgotten that the author's findings had been the first, not the last, word on the subject, or else not considered feasible (because too expensive?) to ask one of the several well-qualified name-scholars active in the United States today to provide judicious and updating revisions. Naturally, if you do not own the hardback edition of 1970, you should purchase this one, for it is still a very fine piece of patient and painstaking scholarship, but if you do possess the earlier edition there is no need for you to buy this one. Offering, in 1986, word for word, the considered pronouncements of 1970 without any qualification or modification is not the best use of modern reprint technology, however

lavish the praise may have been for the original product sixteen years ago.

W. F. H. NICOLAISEN

J. SANDNES & O. STEMSHAUG (eds.), *Personnamn i Stadnamn*, NORNA-rapporter 33, Tapir forlag: Trondheim, 1986, 227 pp., Norw. kr. 139.

The articles which appear in this volume were originally delivered as papers at the twelfth NORNA-symposium, held in May 1984 at the University of Trondheim. The book contains much of interest to people studying personal names in place-names; but there are some irritating faults of presentation to be overcome before proceeding to the meat of the text, not least the lack of information about contributors.

The basic format of article + discussion + notes + summary (in either English or German) is unnecessarily fragmentary. The discussion, taken out of context and abbreviated, adds nothing to the original article; and the length of it as recorded varies from article to article, seeming to suggest a sliding scale of merit, whereas length of discussion is often dictated by extraneous factors such as the imminence of lunch or, less facetiously, the absence of the person most competent to discuss that paper.

A further irritant is a certain inconsistency in the choice of languages. Why, for instance, is Þórhallur Vilmundarson's article 'Um Persónunöfn í Íslenskum Örnefnum' (rightly, in my opinion, recorded in Icelandic) immediately followed by another article on Icelandic names, this time written in Swedish — 'Personnamn i Isländska Gårdnamn' by Guðrun Kvaran, Sigurður Jónsson and Svavar Sigmundsson? There is probably some explanation which the editors could have provided, along with one of the variable choices of language in which to summarize the articles.

However, the articles themselves, in whatever language, are well worth the effort of translation. The opening article by Oskar Bandle, 'Den Tyske Navnetypen Personnavn + Grunnord belyst fra Nordisk Materiale', is a thought-provoking piece on a fundamental question which, Bandle says, has been given scant attention, i.e., the question of the age and the nature of origin of the common settlement-name type *personal name* + *generic*. He refers to the work of Adolf Bach, who postulated that the type originated in the Frankish area and spread from there in Merovingian times throughout the whole of the Germanic one, and questions this theory in the light of important Scandinavian

evidence. Bandle rejects English names of this type as evidence, because there is so much disagreement about the derivation and age of the names. Basically, he argues, with reference to the Nordic material, that, even given a reduced estimate of the number of supposed personal names occurring in old place-names, these are so frequent that the principle of *personal name* + *generic* must have been established before there could have been any infiltration of the type from Frankish usage. Magnus Olsen and Andreas Holmsen have suggested that the name type arose in the Viking period in connection with the transition in the socio-economic system from the collective to the individual. Bandle suggests that this theory should be re-examined because it is fraught with difficulties. Few would disagree with his general conclusion that further work needs to be done.

Another article which deserves particular mention because it demonstrates a need for further research is that by Thorsten Andersson entitled 'Personnamn i Distrikts — och Bygdenamn'. Andersson's interest lies in the rôle the persons in question may have played in the origin of the place-names. The article is divided into three sections examining (1) personal names in parish names, (2) personal names in *härads* and *hundare* districts, and (3) personal names in settlement districts. Not surprisingly, Andersson points out that there are several examples of saints' names in the names of churches and parishes and that the reverse is true of settlement districts, where personal-name specifics are uncommon and topographical references predominate. More surprising is the finding in the section dealing with *härads* and *hundare* districts, where Andersson points out that personal names are, contrary to previous belief, very scantily represented, thus casting doubt upon the dearly-held theory that local magnates played a decisive rôle in the origin and stabilisation of these divisions. They may have done, but place-names cannot tell us so. Andersson's article, in fact, serves to underline Bandle's request for a re-examination of the origin of the type *personal name* + *generic*.

Several articles deal with the vexed question of whether a specific is actually a personal name, perhaps of nickname type, or whether it is the related common noun. Sigurd Fries, for instance, discusses place-names such as Danish *Fugelsø*, Swedish *Kalvsvik* and Norwegian *Steinseng* and, in the context of these generics, favours common nouns as specifics. Reinert Kvillerud admits to encountering a similar problem of identification in his study of personal nicknames in the place-names of Bohuslän. Þórhallur Vilmundarson, in his clearly presented discussion of personal names in Icelandic place-names, argues convincingly for a great

reduction in the number of personal names which have hitherto been presumed to occur as specifics in place-names. The writers of the following article, Guðrún Kvaran, Sigurður Jónsson and Svavar Sigmundsson, are not entirely convinced by his arguments; but their remit, in the preparation of a dictionary of Icelandic personal names, is to find such names, and one is, therefore, hardly surprised to find some scepticism of Vilmundarson's theories.

