Title
A New Bibliography of Elizabeth Colson

Permalink
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9j45p150

Author
Buchignani, Norman

Publication Date
2016-08-22

Supplemental Material
https://escholarship.org/uc/item/9j45p150#supplemental

Data Availability
The data associated with this publication are in the supplemental files.
I. Introduction

In preparing this bibliography and associated Endnote/RIS database I have tried to make both as inclusive and exhaustive as practically possible. In support of this objective, I think some introductory words about how they came together are in order. I’d also like to comment on the content and organization of the print bibliography, to acknowledge the hard work of others who have compiled compendia of Elizabeth’s work before me, and to recognize those who helped me in its development.

The germ of the idea of this bibliography sprang from informal discussions with Elizabeth during a long visit with her in Monze in mid-2015. Four of us old friends and colleagues descended on her (including Doreen Indra, Barbara Harrell-Bond and Effie Voutira), and having not been together for a long time there was a lot of reminiscing. My sense was that while still actively collecting ethnographic data and writing at 98, Elizabeth was thinking much more of her career and oeuvre retrospectively than ever before. I proposed the creation of a new bibliography of her work and she agreed to assist me at a distance.

At the onset I was of course aware of the work done on Elizabeth’s output before me. Of these, the first created was a bibliography prepared by Dorothy A. Koenig and Lenore D. Ralston. It was first published in 1984 in the Kroeber Anthropological Society Papers volume of that year dedicated to Elizabeth (see Dorothy Koenig and Lenore Ralston 1984 in the bibliography; the volume reference is Glazier et al 1984). Assembled at the time of Elizabeth’s ‘retirement’ from her Professorship at the University of California, Berkeley, it is a splendid effort, especially for a time before online catalogue and database searches were possible. Critically, they claim that the majority of entries included were “visually verified”—a very high standard indeed. It is available online here.

The Department of Anthropology at Berkeley has developed permanent tribute webpages devoted to the biography and accomplishments of some retired faculty and has created one of these for Elizabeth Colson. Thereafter, someone—most probably Suzanne Calpestri, then Anthropology Librarian at Berkeley—produced a year-by-year bibliography of Elizabeth’s publications. While clearly drawing on Koenig and Ralston, this work is a bit more detailed for the years considered, and extends somewhat fitfully to 2001.

Most extensive of all is the work of Elizabeth Colson catalogued in the George and Mary Foster Anthropology Library at Berkeley. A simple search of the Anthropology
Library's catalogue produces a rich corpus of references—far more extensive than would result from everyday cataloging. According to Celia Emmelhainz, the current Anthropology Librarian, this was the result of concerted faculty publication indexing done by Suzanne Calpestri.

In addition, I was able to draw on two private sources. Andrew Bank and Sue Ogterop have prepared a bibliography of Elizabeth Colson’s work in support of an upcoming work by Andrew Bank on women anthropologists in southern Africa. This will be sequel to his (2016) *Pioneers of the Field: South Africa’s Women Anthropologists*. They kindly forwarded this bibliography to me for use in this project. While derived primarily from the two Berkeley bibliographies discussed above, this one does contain a few citations deriving from Andrew Bank’s collection that are present in neither. Finally, Elizabeth herself made available an incomplete but extensive list of citations for 1982-2013. Many of her citations are not found in any of the other sources mentioned here.

It may seem an odd way to go, but when beginning to assemble this bibliography I did not start with the sources above, all of which I had in hand. There were several reasons for employing this perverse strategy. First, because I wanted to have confidence that the final list of citations was as complete as could be and as accurate, I wanted to range out further than extant sources, and to eventually check those sources against others. Second, I wanted to create a publically accessible citation database of the works of Elizabeth Colson, in order to facilitate their practical use and citation. Specifically, I wanted to make an Endnote library of Colson references, which in turn I would be able to convert to a more universal format such as RIS that those with other reference database managers could import and use. In the end, this print bibliography can be considered the secondary source: it is simply a lightly edited export from the Endnote/RIS database.

And so I deeply worked available online sources first. I initially turned to the mainstream and then to the more obscure or less likely proprietary academic databases. Starting with discipline-specific ones like AnthroSource, I then moved out to other social science disciplines, then to some of the sciences. Shifting to a higher level of topical generality I went through all the mainline general databases, from Academic Search Complete, to JSTOR to MUSE, and through all the big publisher-specific science journal databases.

