of the word. These were, inter alia, oNdini, eMlambongwana and Kwa-
Gqikazi to name but a few.

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J. LABAND AND R. HASWILL (eds). Pieterma-
ritzburg, 1838-1988, a new portrait of an Afri-
ISBN 0 86960 639 4

The attractive dustcover and numerous pho-
tographs and illustrations place this publication in the same class as a number of other centenary publications, notably those for Stellenbosch and the Paarl Valley.

First of all this is a book commemorating the 150 years of existence of the city of Pietermaritzburg. Situated in the Natal Midlands, it began as a Voortrekker village, became the capital of colonial Natal and is now acknowledged as an "African city." This is a distinction also emphasized by the contents of this book, which follow broad subject definitions, but are not strictly chronological.

In total, 73 authors contributed short pieces on a wide variety of subjects. These contributors range from professional historians to citizens reminiscing about their past experiences in specific areas of interest. The result is more of a 'potted' history which deals with the myriad of influences which have shaped Pietermaritzburg into what it has become today. While illustrating the city's diversity, the book lacks a certain amount of continuity.

The introduction comprehensively discusses existing literature on Pieter-
maritzburg. Chapter One provides information on the physical setting, en-
vironment and location of the city. The second chapter covers the history of the area before the coming of the whites. Chapter Three gives an overview of the development of the city with sections on the Voortrekkers, the early decades of white settlement, the colonial town, the apartheid city, Pietermaritzburg today, and the post-apartheid city. In Chapter Four the architectural development of its buildings and the growth of parks and gardens are discussed. Two contrasting sections of the city are dealt with in Chapter Five: the outer city as embodied in the black township of Eden-
dale, the Vulindela district (the old Swartkop Location) and Sobantu Village; and the inner city as encompassed by life in the Loop Street area. The more formal history of Pietermaritzburg as a colonial capital city, and later a pro-
vincial capital, is presented in Chapter Six. Included are sections on the Natal parliament, the city as a legal centre, royal visits and information on Langalibalele's trial and M.K. Gandhi's admission as an advocate. The influence of the military presence on city life is the subject of Chapter Seven, while Chapter Eight outlines Pietermaritzburg's development as the eco-
nomic centre of the Natal Midlands. Simply entitled 'Educational capital', Chapter Nine traces the city's growth as a centre for all levels of education, including its various museums. The diversity of the city's religious heritage is covered in Chapter Ten. Hospitals and health care feature in Chapter Eleven; politics and protest in Chapter Twelve; the arts and entertainment in Chapter Thirteen; and sport and recreation in Chapter Fourteen. There are several additional chapters dealing with aspects of the city's growth which are not listed on the contents. The book also has boxed inserts providing interesting snippets of additional information. Although there are no footnotes, a select list of sources gives the works consulted for each chapter.

Although the chapter divisions are according to subject, the sub-divisions within these chapters do not necessarily follow on from one another, nor are they connected in terms of contents. No doubt this is partly due to a desire to cover all facets of the city's history. The tendency has been to record the lesser-known history of the city, which makes the book interesting and highly readable.

Featured are not only the city's white inhabitants, but also those of other race groups. Despite living on the peripheries of the city, they have over the years played an integral part in its history, growth, and development. This book also attempts to deal with the disparities encountered by the citizens in terms of opportunities, facilities and services. No longer will histor-
ians be able to write histories of South Africa concentrating only on the contributions of the whites. Cognisance will have to be taken of the contribution of other groups.

The editors have succeeded admirably in fulfilling their hope of creating a 'lasting tribute' and have revealed in having the opportunity to give back to the people of the city "their past and to interpret the present". The result is a complete picture, and while being a celebration of the city's past this book also looks to the future with an overwhelming message of optimism.

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The Drakenstein Valley is not only known for its scenic beauty, good wines and delicious fruit. It was here that the Afrikaans language, the wagon industries and the mining industry of southern Africa were established. Moreover, the valley was also the home of the Huguenots, as well as personalities like the Revs S.J. du Toit and Andrew Murray, and C.P. Hoogenhout.

