



ASAIB ANNUAL CONFERENCE 7 May, 2008 "Remarkable South African Women: Revealed through Indexing and Bibliography"

Our annual ASAIB conference celebrates "Remarkable South African Women"

We invite you all to join us for what promises to be a day of fascinating insights into women who have helped shape South Africa.

Venue: EISA offices
14 Park Road
Richmond
Johannesburg

Cost: R300 (including lunch and high tea); or R220 (including lunch

only)

Confirmed speakers:

- Ruda Landman on a user's perspective of information searching
- Stephen Gray on Olive Schreiner
- Dr. Shireen Hassim on Ruth First
- Cynthia Kros on Lilian Ngoyi
- Michelle Adler on "Skirting the edges"
- Elria Wessels on women in the concentration camps
- Stephan Weltz on women artists

A full programme and registration form will be



Photo by Dominic Morel

available soon.

A very talented group of craft ladies will be demonstrating their unique talents for us

Inside this issue:

<i>Indexing software: A comparative study by Steve Anderson</i>	2-3
<i>Indexing software: Sky Index Professional by Sanet le Roux</i>	4
<i>A Boon to Gardeners and Historians: A Review by Jackie Kalley</i>	5
<i>Reference Guide to Africa: A Bibliography of Sources. A Review by Abdul Bemath</i>	6-7
<i>Africa: A Guide to Reference material: A Review by Abdul Bemath</i>	8

Special points of interest:

- ASAIB Conference 7th May 2008 EISA Johannesburg
- ASAIB International Conference 2009 Gauteng
- Free access to on-line version of the *The Indexer* for ASAIB members

Exciting news from "The Indexer"

From the editor of *The Indexer*
I am delighted to announce that with effect from the end of April 2008, ASAIB members will have free access to the on-line version of *The Indexer*.

To take advantage of this:

Go to The Indexer website <<http://www.theindexer.org/>>. Choose "Online Issues" from the left hand menu. (This gives access to both the public-access back issues and those available only on Ingenta.)

At the top of the page, select "ASAIB" from the drop-down list of Societies. Enter your First Name, Last Name and the email address which the ASAIB uses to contact you.

You will then be given a logon and password for the Ingenta site, and a link to take you there.

On the Ingenta site you can

click "Remember Me" on the login, and only go through the procedure above when the password changes (about every six months) or if you forget it.

I hope you enjoy the journal, and that you will let me know what you think of it.

Maureen MacGlashan
editor@theindexer.com

Indexing software: choosing the right package

PURCHASING AN INDEXING PACKAGE

A couple of years ago I decided that the amount of indexing I was doing justified buying an indexing package. Indexing packages don't do the indexing for you, but they do a lot of the stuff that I hate: checking

that the index is in letter-by-letter order
that you haven't capitalised words
that you haven't made circular cross-references
that you did italicise every "see also" as requested.

Since I invariably find myself doing these things at 4am on 8am deadline day, indexing packages are a lifesaver. The question was which package to choose. There are a number of packages available, but three names keep coming up in the literature, and on the Web: Cindex, Macrex and Sky Index. All three do the job pretty well. I decided to choose between them, and had to make a quick decision, considering my workload.

RESEARCH

First, I asked fellow indexers what they used, by word of mouth and by using the ASAIB listserv. The word of mouth route got a number of responses, and mixed results: people used all three packages, and they liked the one they had chosen. Interesting, but not much help for somebody trying to make a choice. The ASAIB listserv got me a number of "please send me

the results of your research" requests, but no specific preferences.

Two items on the web were useful, however: a comparison of Cindex and Sky Index, and a "How to choose indexing software" article". The comparison of Sky and Cindex was written by Michael Wyatt for ANZI, the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers in 2001. It's a little dated, but comprehensive (21 pages long), well thought out, and clear. Have a look at the article at <http://www.aussi.org/resources/software/review.htm>. The How To Choose Indexing Software comes from the Cindex webpage, so I was a little cautious about bias, but found the article pretty neutral. It can be found on http://indexres.com/soft_info.php

I also went to the websites to look at what they had to say for themselves, and to download free trial versions of the software, which typically allow you a limited number of records: enough to play with, but not enough to use for real work.