The problems experienced by Stefan Brink in his analysis of personal-name specifics in North-Scandinavian *stadir* names were of particular interest to the Scottish reviewer, who is only too familiar with the difficulties which arise from lack of source material. The presentation of findings in tabular form in this and several other articles is very helpful to the reader, who can then assimilate information at a glance. Similarly, illustrative distribution maps are welcome and one occasionally regrets the non-appearance of such a map, as with Lars Hundén's discussion of the occurrence of personal names in the names of the villages and farms of Ostrobothnia, in which the admixture of Swedish and Finnish-type names to which he refers could have been so clearly illustrated on a map.

An article which appeals to the reviewer because of the unfamiliarity of its subject matter is that by Botolv Helleland, entitled 'Personnamn i Genitiv nytta som Bruksnamn'. The idea that personal names in the genitive should be used as place-names in their own right, with reference to divisions of a farm, is alien in a Scottish context. In fact, Helleland points out that, whereas there are examples in Norway, Sweden and other Germanic countries, the type is not known in Iceland or Faroe, or, one might add, the north of Scotland. To the best of my knowledge, although a farm/abode in Scotland can, of course, be referred to by the name, in the genitive, of the family who live there, this form of reference would not extend beyond their death or departure for other reasons and it would not be restricted to a part of a farm.

W. F. H. Nicolaisen goes a step further and discusses the use of personal name as place-name, without even the genitival *s*. He points out that the sheer numbers of such names in the New World mark this as a predominantly modern phenomenon, but it has occurred in previous centuries and he cites some early Scottish examples.

Space does not permit a detailed commentary on all articles in this worthwhile book, and my comments reflect my own preoccupations. There is, however, something to interest everyone

who is engaged in the study of personal names and/or place-names, whether Scandinavian or otherwise, and I would thoroughly recommend its purchase.

DOREEN WAUGH

ANN-CHRISTIN MATTISSON, *Medeltida nordiska borg- och satesgårdsnamn på -holm*, Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis, Nomina Germanica, Arkiv för germansk namnforskning XVII, Almqvist & Wiksell: Uppsala, 1986, 232 pp., no price stated.

This book on medieval Swedish castle- and estate-names in *-holm* presents a remarkable range of material, examining place-names in a wide cultural, historical and topographical context. Ann-Christin Mattisson sets out to establish whether the *-holm* element was used primarily of sites actually on holms or whether it assumed particular cultural and social associations, in the process losing its topographical significance of 'islet'. Previous research had firmly suggested that *-holm* names applied to castles and estates in Sweden were given, not for topographical reasons, but because of the high status associated with castles such as Borgholm and Stockholm and consequently with the *-holm* naming-element.

In the first section of the book, Mattisson summarizes previous work and presents the sources to hand, discussing the meaning of the element *-holm* in Swedish place-names and the characteristics of castle-building in Sweden. There then follows a detailed 'gazetteer' of the fifty-two castles and estates in Sweden whose names contain the element *-holm*. The gazetteer includes standard spellings, earliest recorded forms, pronunciations, map references and full discussions not only of etymology but also of topographical, genealogical, archaeological and historical background. The final section considers the function of *-holm* as a naming-element, including its topographical, linguistic and social implications.

There are three detailed case-studies, two illustrating the individuality of name-giving processes and the third locating a hitherto unidentified estate centre, Æmpnisholm, by using linguistic, archaeological and genealogical evidence. Borgholm, the earliest castle with a *-holm* name without the topographical requirements (recorded 1285), is shown to have been named after the example of the city of Stockholm. At this time, however, the fashion seems to have begun and ended with Borgholm for there followed, c. 1300, a generation of castle names in *-hus*, and *-holm*

reverted to being an element signifying location on an islet. The second case-study concerns the first estate to be renamed in Sweden. Bo Jonsson, the Swedish chancellor, adopted a German practice when he changed the name of his castle, Näsboholm, to *Gripsholm*. Like German castle-names such as *Greifensteinen*, the new name alluded to the griffen (*grip*) on the family's coat-of-arms.

Mattisson's conclusions are convincing. Of 52 castles and estates with *-holm* names, 39 (75%) were actually on natural holms; 6 (11%) were on mounds partly surrounded by water; 2 (4%) were on man-made holms; and only 5 (10%) were on sites which provided no topographical reason for the *-holm* element. Of these five, Borgholm was the earliest recorded (1285); the other four, Näsholm, Örboholm, Hörningsholm and Grensholm, are not recorded prior to 1400.