There are one or two places which merit many interesting facts to be found in this beautiful work on the history and development of the Paarl Valley over the past three hundred years.

Arie Oberholster, editor, and Pieter van Breda, both from the HSRC's Institute for Historical Research, must be congratulated on this excellent work, the publication of which must have been a tremendous task.

Not many historical works of this nature have been published in South Africa. Similar publications include Stellenbosch 300, Pieterburg: die eerste eeue 1886-1986, and Pietermaritzburg 1838-1988. Paarl Valley 1867-1987 is however the first of its kind. The history and development of three (four when Piisel is added) towns in this region are discussed, and in this respect it differs from the previous publications mentioned. This fact, and also the involvement of thirteen co-authors, made the task of the editor that much more difficult.

From the source references and the list of sources it is clear that thorough research was done by all who made a contribution. The contribution gives a historical background of nearly every aspect of the region, viz. evolution of the landscape; white settlement up to 1700; local govern-
ment institutions; communication; economics; history of the church and education; cultural development; facets of the community such as interesting personalities, famous visitors, medical services, service organizations, sport and recreation; defence, law and order, and first political developments since 1795. This thematic approach gives a clear and well-structured picture of the development of the over the past three centuries.

Significant, too, is the macro-approach which links the economic, geographic and other aspects of the various towns mentioned. In fact, the history, development and growth of the town is compared with another. In this respect, Chapter Five gives a clear indica-
tion that agriculture played a prominent role right from the beginning. The production of wine, and later fresh fruit, became the most important substantial agricultural activities of the Drakenstein Valley. Obviously, indus-
tries, trade and finance developed later as a result of agriculture. No doubt the economy of the region is, still today, based on the well-established agri-
cultural development.

Much effort was made with the presentation and layout of the publication itself. The attractive dustcover shows a photograph of the Paarlberg with Table Mountain in the background. The letter type was a good choice whilst the language reads easily and something of the essence of the region is maintained with so many co-authors. The illustrations, maps and photographs have been well chosen and well placed and give the reader an interesting view of the past. The statistical figures are used in such a way that they do not disturb the reader but, in fact, help to create a historical perspective. Lastly, the index, the references and the chronology at the back of the book will help the reader to easily refer to a particular source.

The year 1687 saw the allocation of the first farms along the Berg River to a number of free burghers by Simon van der Stel. The allocation of these farms represents the establishment of the first permanent settlement in this region. The reason for this view is given in the preface by the editor himself: "It is clear from historical evidence that Khoi were already visiting the Paarl Valley regularly by the time the Dutch settlement was established at the Cape. However, as the Khoi were nomads, it is doubtful that they ever stayed permanently in this region." Although this is an acceptable argu-
ment, there is no reason why some information could not have been inclu-
ded in, for example, Chapter Two, in connection with the first inhabitants.

This could have given a better perspective of the region. The little that has been referred to in the text (e.g. chapters two, six and seven), is not sufficient. One cannot simply ignore these first inhabitants just because they were not permanent. They eventually played an important role in the various communities of the Paarl Valley.

Another point of criticism is the long titles of some of the chapters. The words 'Drakenstein Valley' could have been omitted in the titles of chapters one, two, six, eight and eleven. The title of the book gives the name of the region and it is therefore not necessary to include it in some of the chapter titles as well. Moreover, some of the titles are very strange. The title of this book is 'Paarl Valley', while in the text and table of contents the authors refer to 'Drakenstein Valley', which is, geographically speaking, more appro-
riate than 'Paarl Valley'. (The former embraces the whole valley, including Wellington, Paarl, Franschoek and Pniel.)

Probably the most serious criticism is the absence of a substantial conclu-

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The conclusion in the book consists of approximately 250 words or three short paragraphs which is hardly sufficient. In fact, it really says nothing. It does not give a critical evaluation of the origin and growth of the various communities of the valley. Nor does it mention the influence of the valley on the history of southern Africa.