Cindex (USA): <http://www.indexres.com/>
Trial software: <http://indexres.com/down.php>

Macrex (UK): <http://www.macrex.com/>
Trial software: <http://www.macrex.com/v7download.htm> OR http://www.macrex.com/macrex_version_8.htm

Please note that Macrex has just (March 2008) released version 8 of their software. It wasn't available when I did my research so I've not included it

in this review, but I would strongly recommend checking it out.

Sky Index (USA): <http://www.sky-software.com/>

Trial software: <http://www.sky-software.com/Downloads/Demos/sip6xdemo.htm>

PLAYING WITH THE SOFTWARE

The next step was to see how the trial versions worked:

CINDEX 1.5

Cindex impressed me. It had an easy to use Windows interface, and navigating round the index was simple, pressing appropriate letter(s) of the index term. Anybody who has hit Pg Up umpteen times in Ms-Word while working on a long index will appreciate that. New records are captured in a dialogue box, which is then transferred to the index in the background. Clicking on a term allows you to edit it, or add page numbers. The hefty (321 page) manual I downloaded covered everything I needed to know. The nice thing about Cindex is that it seems to handle pretty well anything you can throw at it: lots of functionality, lots of flexibility. This is a view shared by Michael Wyatt in his article (see URL above).

MACREX 7

Macrex 7 will be familiar to anybody who has used the DOS version. It has a DOS feel to it (when you quit, a screen flashes up briefly that the programme is returning you to DOS!), and a clear, uncluttered screen. You use

function keys and letters to work the system, as in the DOS version. You enter text at the bottom of the screen and it is then slotted into the body of the index above. Once you have learned the various keystrokes for commands, you'll be able to use the software efficiently, but it isn't as intuitive as the other packages and will take longer to learn. I found the lack of icons and menu-driven functions made for a rather clunky feel. But Nancy Mulvaney, doyen of indexing authors, disagrees! See her testimonial for Macrex at <http://www.macrex.com/testimonial.htm>. And, as I said earlier, Version 8 is available for trial this month and may be very different. Check it out.

SKY INDEX 6

Sky Index is another fine package. It uses a split screen, with the index in the top half, and a spreadsheet-like table in the bottom half. You index terms in the table, and can also manipulate them from there. It is very easy and quick to add and edit data, perhaps more so than the other packages. Navigation is via a menu bar at the top of the screen with the letters of the alphabet. If you want speed of use, this is the package for you. I did feel that it wasn't quite as powerful or flexible as Cindex, but that the speed of use made it a serious contender. And I wasn't alone: Nancy Mulvaney came to the rescue with another testimonial (<http://www.sky-software.com/News/endorse.htm>), and Heather Jones also wrote a useful review (<http://www.sky-software.com/News/hjreview.htm>). Michael Wyatt also had intelligent things to say on <http://www.aussi.org/resources/software/review.htm>

Cont. p3

Indexing software: choosing the right package cont.

PRICING AND DELIVERY

The next obvious question was price. Sadly, I didn't keep a record of the prices at the time, but I can give you some current prices for the full, single-user package.

Cindex \$500 +\$15 P&P to South Africa. Online ordering available

Macrex

Price on application (their website is being redesigned, I suspect as a result of the Macrex 8 release).

Send an e-mail to claverts@macrex.com for current prices and how to order.

Sky Index

\$535 in the USA (prices available on application for overseas purchasers). Send an email to sales@sky-software.com to find out costs. No on-line ordering for South Africa.

One thing that I have learned about buying software is that there are often cheaper ways of buying packages, if you are prepared to ask. So I fired off an e-mail to each of the three, explaining that I was from a country which didn't have the purchasing power of dollars or pounds, and was there a way to get the software cheaper. Here's how they responded:

Cindex:

Francis Lennie, Cindex owner, helped out immediately. She pointed out that it was cheaper to buy electronic copies than

getting CD's posted, and also "gave small discount on the software and some other considerations regarding supporting documentation and shipping", as she put it. Ultra-helpful, very pleasant.

Macrex

I got a fairly terse and to-the-point reply from Macrex, saying that they were a small company and offered no discounts. Fair enough.