The book is packed with information — at times, when irrelevant details intrude, with rather too much information. Occasionally, there is also a need for broader conclusions and comparisons. For example, Swedish castles and estates were also commonly named in *-borg* and *-hus*, and some comments on these naming elements in the light of the *-holm* names would have been useful — it is insufficient merely to be pointed in the direction of Mattisson's article on *-hus* names. Nevertheless, Ann-Christin Mattisson's book exemplifies the importance of meticulously examining place-names in their full topographical, historical and etymological context in order to isolate the very individual reasons behind name-giving.

LINDSAY J. MACGREGOR

THORSTEN ANDERSSON (ed.), *Nordiska Namnstudier: Festschrift til Harry Ståhl 22 September 1985*, Lundequistska Bokhandeln: Uppsala, 1985, 430 pp., c. 320 SwKr.

This *Festschrift* was offered to Harry Ståhl on his eightieth birthday by Scandinavian colleagues. It contains 37 contributions, a small number of which are by Danish and Norwegian scholars, the great majority by Swedes; and they are all going to appear also in *Namn och Bygd* LXXIII-LXXV, so for someone looking for a list of really nice people I suppose the *tabula gratulatoria* of this book must be the place: a high proportion of those appearing here are no doubt subscribers to that journal and so would get the articles anyway.

As a whole these 37 papers form a typical birthday miscellany with all its good and bad qualities — the bad ones, I am afraid, in danger of outweighing the good. Some authors have taken the opportunity to take up subjects that Harry Ståhl has himself studied, one of them paying tribute to his qualities as a recorder of place-name pronunciations, others enlarging on arguments they have already advanced in other contexts, and some having excavated from their desk-drawers studies that were apparently only waiting for some opportunity to be completed. Although these papers are all competent and solid work, it adds up to boredom. Most papers are concerned with the etymologies of one or a small handful of names, like *Tybble* or *Skuleberget och Skuleskogen*, or a single element like *Ås(e)-*, and the authors are mostly content to solve these narrow problems; only a few discuss the importance of their findings in any wider context. Don't they think it is any of their business, or didn't they wonder about the perspectives of their work? There are, of course, some exceptions. John Kousgård Sørensen's little study of *Nor* in Denmark is a valuable contribution to the current discussion about the so-called Swedish dynasty in Hedeby, and Folke Hedblom and Sigurd Fries contribute to agrarian history and dialect studies respectively; a few others might be mentioned. One would also have liked to see more comparisons with names in other countries. To mention but one example, Lena Peterson in her study of names involving the word *hjul* 'wheel' could have strengthened her case by reference to names in OE *hwēol*.

Place-name scholars are sometimes consulted in administrative and legal matters. Allan Rostvik gives an interesting account of the involvement of *Ortsnamnsarkivet* in Uppsala in three cases regarding the use of place-names as trademarks, and Leif Nilsson and Eivor Nylund Torstensson discuss the problems arising out of computerization of land-registry records and the lack of understanding among Swedish administrators of place-names as cultural heritage.

Strangely, considering the strong Swedish tradition for English name studies, only one contribution has an English subject. This is Karl Inge Sandred's study of the word *beorhstede* in the Old English poem *The Phoenix*, which is convincingly interpreted as 'place of refuge' rather than 'place on a mountain, mountain-place, a mound', as suggested by the standard Old English dictionaries.

NIELS LUND

PATRICK HANKS AND FLAVIA HODGES (eds.), *The Oxford Minidictionary of First Names*, Oxford University Press: Oxford and New York, 1986, xxxii + 288 pp., £1.95.

It would be inappropriate to quibble over-much about the lack, in this little pocket-book, of scholarly nuance which neither its size nor its intended audience permits, but some of the expedients demanded by simple explanations at short length may cause some hackles to rise. It is not strictly true, for example, that a name-element always has to be 'a word or suffix in ordinary language'. It might also have been wise to include 'Norman' in the glossary of terms, to show that, as used here, it is shorthand for OFr names of Germanic origin introduced to England as a result of the Conquest, and does not imply that these names were peculiar to Normandy. Respectable and well-known names among the acknowledgements inspire confidence in certain areas, but a more stringent vetting of names of OE origin would have avoided, for instance, the assumption repeated through the three pages of *Ōs-* names that all instances of *Ōs-* in OE were late borrowings of the Scand cognate, capped by the self-contradictory entry for *Oswin* 'a late OE personal name' that cites St Oswin, 'a seventh-century king venerated as a martyr'.

On the whole, however, uncertainties and controversies are given fair airing *en route* to the desired 'meaning', but the main interest to serious name-scholars will be in the picture given of naming practices in the late twentieth century. This book is up-to-date to the point of being ephemeral, reflecting a kind of semi-literate, rootless free-for-all in which pretentiousness and deliberate informality are unlikely partners, and the mingling of cultures is indiscriminate. Though space is at a premium, *Sid*, *Reg* and *Bert* appear as individual headings. The anecdotes concerning famous name-models echo the connotations of the 'mini' in the title — popular, cheerful, and not too concerned with dignity. The bright, washable, plastic cover is obviously intended to attract a public new to Oxford Dictionaries.

