

as the need for the teacher to be in touch with theoretical developments and the findings of research, his need for ongoing training and the further development of professional skills, the assumption that the teacher will be deeply and imaginatively committed to the well-being and intellectual development of his pupils, and that in his work he will display a capacity to take decisions and to generate innovation. Professionalism perceived in such ways is of great relevance to teachers in Zimbabwe where so much is expected of their capacity to be active agents in the process of social transformation.

The different orientations and emphasis of these two books, by Chung and Ngara and by Gwarinda, bode well for the debate to which Senator Culverwell looks forward. Moreover, Gwarinda's book is one title in a new series 'New Directions in Education' put out by College Press. If the series is to achieve international recognition, standards of printing and proof-reading will need to be improved, but, for the moment, this new initiative is to be applauded. Additional titles in the series are already available and will no doubt be reviewed in future issues of *Zambezia*.

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T. J. E. BOURDILLON

Historic Buildings of Harare (1890-1940) By Peter Jackson. Harare, Quest Publishing, 1986, x, 134 pp., Z\$25.50 (h/b), Z\$16.96 (p/b), ISBN 0-908306-02-4 (h/b) 0-908306-03-2 (p/b).

The Hon. Enos Chikowore, Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development, sums up the achievements of this book in the foreword when he states that it is 'a significant venture in exposing, explaining and assessing the unique architectural heritage of Harare' (p. ix). One hopes that he is expressing an official view in recognizing that old buildings can and should be integrated into future urban plans. Ivan Fielden, a former City Architect, echoes these sentiments by stating that 'positive change is so much more than just indiscriminate replacement' (ibid.). Peter Jackson provides here a practical and sensitive approach to the conservation and appreciation of Harare's old buildings.

Three main objectives can be identified. Firstly, through the use of copious photographs and sketches, Peter Jackson tries to instruct the reader on 'how to see what is there'. This is very closely tied to the second objective which concerns the understanding of 'how it came to be as it is', and in order to do this he goes beyond simple illustration and comments on the historical background, architectural styles of the time and the personal idiosyncrasies of the architects. The third objective relates to the development of a coherent strategy for conservation.

The book can be divided into two main sections: the background, historical and architectural, and the detailed descriptions of selected buildings. The first section begins with a historical summary of the period 1890-1940, which, although brief, is sufficient to provide the framework for the outline of the architectural development. The old photographs of the settlement from the kopje are fascinating, especially given the clear labelling of identifiable buildings and features relevant to the settlement's development. Unfortunately, the same cannot

be said of the early maps. The plans of Salisbury in 1891 and 1940 are particularly poor in that they are copies of the original maps and contain too much detail to allow their successful reduction to the format of this book. As a result, the reproduction of these potentially interesting maps is blotchy and most of the lettering is completely unreadable, even with the aid of a magnifying glass!

The next section concerns the architectural development of the settlement, and, while it may appeal more to the specialists among the readers, it is written clearly and is supported by an adequate glossary of terms so as to be of interest to the layman. Pen-sketches are numerous in this section, but there is little specific reference to them in the text, leaving the reader to make the connection — not always successfully.

The incorporation of traditional styles of architecture into the first settler houses is graphically illustrated in the photographs of the first houses, but this very quickly gave way to the utilitarian 'ox-cart' architecture and then the more formal 'railway' architecture. While examples are given for each period, it is not made clear at this stage that photographs and detailed comments do appear in the second half of the book, and it would have been useful if the later page number of the example, in addition to the address, had been given. Subsection headings could have been made more prominent for quick reference as the bold print used for the run-on headings does not always stand out clearly.

The last section of the general first part of the book concerns the very important discussion of a conservation strategy. This incorporates the true meaning of the word 'conservation' in which a building should be a functional unit, incorporated within new development but retaining the features identified as worthy of preservation. Preservation alone is not sufficient because of the pressure for space within the city centre where many of the buildings are found; they must become functional as well.

The existing regulations regarding the preservation of historic buildings are contrasted with an alternative, more positive, approach to retain and incorporate the designated buildings within future development plans in a variety of ways. One of the more pressing and perhaps controversial areas of conservation is the 'streetscape' of Manica Road, which is well illustrated.

Finally, this section details a nine-point check-list which the author has then used in the case of each example to provide the rationale for its selection as a building worthy of conservation. Although very subjective, the criteria do provide a necessary starting-point for the examination of old buildings.

The remainder of the book divides the city into areas — the Kopje, Manica Road, the Central Business Area, the Avenues and the Suburbs — and then identifies selected buildings within each. The relatively clear, but unscaled, location maps allow one to actually visit the buildings to identify the features described. There is a mixture of old and new photographs, all of a high standard and very well reproduced although, unfortunately, all in black and white (recent photographs are by Neils Lassen).

For each building, details of the architects, clients, builder and the criteria for selection are presented. There is then a detailed description of the architectural features, many of which can be identified on the photographs but which also create a desire to visit the buildings, thus successfully achieving the first of the book's objectives. This section forms the bulk of the book and is suitable for dipping into, rather than reading straight through.

In conclusion, this is a timely contribution to the effort to conserve Harare's old buildings, yet it also provides a fascinating insight in to a style and way of life now past but leaving its imprint all around us. It is encouraging to see this heritage recognized.

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Business Law in Zimbabwe By R. H. Christie. Cape Town, Juta, 1985, lviii, 575 pp., R85.00, ISBN 0-7021-1573-8.

As the author states, this book is a successor to his *Rhodesian Commercial Law*,¹ a volume which he admitted was obsolete almost as soon as it was printed. One of the primary purposes of that work was to provide a commercial law text covering all three territories of the Federation. The new work is confined to the present Zimbabwean law but is no less ambitious in its attempt to provide a comprehensive coverage of the legal aspects of business in Zimbabwe.

The work is clearly intended as a simple exposition of the main areas of law likely to be encountered by the average businessman, accountant, chartered secretary or non-legal professional in the conduct of his day-to-day business affairs. For the practising lawyer it will be a useful primer; however, the coverage of most topics is superficial and there is a lack of 'in depth' coverage of the issues at the 'cutting edge' of legal development. While this is accepted as a necessity in a book of this nature (otherwise it would run to four or five volumes), it becomes very easy for the layman or student of business law to slip into the typical lay assumption that law is static, whereas in a society such as present day Zimbabwe it is dynamic.

As is inevitable with a legal text, certain aspects of the book are already out of date, for example the chapter on Employment which will require amendment pursuant to the passing of the Labour Relations Act (No. 16 of 1985). These perennial problems for the legal writer, of instant obsolescence by the addition of legislation, could be mitigated by reference in the introduction to each section of possible new directions which might be followed, given the socialist aspirations of Government. The author has never professed to be anything other than a 'black letter' lawyer, but a little social context, particularly for the business-oriented reader, would help the layman to understand the function and purpose of the various branches of the law. An example of this can be seen in the perfunctory treatment of co-operative companies and co-operative societies in the chapter on the options available when starting a business (p. 139). At least some mention could have been made of the major efforts by Government to promote co-operatives as a development technique. It is important not only for the emergent co-operatives themselves to know of their options but also for other business enterprises or ancillary organizations such as insurance companies and banks to know the nature (even if only postulated) of the type of organizations they are, or are likely to be, dealing with.

Similarly, in the chapter on Sale, I could find no reference to either the

¹R. H. Christie, *Rhodesian Commercial Law* (Cape Town, Juta, 1961).