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Karen L. Pangallo

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BOOK REVIEWS

by *Linda K. Robertson,*

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GEORGE ELIOT: A REFERENCE GUIDE, 1972 - 87

By Karen L. Pangallo

published by G.K. Hall, 1990 \$40.00

Karen L. Pangallo attempts to fill a gap in reference works on Eliot with this guide. Entries are arranged by years and then alphabetized by author. There are an Index of Authors, an Index of Secondary Titles, and an Index of Subjects (which would be helped by more detail).

In the preface Pangallo states that she has “attempted to compile a complete bibliography of references to George Eliot,” and she cites Dissertations Abstracts International, the MLA International Bibliography of Books and Articles on the Modern Languages and Literatures, and a variety of other sources. The volume does seem to include all doctoral dissertations and all books on Eliot during these years. However, in comparing the Guide to the MLA Bibliography, it is clear that a large percentage of articles have been omitted from the Guide. The basis for exclusion is not clear, although it is generally articles in collections or in less well known journals that are omitted. The only mention of The George Eliot Fellowship Review is a 1972 entry for the review itself. No Review articles are included. Also omitted are many articles from the Victorian Newsletter, the Victorians Institute Journal, and a variety of other publications.

The volume is well bound and nicely printed on acid-free paper, but at the price it is not as comprehensive as it should be. Despite Pangallo’s intentions, it is still necessary to do a careful reading of standard bibliographies or to do a computerized data-base search to get a complete picture of published criticism on Eliot or any aspect of her works for the years 1972 - 87.