Sky Index

No reply to my message. Time pressure meant that I didn't follow up, so it may well be that they just didn't receive my message. Certainly Sanet Le Roux, who is writing an "Why I love Sky Index" article for the ASAIB newsletter, raves about the service she has got from them.

CINDEX came out way ahead on the be-nice-to-cheeky-customers front.

SUPPORT

All three provide free support to registered users via e-mail or phone, and all three have online user groups where you can post queries.

Cindex <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/cindexusers/join>

Macrex <http://www.macrex.com/discuss.htm>

Sky Index <http://www.sky-software.com/Support/skyindexusers.htm>

DECISION

After a lot of thought, I decided to drop Macrex from the race. I didn't like their interface nearly as much as the others, and I felt the keystrokes would take longer to get used to.

Sky Index was really easy to learn and you can index and edit fast. But I felt that Cindex had a bit of an edge in its flexibility, and the fact that I thought it could handle ANYTHING I could throw at it. The Wyatt article echoed my thoughts: "If you work with a wide range of material in a variety of formats, or collaborate with a variety of other indexers, and functionality and flexibility are more important to you than the speed of data entry and editing, I recommend Cindex.

If you work on your own or in a static team, chiefly with a limited range of material with straightforward formatting requirements, and speed of data entry and editing is of primary importance, I recommend Sky Index".

In the end I bought Cindex: the package had a slight edge in terms of what I was looking for and the experience of dealing with the extremely efficient and pleasant owner of Cindex, Frances Lennie, clinched the deal.

I have not regretted my decision to buy Cindex at all: it does everything I want it to, and more. Would I buy it again today? I would need to have a very good look at Macrex 8 before I could make a decision on that one, but I would take a lot of convincing to change packages.

Steve Anderson

"One thing that I have learned about buying software is that there are often cheaper ways of buying packages, if you are prepared to ask."



"The good old days?"

Sky Index Professional v6.0 Pro Edition

At the time I bought SKY, I was pressed for time and did not (as I had intended to do) do a good thorough comparison of the three main indexing programs: SKY, Macrex and Cindex.

A fellow indexer had mentioned he was considering getting SKY, so I downloaded the SKY demo to have a look at it. By the time I had worked through the tutorial provided, I had a good grasp of how the software worked. By that time I had an index waiting and another big one to plan for, so I decided to jump in and buy the software.

I phoned the number in America, giving my credit card details and talking to Kamm, who has the most dreamy, handsome voice. I received two discounts: one because I was buying the electronic delivery only (no postage or packaging) and one for having done the UK Society of Indexers Indexing Course. He provided me with the detail to download the software. I had some trouble downloading the software, but after some repeat downloads from a computer with broadband, I was successful.

The installation was quick and trouble-free. I had phoned SKY 8 August 2007, I had the software installed on my computer 13 August. Not bad, hey?

Since I started using SKY, there was only one function I could not figure out with the help of the Help function. I hastily e-mailed SKY, hoping that they would provide me with an answer. Well, I not only received a very clear answer, but in record time too, and that over a week-end.

I have mainly used SKY in a very basic way, but recently I had the need to be able to import an existing index into SKY. The index was provided in Microsoft Word format. I found some instructions on how to do this on the SKY Index Professional Wiki (<http://skyindex.pbwiki.com/>), also using other freeware. It got quite complicated, but I managed to import the index into SKY, and it sure beats re-typing the whole index.

SKY's look and feel is very much like other Microsoft software. The window is

split into a top and bottom part. The bottom part looks like an Excel spreadsheet with three columns. The main headings are entered into the first column, subheadings in the second column, and locators or cross references in the third. Each locator or cross reference is in a separate row. The top part of the window shows the index as it would be generated by SKY. The formatting options (like indents and type of alphabetisation) can be chosen or changed at any time. To send an index to a publisher using your word processor, you only need to press the print icon. SKY then opens the index within the word processor installed on your computer, in my case Microsoft Word.

I am then free to choose to leave it as a .rtf file, or save it as a Microsoft Word document.

