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Falling Into Place: The Story of Modern South African Place Names

Submitted by South Africa**

About the book

This is a study of geographical names that have been given in South Africa over the last 30 years. Covering as it does the period in which the country was transformed into a modern democracy, it is a record of how geographical names have constituted an integral part of social change. Case studies in standardization cover such matters as orthography and the fixing of a single form for a name. Selected names that are discussed include those on Marion Island, the names of post offices, nature reserves and border posts, and the unofficial names of informal settlements. Detailed accounts are given of how new names were selected and how changes were made to names, including those of provinces, local authorities and towns, and how cartographers have dealt with racist names. An index is included.

About the author

Professor Elwyn Jenkins was a member of the former National Place Names Committee of South Africa. He participated in drafting the South African Geographical Names Council Act and became a foundation member of the new Council. He is co-author with Peter Raper and Lucie Möller of Changing Place Names (Durban, South Africa, Indicator Press, 1996).

Orders

Elwyn Jenkins, Falling into Place: The Story of Modern South African Place Names (Cape Town, David Philip, March 2007).

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