VERONICA SMART

NOUVELLE REVUE D'ONOMASTIQUE: I/II (1983), 132 pp., pts issued separately at 60 + 80 FrFr; III/IV (1984), 192 pp., 200 FrFr; V/VI (1985), 190 pp., 220 FrFr; VII/VIII (1986), 196 pp., 220 FrFr. Obtainable from: Secrétariat de la Nouvelle Revue d'Onomastique, 87 rue Vieille-du-Temple, 75003 — PARIS.

The death in 1978 of the publisher Madame d'Artrey entailed an abrupt demise also for the *Revue internationale d'Onomastique* produced under her patronage since 1949. After a five-year gap, the journal was happily reborn as the *Nouvelle Revue d'Onomastique*, the official organ of the Société française d'Onomastique — rather as *Nomina* is of our own Council. The new one took up where the old had broken off, beginning (as the present writer records with gratitude) by printing the contributions stranded in the *RIO*'s pending-tray.

Since 1984, a special pattern of publication has been adopted. Each year the *NRO* appears as a double volume: double in the sense that, although pagination is continuous, the first half represents a symposium devoted to one specific region of France (III — the Auvergne; V — Picardy; VII — the Pyrenees; — IX the Ardennes), whereas the second ranges more widely, but not by any means world-wide. This journal — again rather like our own — is geographically focused, on French toponymy and anthroponymy rather than just on Onomastics *tout court*. The book-reviews that it carries nevertheless bring in the whole Romance domain; and occasional articles also treat of areas outside France, such as Rumania and Corfu.

Apart from insights into how a partly-related name-corpus is seen through a partly-independent scholarly tradition, the *NRO* has two main things to offer readers of *Nomina*: on the one hand, frequent discussions of the Celtic, in the event mainly the Gallo-Roman, stratum of West-European place-names; on the other, localized surveys of medieval personal-naming, often relating to districts that sent post-Conquest settlers to this country.

CECILY CLARK

HUGUENOT AND WALLOON GAZETTE, I, part iii (Spring 1987), 36 pp. [41-76], £3 *p.a.* for two issues inland — overseas rates upon application. Obtainable from: The Editor, Mrs J. Tsushima, Malmaison, Church Street, GREAT BEDWYN, Wilts. SN8 3PE.

Founded in 1985, this genealogical magazine serves 300 subscribers, mostly themselves claimants to Huguenot ancestry. As well as publishing notes on individual pedigrees and studies of kinship webs, it gives advice to amateurs seeking to trace their own family origins. Necessarily, its concerns partly overlap with our own, and the present issue includes one article on defining a 'Huguenot' name (possible only in a genealogical sense) and others upon the onomastic complications arising from the parts played in Huguenot history by Flanders and by Switzerland.

CECILY CLARK

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Compiled by C. Clark and M. Bateson

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- WRIGHT, see DUNKLING.

Work in Progress

I — current 1987; II — in prospect

GENERAL

- BRODERICK, G. (University of Mannheim): I — *Language Death in the Isle of Man*, due for publication in 1990-1.
- COATES, R. (University of Sussex): II — a chapter on Onomastics for S. ROMAINE, ed., *Cambridge History of the English Language*, IV (1776 — present day).
- OWEN, A. E. B. (University of Cambridge): I — an edition, for the Lincoln Record Society, of documents relating to the Marsh district of Lindsey, c.1200-1500.

ANTHROPONYMY

- JONES, M. (Matlock): I — a study of the late medieval depiction of folklore motifs, with reference to the light thrown on this by personal nicknames.
- McKINLEY, R. A. (University of Leicester): I — a popular book, commissioned by Longmans, on the history and origins of British surnames.
- REDMONDS, G. (Huddersfield): I — a dictionary of Yorkshire surnames, commissioned by John Donald Publishers Ltd, Edinburgh.

TOPONYMY

- BRODERICK, see THOMSON.
- CHRISTEY, G. (University of Edinburgh): I — 'The field-names of Coldingham parish, Berwickshire' (completed M.A. Thesis).
- COATES, R. (University of Sussex): I — a study of the place-names of St Kilda (nearing completion).
- COLE, A. (Oxford): I — research into the meaning of the OE place-name element *ōra*.
- FRASER, I. A., with D. MUNRO (University of Edinburgh): I — the establishment of a place-name data-base, initially involving (a) the parishes of Maxton and Newton St Boswells, Roxburghshire, and (b) the Island of Iona, Argyll.
- HOOKE, D. (University of Birmingham): I — work on charters for Devon and Cornwall as a contribution to a projected *Atlas of the South-West*.