Author: Sanet le Roux

Date: 14 March 2008

Sanet le Roux
Indexer / Consulting Librarian
10 Sam Gordon Drive,
Brackenfell, 7560, South
Africa

telephone: 021 981 2383
cellphone: 074 193 6659
e-mail:

jsleroux@mweb.co.za



“I phoned the number in America, giving my credit card details and talking to Kamm, who has the most dreamy, handsome voice. “

Look out for...

The Frederica indexes

Cumulative Indexes to A.S. Byatt's novels

The Virgin in the Garden / Still Life

and

Babel Tower / A Whistling Woman

Compiled by Hazel K. Bell

© Hazel K. Bell ISBN 0-9552503-6-6 978-0-9552503-6-1



A Boon to Gardeners and Garden Historians A Review

Bibliography of British and Irish Gardens compiled by Ray Desmond. Winchester: St Paul's Bibliographies, rev. ed., 1988, 312 p.

ISBN: 1-873040-41-5

Given my dual love of gardening and bibliography, it was with great joy that I pounced on this extensive work. No matter that it is more than twenty four years old, having originally been published in 1984, the level of scholarship is a boon to any serious scholar of garden history and a fascinating contribution to anyone with an interest in the gardens of Great Britain. The author, Ray Desmond had all the qualifications necessary to compile this work as he was the Former Chief Librarian of the Royal Botanic Garden, Kew and the Honorary Librarian of the Garden History Society. In 1977, he published the *Dictionary of British and Irish Botanists and Horticulturists* and to some extent this present work was a by-product of scanning horticultural periodicals for the *Dictionary*.

The work covers 5,500 gardens in England, Scotland, Wales and, to a limited extent in Ireland. While the length of the articles selected for inclusion was an important criterion, short descriptions have also been included where they contain seminal information on the garden designer or relevant contemporary comment. There is a disclaimer as to its comprehensive coverage but it includes many of the principal references in horticultural literature, county histories, diaries and letters.

The gardens are arranged alphabetically by their names or locations should they have no distinctive names. Municipal parks and botanic gardens are listed under the towns in which they are located. A useful addition is the location of each garden. For example, Broughton Castle, near Banbury Oxfordshire. Within each entry for a garden, the references are arranged in a chronological manner by publication date. Titles of books and periodicals appear in an abbreviated form but these are easily ascertained from the *Bibliography of Works Consulted*, which in itself is impressive, and also from the List of Abbreviations. For those wishing to survey gardens on a regional basis, there is a County Index, under which the relevant gardens appear. On first glance, one is surprised that these are not followed by the relevant page number but this would have been superfluous given the main arrangement of the work under the name of the garden. Desmond laments the difficulty in ascertaining the correct name of each country house garden, as the terms Court/Hall/Manor/Park and the like were used with what he terms a 'wilful inconsistency'.

Included in the bibliography are engravings, lithographs and photographs which feature the garden, but the extent of oil paintings, sketches, watercolours and old photographs would warrant a separate bibliography of their own as would unpublished archive material. Interestingly, the bibliography contains references to gardens no longer in existence and literary sources extend back as far as the sixteenth century. An intriguing Appendix focussing on the Wedgwood dinner service produced for Catherine the Great in 1773 concludes the Bibliography. Each of the 952 pieces was decorated with English scenes, mainly country seats derived from existing paintings and engravings or commissioned work executed by a team of landscape artists. Thomas Bentley, Josiah Wedgwood's partner compiled a manuscript of almost the entire dinner service which Desmond has rearranged in an alphabetical order of places, followed by Bentley's catalogue number. Stowe was the country house most frequently depicted, and the number of references in the main body of the Bibliography confirms its popularity, with the first reference dating from 1732 and ending with 1983, just before the first publication of the Bibliography.

The study of garden history is greatly enhanced by the publication of this Bibliography. Would that each entry had an annotation but this would have quadrupled the work and resulted in a mammoth publication. Is there a South African equivalent? If not, who will volunteer to collect material on our own great gardens?

Jackie Kalley
EISA Library
Johannesburg.



“Given my dual love of gardening and bibliography, it was with great joy that I pounced on this extensive work.”