This book, which is available in both official languages, is however a remarkable and valuable source of information about the developments of the valley over the past three hundred years. It will therefore be useful not only to the historian, but also to the people of the Drenkstein Valley.

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University of Fort Hare

P.H.R. SNYMAN. Danielskuil: van Griekwa- huistepoort tot dienscentrum. Raad vir Geestes-
enhede van die Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis sonder om die rol van die Neder-landse Suid-Amerika en die Bantoesprekende gemeenskappe tot 1800 behan-
nde in die inhoudsopgawe nie. "n Kort bespreking van geskiedskrywing oor Suid-Afrika. Daar is ook nege hoe te laag en drukwerk getuig van die hoe standaard waarvoor die uitgewery bekend is. Die Plantoenlettertipe, hoewel aan die klein kant, lees maklik, die omslagontwerp is esteties verantwoord en die bindwerk in slapband is steevast dog funksioneel. By elke hoofstuk is 'n afsonderlike bronnelys uitgeweke en in die laaste twee hoofstukke bespreek Van Aswegen die geskiedenis van die binneland na die Groote Trek en daarna. Net voor die register is klaar (in die vorm van 'n bylae) en die omslagontwerp is esteties verantwoord en die bindwerk in slapband is steevast dog funksioneel. By elke hoofstuk is 'n afsonderlike bron- lykopie. Dit is vir die eerstejaarsstudent bedoel en is volgens die skrywer, nie op oorspronklike navorsing gebaseer nie maar eerder 'n poging om 'n lig van die oue en nuwe kennis oor ons vroeë geskiedenis die gebeure en prosesse op 'n onbevangane wyse aan die leerder en student te dra" (p. 8).

Van Aswegen het gevolglik die gese"iedenis van Suid-Afrika tot 1854" as volg: "Geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika tot 1854 verskil dan ook van die tradisionele vertolking van Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis sonder om die rol van die blanke in 'n oorweeg negatiewe lig te stel. Dit is die eerstejaarsstudent bedoel en is, volgens die skrywer, nie op oorspronklike navorsing gebaseer nie maar eerder 'n poging om 'n lig van die oue en nuwe kennis oor ons vroeë geskiedenis die gebeure en prosesse op 'n onbevangane wyse aan die leerder en student te dra" (p. 8).

Die boek bestaan uit elf hoofdelings waarvan die eerste vier (67 pp.) "geskied- nis van Suid-Afrika en die Bantoesprekende gemeenskappe tot 1800 behan-nde in die inhoudsopgawe nie. "n Kort bespreking van geskiedskrywing oor Suid-Afrika. Daar is ook nege hoe te laag en drukwerk getuig van die hoe standaard waarvoor die uitgewery bekend is. Die Plantoenlettertipe, hoewel aan die klein kant, lees maklik, die omslagontwerp is esteties verantwoord en die bindwerk in slapband is steevast dog funksioneel. By elke hoofstuk is 'n afsonderlike bronnelys uitgeweke en in die laaste twee hoofstukke bespreek Van Aswegen die geskiedenis van die binneland na die Groote Trek en daarna. Net voor die register is klaar (in die vorm van 'n bylae) en die omslagontwerp is esteties verantwoord en die bindwerk in slapband is steevast dog funksioneel. By elke hoofstuk is 'n afsonderlike bron- lykopie. Dit is vir die eerstejaarsstudent bedoel en is, volgens die skrywer, nie op oorspronklike navorsing gebaseer nie maar eerder 'n poging om 'n lig van die oue en nuwe kennis oor ons vroeë geskiedenis die gebeure en prosesse op 'n onbevangane wyse aan die leerder en student te dra" (p. 8).


Hierdie is een van die min handboeke in Afrikaans vir die student van Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis, en een van nog minder was aangedra te aan die fase waar die kom van die blanke nie. Dit is volgens die skrywer, nie op oorspronklike navorsing gebaseer nie maar eerder 'n poging om 'n lig van die oue en nuwe kennis oor ons vroeë geskiedenis die gebeure en prosesse op 'n onbevangane wyse aan die leerder en student te dra" (p. 8).

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