- JENKYNS, J. (Oxford): I — preparation of a general concordance and index to her computer-searchable corpus of boundary-clauses (see *ante*, X, 204), supplemented by studies of individual terms.
- JONES, Bedwyr Lewis, and G. O. PIERCE (University of Wales): I — preparation of a report for the Board of Celtic Studies on the current state of Welsh place-name research.
- KLAMM, H. (University of Mainz): I — 'Non-Celtic place-names based on topographical elements in the southern part of the former county of Pembrokeshire' (Ph.D. thesis, supervised by Professor Dr K. Faiss).
- KITSON, P. (University of Birmingham): I — *A Guide to Anglo-Saxon Charter Boundaries*, to appear in 1989 as 2 vols of British Archaeological Reports; II — mapping of dialectal forms from the boundary clauses and establishment of isoglosses. He also has two articles completed and awaiting acceptance: (i) 'On the geographical and chronological spread of OE *u*-mutation'; (ii) 'The dialect of Hereford during the transition to Middle English' (revised version of a paper delivered to the Philological Society).
- MUNRO, see FRASER.
- OWEN, Hywel Wyn (Y Coleg Normal, Bangor): I — *Rivers and Streams of Clwyd*, commissioned by the Welsh Water Board and due to appear in 1988.
- PIERCE, see JONES.
- THOMSON, R. L., and G. BRODERICK: I — a systematic sound-recorded collection of place-names in all seventeen parishes of the Isle of Man, to be carried out in association with the Manx Gaelic Society.

Notabilia and Personalia

CONFERENCES

The XXth Conference of the Council for Name Studies in Great Britain and Ireland was held from 25 to 28 March 1988 at University College, Swansea. The programme of papers was organized by Dr Hywel Wyn Owen (Y Coleg Normal, Bangor), with special emphasis on work by younger scholars. On Sunday 27 March there was an excursion to the Gower Peninsula.

The Society for Landscape Studies held its Annual Conference, on the theme 'East Kent landscape', from 25 to 27 March 1988 at Canterbury.

The Medieval Settlement Research Group held its Annual Conference from 25 to 27 March 1988 at Bristol.

The Scottish Society for Northern Studies held its Annual Study Conference from 7 to 11 April 1988 at Ullapool.

The Seminar für Allgemeine Linguistik of the University of Mannheim held its *Eighth International Symposium on Language Contact in Europe* from 18 to 24 September 1988 at Douglas, Isle of Man (see also *ante*, X, 205).

The First International Congress on Family History was held from 16 to 21 October 1988; Dr G. Redmonds gave a paper on 'Surnames for the genealogist'.

The University of Manchester Centre for Anglo-Saxon Studies is holding, from 12 to 14 May 1989, an international conference on the *Burghal Hidage*: its language and textual history, its purpose and administrative context, and the most significant associated archaeological remains. Further information can be obtained from the organizers, Dr D. H. Hill and Dr A. R. Rumble, Centre for Anglo-Saxon Studies, University of Manchester, M13 9PL.

The XVIIth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences will be held in June 1990 at Helsinki.

COLLOQUIA AND PUBLIC LECTURES

The University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, Aberystwyth, in conjunction with the *Department of Welsh at the University College of North Wales, Bangor*, held in March 1987 a one-day forum on place-name studies, the speakers at which were Dr M. Gelling, Professor Bedwyr Lewis Jones, Mr O. J. Padel, Professor Gwynedd Pierce and Mr Tomos Roberts.

At the *22nd International Congress on Medieval Studies*, held from 7 to 10 May 1987 at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Professor George T. Beech gave a paper on 'Eleanor of Aquitaine, the origins of her name, and her rôle in its diffusion in medieval times'.

The Bedfordshire Family History Society held, on 9 May 1987 at Houghton Conquest, a one-day conference, at which Dr A. Baines and Mr C. Barrett both spoke on aspects of surname study, Miss F. Hurst gave a talk entitled 'Who (or what) was your father?', Mr M. Nash discussed the derivation and use of Christian names, and Mr J. Field spoke on 'Land, people and field-names'.

At the *International Congress of Celtic Studies*, Mr P. Kitson gave a paper 'On the voicing or otherwise of Brittonic final stops under lenition'.

Dr A. R. Rumble, as Tutor to the 10th Annual Latin and Palaeography Summer School held at the University of Keele from 1 to 8 August 1987, gave a lecture entitled 'Reconstructing an Anglo-Saxon charter-boundary: Merstham (Surrey) A.D. 947'.

Mr J. Field gave a talk about Greater London place-names to a class from SUNY, Binghamton, at King's College London on 19 March 1987.