From Flock Beds to Professionalism: a history of index makers by Hazel K. Bell

At the laundress's at the Hole in the Wall in Cursitor's Alley up three pair of stairs ... you may speak to the gentleman, if his flux be over, who lies in the flock bed, my index maker'. Jonathan Swift, *Account of ... Mr Edmund Curll, Bookseller* (1716)

'Indexing is an anonymous profession. An index may be praised or blamed, but rarely is the indexer named, lauded, or shamed'.

'Indexing is an anonymous profession. An index may be praised or blamed, but rarely is the indexer named, lauded, or shamed', laments Professor David Crystal in his preface to *From Flock Beds to Professionalism*. This book, however, initiates a change. Hazel Bell presents here brief biographies of 65 individual practitioners, the makers of indexes, from the 15th to the 20th centuries, considering their working methods, techniques, training, remuneration, their lives and their personalities. Crystal observes, 'Although it is the history of indexing which governs the structure of the book, it is the personalities of the indexers themselves which shine through it ... I was unprepared for the range, diversity, and sheer brilliance of the personalities lying behind the names'.

After the biographical section on the 'Lone Workers', Bell outlines in 'Banding Together' the history of groups and societies of indexers world-wide up to 1995: the year she sees as entailing 'The end of print-only indexing'. The book includes photographs of indexers and of their tokens of recognition.

Hazel Bell has been a freelance indexer since 1964, having compiled to date more than 700 indexes to books and journals, and won the Wheatley Medal for an outstanding index in both 2005 and 2006. She has been a member of the Society of Indexers for 44 years, serving on its Council as editor of its journal, *The Indexer*, for 18 of them. In 1997 she was presented by the Society with the Carey Award for services to indexing. She has written many articles for *The Indexer* and other learned journals. Bell is the author of *Indexers and Indexes in Fact and Fiction* (British Library / University of Toronto Press, 2001) and *Indexing Biographies and Other Stories of Human Lives* (Society of Indexers, 3rd edition 2004).

BOOK REVIEWS

Reference Guide to Africa: A Bibliography of Sources, 2nd Edition. Edited by Alfred Kagan. Lanham, Maryland: Scarecrow Press, 2005, ix, 222p. ISBN 0 8108 5208 X. Price: \$57.00 Cloth.

This 23 chapters and 793 entries reference guide covers major reference works and surveys on Africa. Its cut-off date is September 2004 with revisions made through the beginning of December 2004 and has fewer entries than the first 1999 edition (which had 944 entries) edited by Alfred Kagan and Yvette Scheven. The focus is on current research and older titles were deleted and new titles added. Although some of the older titles are noted in the annotations along with other related works. Furthermore, more than half the entries are new or modified in some way and include more works for the study of North Africa and Islam in Africa and many more sources in electronic format. This work grew out of a graduate course on the 'Bibliography of Sub-Saharan Africa' course taught by Yvette Scheven at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from 1976-1992 and by Alf Kagan since 1993.

This Africa reference guide is divided into two parts. A General and a Subject part followed by an Author/Title and Subject index. This General Section consists of six chapters and these are, Bibliographies and Indexers; Guides, Handbooks, Directories and Encyclopedias; Biography; Primary sources; Government publications and finally a chapter on Statistics.

Cont. p7

Part two or the Subject sources consists of 17 chapters arranged according to academic discipline covering topics such as Agriculture and Food; Communications; Cultural Anthropology; Development; Environment; Folklore; Geography and Maps; History; Languages and Linguistics; Libraries and Librarianship; Literature and Theater; Music; Politics and Government; Publishing and the Book Trade; Religion; Visual Arts and ending off with a section on Women. Each chapter has a short introduction describing each source and the Part One chapters divided into sub-categories such as Bibliographies of Bibliographies; Indexes and Continuing Bibliographies; and Periodicals where relevant. The Part two chapters are arranged according to, Research; Guides; Surveys; Directories; Indexers and Abstracts; Bibliographies; Periodicals and ends off with Selected Subject Headings based on the Library of Congress subject headings.

The 2nd edition does not contain the Internet Sources and Current Events chapters and includes more surveys and fewer bibliographies than the 1st edition. Fewer bibliographies according to Professor Kagan as there are a limited market for bibliographies and the increased availability of electronic databases.

The majority of titles cover most of Africa, many titles focus on North Africa and the Middle East, and the older titles separate North from Sub-Saharan Africa. The bias of this Guide is towards the Social Sciences and the Humanities. Country and region specific titles have been excluded due to their tremendous volume. Most of the titles are in English; many in French and a small number in other languages and published mainly in Africa, North America and Europe. Most of the titles are annotated the exception being journals. The annotations are brief and to the point. Has a detailed Author/ Title Index and the Subject Index does not list individual African countries or regions. The numbering of the index refers to citation number and not to page number. Material focussing on North Africa/ Middle East is indexed under 'Middle East' in the Subject Index.

Africa is undergoing a process of 'Development' and therefore understandable that the chapter on Development has the most number of entries totalling 74 followed by the History chapter with 54 entries. A notable absence is the edited work by Dr. Jacqueline A. Kalley and others (I am a contributor to this study), *Southern African Political History: a Chronology of Key Political Events from Independence to Mid-1997*. Greenwood Press, 1999. And that the South African based Financial Mail Business Magazine annual, *The Little Black Book Directory* included in the next edition. As a researcher to this directory that lists and profiles over 500 key South Africans I know its value to researchers.

How refreshing to note that the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture collection is available as *Black Studies on Disc*, Entry no. 10, and that of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Collected Documents of the Non-Aligned Movement listed in the Government Publication Section Entry no. 81 and 82 respectively. Some organisations, e.g. the OAU are listed in different places under Government and Politics and Government. The History section of this reference guide cites several references to the Slave Trade and Slavery. This is a present day topical issue as March 2007 marked the bi-centenary of the abolition of the slave trade by the British Empire. Scholars and the media writing about this will find the entries dealing with slavery most useful.

If I had this reference source on hand there would have been no need for me to contact a university based librarian to trace the title of Professor Ali A. Mazrui M.A. and Ph.D. dissertation and thesis which are entries in my annotated bibliography of his works covering the period 1962-2003, titled: *The Mazruiana Collection Revisited...* Africa Institute of South Africa and New Dawn Press, 2005. As title of his M.A. dissertation is listed in *American and Canadian Doctoral Dissertations and Masters Theses on Africa, 1886-1974*, compiled by Michael Sims and Alfred Kagan. This Sims and Kagan reference source is cited in Entry no. 16 of this *Reference guide to Africa...* Thus illustrating the importance of this reference source for those of us not based in University and Public libraries.

Professor Kagan who is a Professor of Library Administration and African studies bibliographer at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign is to be commended for this easily navigatable reference guide. A guide essential to government officials, Africa based Institutes and scholars, students, researchers, librarians and teachers.

Reviewed for ASAIB Online Newsletter by Abdul Samed Bemath. Library Consultant, Bibliographer and Indexer. March 2008. E MAIL: abemath@mweb.co.za



“The majority of titles cover most of Africa, many titles focus on North Africa and the Middle East, and the older titles separate North from Sub-Saharan Africa.”

AFRICA: A GUIDE TO REFERENCE MATERIAL. 2nd revised and expanded edition. Compiled by John McIlwaine.

Lochcarron, Scotland, UK: Hans Zell Publishers, 2007.liv, 608pp.

ISBN 0-9541029-3-2 ISBN-13: 978-0-9541029-3-7 Price: 130 Pound Sterling. 198 Euros. \$260.00. Cloth.

This Africa South of the Sahara reference guide (AGRM2) lists 3,600 titles from 1938 to the spring of 2006. Is a sequel to the 1st 1993 edition (AGRM1) that listed 1,766 entries covering the past 100 years up to the end of 1992.