Dr D. Hooke presented five papers: (i) 'The foundation of Wolverhampton Minster', at the Conference held by the British Archaeological Association from 6 to 10 April 1987 at Lichfield; (ii) 'The use of pre-Conquest woodland', at the Oxford School of Geography Centenary Meeting, held from 3 to 5 July 1987, of the Historical Geography Research Group of the Institute of British Geographers; (iii) 'The origins of open-field agriculture in central and southern England', at the Stockholm Symposium, held in September 1987, of the Permanent European Conference for the Study of Rural Landscape; (iv) 'The interpretation of Old English landscape terms in charters', at the Roberts Library, University of Toronto, on 29 September 1987; (v) 'Woodlands in Anglo-Saxon Gloucestershire', on 7 November 1987 at a day-school run by the University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies.

Professor Pádraig Ó Riain (University College, Cork) delivered on 30 April 1987, at the Queen's University of Belfast, a lecture, sponsored jointly by the Institute of Irish Studies and the Ulster Place-Name Society, on 'The Psalter of Cashel and the Irish secular genealogies'.

Dr G. Fellows-Jensen gave two papers: (i) 'Written records of the place-names of England', at the conference on Literacy and Society in Early North-Western Europe held from 22 to 25 May 1987 at Copenhagen; (ii) 'Scandinavian settlement in England: the evidence of place-names and personal names', at the II^e Congrès international d'Archéologie médiévale held from 2 to 4 October 1987 at Caen.

Dr M. Gelling gave, at the XVIth International Congress of Onomastic Sciences held in August 1987 at Québec, a plenary-session address on 'The historical importance of English place-names'.

Professor K. Cameron delivered on 29 October 1987 a lecture to the Uppsala Place-name Society on 'Place-name research and local

history, with special reference to Lincolnshire'.

Dr R. Coates spoke in October 1987 to Heathfield and Waldron Community Association about 'Place-names in Sussex'.

Dr N. Ó Muráile (Ordnance Survey, Dublin) delivered on 26 November 1987, at the Queen's University of Belfast, a lecture, sponsored jointly by the Institute of Irish Studies and the Ulster Place-Name Society, entitled 'What's in a (place-)name? A look at the place-names of Ulster'.

Mr M. Jones presented at the Colloque international de phraséologie contrastive, held from 12 to 16 May 1988 at Strasbourg, a paper on 'The depiction of proverbs in the late medieval period'.

DAY-SCHOOLS AND COURSES

The University of Leeds Department of Adult and Continuing Education held from 7 to 22 July 1987 a course, based at Ripon and directed by Dr G. Redmonds, on 'English genealogy and family history for Americans'. Further courses in this series are planned for June 1988 (Ripon) and July 1989 (Exeter).

The University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies held at Bath on 31 October 1987 a one-day course on 'Holy wells and springs in Devon'; Miss J. Scherr gave a talk about relevant place-name evidence.

The University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies held during Autumn 1987 a course, given at Trent by Mrs K. Barker, on 'The making of the local landscape'.

The University of Warwick Department of Continuing Education held on 30 January 1988 a day-school on 'Parish maps — celebrating parish history and landscape', at which Dr D. Hooke gave a talk on 'Reading the history of the countryside'.

The University of Leicester Department of Adult Education, in conjunction with *Northamptonshire County Council*, held from 11 to 12 March 1988 a weekend course on 'Field-names for the archaeologist and the local historian', at which the tutors were Mr A. E. Brown, Mr J. Field and Dr M. Gelling.

The Combined Society for Landscape Studies, in conjunction with the *University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies*, held at Bristol on 7 May 1988 a day-school on 'Early planned landscapes'.

The University of Bristol Department of Extra-Mural Studies held at Cheltenham on 14 May 1988 a day-school organized by Dr D. Hooke, on 'The Anglo-Saxon landscape in Gloucestershire'.

Mrs J. Jenkyns gave from October 1987 to March 1988 a Continuation Course of 20 classes, under the auspices of the *Oxford University Department of External Studies*, on 'Anglo-Saxon language, literature, place-names, and charters'.

Mr R. A. McKinley directed two day-schools: (i) at Sheffield, on the origins of English surnames; (ii) at Preston, under the auspices of the

University of Liverpool Extra-Mural Department, on Lancashire surnames.

Dr Hywel Wyn Owen gave during Winter 1987 and Spring 1988, under the auspices of the *Extra-Mural Department of the University College of North Wales, Bangor*, two courses in place-name studies, one in Acrefair, the other in Wrexham.

Mr M. Paffard gave, under the auspices of the *University of North Staffordshire Adult Education Department*, eight lectures at Lichfield, under the title 'Names, names, names: a painless introduction to Onomastics', and three at Holmes Chapel about Cheshire place-names, as part of a course on Cheshire dialect.

Dr A. R. Rumble gave, during 1987-8, a series of lectures on place-name studies to second-year students for the Certificate in Anglo-Saxon Archaeology offered by the *University of Manchester Department of Extra-Mural Studies*.

HIGHER DEGREES, APPOINTMENTS, GRANTS

Dr R. H. Bremmer has been admitted to the Degree of Doctor of Letters of the Catholic University of Nijmegen.