AGRM2 omits pre-1938 material to make way for newer titles, and unlike AGRM1 that covered only the Human and Social sciences; AGRM2 includes both the Earth and Biological sciences. AGRM2 is wholly revised, new material included and each title is analysed and described for content. The majority of the titles are in English and some entries in French, Dutch, Italian, German and other languages. Excludes sources such as bibliographies (but lists bibliographies of reference materials), indexers, abstracts, and other sources and the compiler elaborates on why these sources were excluded (p. xxxi-xxxiii) Entries are arranged alphabetically by title or author rather than by date of publication as in AGRM1. Another difference to AGRM1 is an Author/Title index and a separate expanded Subject index, which replaces AGRM1 single index. Index numbers refer to citation number and not to page number. AGRM2 lists 700 reviews from 80 journals, lists the official web sites of countries, national statistical offices and mapping agencies.

Professor McIlwaine states that the majority of titles are primarily concerned with factual data rather than interpretation. And that there arrangement is intended to facilitate rapid consultation rather than requiring the whole text to be scanned to locate facts. He found analysis of continuing publications such as yearbooks, directories and statistical bulletins problematic as few libraries have complete collections of these.

Influencing his choice of 1938 as the cut of point was the 1938 publication of Lord Hailey's, *An African Survey...* (Entry 13). Sites several Guides and Internet portals utilised in the compilation of this work. The major ones being Peter Duignan and Helen Conover's, *Guide to research and reference works on Sub-Saharan Africa* (Hoover Institution, 1971); Alfred Kagan's, *Reference guide to Africa: a bibliography of sources* (Scarecrow Press, 2005) and *The African studies companion...* 4th edition compiled by Hans Zell in 2006. The Africa Internet portals consulted were Stanford universities Karen Fung's, *Africa South of the Sahara*;

Columbia university libraries *African studies Internet resources* compiled by Joe Caruso and Michigan State Universities, *An A-Z of African studies on the internet...* compiled by Peter Limb and maintained by him and Ibra Sene.

AGRM2 opens with a section on Africa in General. Followed by the broad regions of North East Africa, East Africa, Central Africa, West Africa, and Southern Africa. And then by individual sub-regions and countries. With a further breakdown according to countries former colonial affiliation and European language. For example, Southern Africa is divided into Francophone and Lusophone Southern Africa. Each geographical unit is arranged according to eight broad categories. He describes each of these and they are, *Handbooks, Yearbooks, Statistics, Directories of Organisations, Biographical sources, Atlases and Gazetteers, Earth Sciences and Biological Sciences*. AGRM2 Gazetteers category has an additional Pilots section that covers sailing directions. In the case of countries such as South Africa that have substantial references, each of these eight headings is further sub-divided. For example, the South African Handbooks Sources is further divided into Bibliographies, General, Regional and Special subjects-the latter further divided into education, ethnography, history...

The compiler has inspected 80% of these titles located in two major libraries. These are the University of London School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and the Afrika Studiecentrum (ASC) in Leiden, the Netherlands. Legal deposit libraries abroad were also consulted amongst these the Cape Town and Pretoria branch of the National Library of South Africa.

A work familiar to me is *Africana: the encyclopedia of the African and African American experience*, edited by H.L.Gates and K.A. Appiah (Basic Civitas Books 1999) which I reviewed for *Afrika Spectrum* 34(1999) 3.

Professor Gates spoke about this publication at a 2005 Human Sciences Research Council Symposium celebrating Mr. Nelson Mandela's 87th birthday. He mentioned a forthcoming print and Microsoft Encarta edition which I had difficulty tracing. Entry 32 of AGRM2 lists this new edition as five volumes published by Oxford University Press (2005) and provides details of the Microsoft edition. Thus illustrating to me the value of this Guide. Has two entries on *Women in South Africa* published in 1938 and 1995. A more current inclusion to the next edition is the Mail & Guardian's annual *The Book of South African Women* (2005-) which lists over 400 entries cutting across race and colour.

Professor McIlwaine is to be commended for compiling this useful reference source as stated on the reviews to AGRM1 (and forthcoming for AGRM2) 'The real value of this guide lies in the breadth of its geographical and historical coverage and the quality of the annotations [which are] a model of precision...this is a major work which will be much used and should be on the shelves of all libraries with an interest in Africa.'*(African Affairs. Journal of the Royal African Society)*

Reviewed for ASAIB Online Newsletter by Abdul Samed Bemath. Library Consultant, Bibliographer and Indexer, Johannesburg. March 2008. E MAIL: abemath@mweb.co.za