Miss I. Hjertstedt has been admitted to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Uppsala, in consideration of her thesis: 'Middle English nicknames in the Lay Subsidy Rolls for Warwickshire' (supervisor: Dr. K. I. Sandred).

Mr Ö. Svensson has been admitted to the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Lund, in consideration of his thesis: 'Saxon place-names in East Cornwall' (supervisor: Dr G. Kristensson).

Professor T. J. Gasque (University of South Dakota) has been appointed, as from 1988, Editor of *Names*.

The English Place-Name Society, at its Annual General Meeting on 20 May 1987, elected Dr G. Fellows-Jensen to an Honorary Vice-Presidency, and on the same occasion elected Dr J. Insley to serve as an Ordinary Member of Council for the year 1987-8.

Dr A. R. Rumble has been appointed Assistant Director of the University of Manchester Centre for Anglo-Saxon Studies. He has also been awarded, by the British Academy, a grant towards work on his edition of the Anglo-Saxon charters belonging to the archive of the Old Minster, Winchester.

Dr R. Coates (University of Sussex) has received, from the Economic and Social Research Council, a grant of £24,690 for the calendar year 1988, towards a study of 'The place of names in linguistic theory'.

The Queen's University of Belfast Place-Name Research Project

At the Queen's University of Belfast a team of five scholars, directed by the Celtic Department, has begun work on a five-year project of establishing the original forms, generally in Irish, of all the place-names featured on the new 1:50,000 map of counties Antrim, Armagh, Derry,

Down, Fermanagh and Tyrone (it is hoped that eventually minor names will also be included). The team would be glad to enlist local support: anyone having local knowledge of the pronunciation of relevant names or of traditions concerning them (or knowing of anyone else thus qualified) is asked to get in touch with Robbie Hannan, Éilis McDaniel, Art Hughes, Kay Muhr or Micheál Ó Mainnín, all c/o Celtic Department, the Queen's University, BELFAST.

The Manx Place-Name Survey

In Autumn 1987 a Manx Place-Names Survey was set up, in association with the Manx Gaelic Society, with Mr R. L. Thomson as Director and Dr G. Broderick as Secretary/Fieldworker. The primary task of the Survey, scheduled to begin in Spring 1988, is to make a systematic sound-recorded collection of the place-names of all seventeen parishes in Man.

The Place-Name Survey of Wales

A proposal to inaugurate a place-name survey of Wales has been accepted in principle by the Board of Celtic Studies of the University of Wales. The Board now awaits the submission of a scheme of administration, operation, location and financing of the proposed survey, whilst recognizing that it should hinge on the core of material already housed in the Melville Richards place-name archive at the University College of North Wales, Bangor. It is hoped that the submission, to be prepared by Professor Gwynedd O. Pierce, Cardiff, and Professor Bedwyr Lewis Jones, Bangor, in consultation with Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd, Director of the Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, Aberystwyth, will be completed for consideration by the Board at its meeting in May, 1988. A letter of strong support for the proposal from Mr R. L. Thomson on behalf of the Council for Name Studies was noted with appreciation by the Board.

The University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies

The Centre (Director: Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd) is sponsoring editions of medieval Welsh court poetry; these will involve much onomastic commentary.

The Place-Names of Norfolk

In his Presidential Address to the Norfolk Research Committee, delivered on 11 April 1987, Dr K. I. Sandred reported on the progress so far made with the English Place-Name Society's survey of Norfolk place-names, giving examples to illustrate various modes of elucidation. He warmly thanked his existing voluntary helpers and urged all who were able to collect field-name forms from Tithe Maps and other documents.

Exchange

In addition to the exchanges with *Nomina* listed *ante*, X, 208, a further

one has now been arranged with *Names*. We are happy to announce that there is to be, in Autumn 1988, a special issue of that journal, dedicated to Allen Walker Read, Professor Emeritus of Columbia University.

THE NEWS SERVICE: ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In our endeavour to keep readers abreast of all developments in onomastic research relating to Great Britain and Ireland, and also of those in the relevant ancillary disciplines, we rely mainly upon voluntary contributions of news, some of which are inevitably incomplete at the time of going to press. If there should be in this year's NOTABILIA AND PERSONALIA any errors or omissions, please let Miss Clark know, so that they may be rectified in our next issue.

Our thanks are due to all those who returned their questionnaires, and especially to Dr R. H. Bremmer, Dr R. Coates, Mr I. A. Fraser, Professor R. Geraint Gruffydd, Dr D. Hooke, Professor A. L. F. Rivet, Dr K. I. Sandred, Miss J. Scherr and Dr P. P. Sims-Williams for the additional information that they have supplied. There is, of course, no need for anyone to wait to receive a questionnaire: Miss Clark will at any time be glad to have items of information, whether bibliographical or of more general interest.

Additional Standard Abbreviations: Mainly Scottish

Supplement to 'Notes for Contributors', *ante* X, 210-15

N.B. For Scottish source-materials not covered by this list, please follow the 'List of abbreviated titles' given in *Scottish Historical Review* XLII (1963), pp. iii-xxxii.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-------------|---|
| APS | T. Thomson and C. Innes, eds, <i>The Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1814-75). | PNG | H. Maxwell, <i>The Place-Names of Galloway</i> (Glasgow, 1930). |
| BAR | British Archaeological Reports. | PNHI | A. MacBain, <i>Place-Names of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland</i> (Stirling, 1922). |
| BEV. A & I | E. Beveridge, <i>The 'Abers' and 'Invers' of Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1923). | PNRC | W. J. Watson, <i>The Place-Names of Ross and Cromarty</i> (Inverness, 1904). |
| Black, Surnames | G. F. Black, <i>The Surnames of Scotland</i> (New York, 1946). | PnSc | J. B. Johnston, <i>Place-Names of Scotland</i> (London, 1934). |
| BOEC | <i>Book of the Old Edinburgh Club</i> (1908-). | PNUD | A. Watson and E. Allen, <i>The Place-Names of Upper Deeside</i> (Aberdeen, 1984). |
| CDS | J. Bain, ed., <i>Calendar of Documents relating to Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1881-8). | PNWLO | A. MacDonald, <i>The Place-Names of West Lothian</i> (Edinburgh, 1941). |
| CPL | W. H. Bliss <i>et alii</i> , eds, <i>Calendar of Entries in the Papal Registers relating to Great Britain and Ireland: Papal Letters</i> (London, 1893-). | PSAS | <i>Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland</i> (1851-). |
| CPNS | W. J. Watson, <i>History of the Celtic Place-Names of Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1926). | RMS | J. M. Thomson <i>et alii</i> , eds, <i>Registrum Magni Sigilli Regum Scotorum</i> (Edinburgh, 1882-1914). |
| Dipl. Scot. | J. Anderson, ed., <i>Selectus Diplomatum et Numismatum Scotiae Thesaurus</i> (Edinburgh, 1739). | RPC | J. H., Burton <i>et alii</i> , eds, <i>The Register of the Privy Council of Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1877-). |
| ER | J. Stuart <i>et alii</i> , eds, <i>The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1878-1908). | RSS | M. Livingstone <i>et alii</i> , eds, <i>Registrum Secreti Sigilli Regum Scotorum</i> (Edinburgh, 1908). |
| ES | A. O. Anderson, ed., <i>Early Sources of Scottish History 500-1286</i> (Edinburgh, 1922). | SAEC | A. O. Anderson, ed., <i>Scottish Annals from English Chroniclers 500-1286</i> (London, 1908). |
| ESC | A. C. Lawrie, ed., <i>Early Scottish Charters prior to 1153</i> (Glasgow, 1905). | SAS | <i>Studia Anthroponymica Scandinavica</i> (1983-). |
| HMC | <i>Reports of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts</i> (London, 1870-). | SBRs | Scottish Burgh Records Society. |
| IR | <i>Innes Review</i> (1950-). | Scot. Stud. | <i>Scottish Studies</i> (1957-). |
| NS | <i>Northern Studies</i> , Journal of the Scottish Society for Northern Studies (1973-). | SGS | <i>Scottish Gaelic Studies</i> (1926-). |
| NSc | <i>Northern Scotland</i> (1977-). | SHR | <i>Scottish Historical Review</i> (1903-28, 1947-). |
| OFN | H. Marwick, <i>Orkney Farm Names</i> (Kirkwall, 1952). | SHS | Scottish History Society. |
| OPS | <i>Origines Parochiales Scotiae</i> (Bannatyne Club, 1851-5). | SHS Misc. | <i>Miscellany of the Scottish History Society</i> (1893-). |
| PNA | W. M. Alexander, <i>The Place-Names of Aberdeenshire</i> (Aberdeen, 1952). | SNQ | <i>Scottish Notes and Queries</i> (1887-1935). |
| PNDmf | Sir E. Johnson-Ferguson, <i>The Place-Names of Dumfriesshire</i> (Dumfries, 1935). | SRS | Scottish Record Society. |
| | | STS | Scottish Text Society. |
| | | TA | T. Dickson and Sir J. Balfour Paul, eds, <i>Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland</i> (Edinburgh, 1877-1916). |
| | | TDGAS | <i>Transactions of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society</i> (1862-). |
| | | TGSG | <i>Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Glasgow</i> (1887-1934). |
| | | TGSI | <i>Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness</i> (1871-). |
| | | TISS | <i>Transactions of the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club</i> (1875-1925). |
| | | Vet. Mon. | A. Theiner, ed., <i>Vetera Monumenta Hibernorum et Scotorum Historiam Illustrantia</i> (Rome, 1864). |

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