After that, I heavily worked Google, Google Books, and Google Scholar, which involved manually surveying entries on every page that the latter two brought up when searching for Elizabeth Colson. These Google sources proved particularly important in finding book chapters and book reviews, which journal-oriented academic databases tend to ignore.
Beyond collecting citations, all these electronic sources were used to bring up full text copies of Elizabeth’s work wherever possible, in order to “visually verify” them just like Koenig and Ralston had done before me. These sources also were used to cross check the veracity of citations throughout the process.

It was only then that I turned to the extant sources, first to the UCB Anthropology Library holdings (sadly not available for download into something like Endnote; this all had to be done manually). During this process I added references that they had but I did not, checking each of these new references against other possible sources. I also checked each of the ones we both had against each other and other sources. I then did the same for all the other prior bibliographies mentioned above.

Out all of this comes an important note: where the details of references in this bibliography differ from those in earlier works I had at least some persuasive reason for maintaining the difference.

I would love to claim that this bibliography is definitive, but can’t. Elizabeth Colson evidently never maintained a complete list of her written works herself, thereby guaranteeing a permanent if smallish degree of uncertainty. While I tried to ask Elizabeth about every earlier reference that I found incomplete or suspect, a few of these were unresolved at her passing. I emailed her a full draft for review just six days before she died, and while she reportedly had already made some written comments on this draft, clearly this process had only just begun. At the same time, the vast majority of citations are complete, and for many found in the print version there is further information in the citation database. Some 25-30 citations do lack pagination information, chiefly unpublished works.

Let me end with a few words about inclusion and organization. I have included everything that I could find and verify. This includes all published work including every edition of each book and every republication of a book chapter, reports, unpublished papers, archival written material, audiovisual works, and interviews. As for organization, I thought a chronological approach was most appropriate. Everything is organized by year, and within each year, first by Colson single authored title, followed by joint authored works (if any in that year). Each citation is in a modified American Anthropologist style. Naturally, no one is chained to this organization or style, as access to the associated reference database allows one to format things any way one pleases and according to any style sheet. You will find the reference database in RIS format here. It can be downloaded by first clicking the tab at the bottom left of the page titled Supporting Material.

Do contact me with suggestions for additions or corrections, which are most gratefully accepted.
Thanks go to all those who have worked on Elizabeth Colson’s lifework before me. Without their foundational efforts mine would have come to little. Thanks also to Celia Emmelhainz for her enthusiastic encouragement of this project from the onset and for her willingness to post the bibliography on the University of California’s eScholarship website.

II. Bibliography

Elizabeth Colson


Wilson D. Wallis and Ruth Sawtell Wallis, with the assistance of Elizabeth Colson and Allan Holmberg

1940-3 Vols. 2-5 of Primitive Science. 7 Vols. [unpublished manuscript]. Typewritten carbon copy deposited in the Harvard-Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Harvard University, by the Work Projects Administration. There is a microfilm copy of all seven volumes.

Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Melville Jacobs


Elizabeth Colson

1943 The Family in Poston. Poston Community Analysis Section:15-17.
Lt. Alexander H. Leighton, with the assistance of Edward H. Spicer, Elizabeth Colson, Rosamond B. Spicer, Tom Sasaki, Chica Sugino, Hisako Fujii, Misao Furuta, Iwao Ishino, Mary Kinoshita, June Kushino, Yoshiharu Matsumoto, Florence Mohri, Akiko Nishimoto, Jyuichi Sato, James Sera, Gene Sogioka, George Yamaguchi and Toshio Yatsushiro


Elizabeth Colson


1950 Book Review: Umbundu Kinship and Character by Gladwyn Murray


1950 A Note on Tonga and Ndebele. Northern Rhodesia Journal 1(2):35-42.


1951 Book Reviews: Peoples of the Lake Nyasa Region by Mary Tew; Bemba and Related Peoples of Northern Rhodesia by Wilfred Whiteley; the Southern Lunda and Related Peoples by Merran Mcculloch; Akan and Ga-Adangme Peoples of the Gold Coast by Madeline Manoukian. Human Problems in British Central Africa 12:68-70.

1951 The Plateau Tonga of Northern Rhodesia. In Seven Tribes of British Central Africa. Elizabeth Colson and Max Gluckman, eds. Pp. 94-163. London, New York: Published on behalf of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute, Northern Rhodesia by Oxford University Press.


Elizabeth Colson and Max Gluckman, eds.


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Max Gluckman
Elizabeth Colson

1954  Family Organization among the Plateau Tonga [unpublished manuscript]. Manuscript located in the Library, Institute for Economic and Social Research, University of Zambia.

David F. Aberle, Harry W. Basehart, Elizabeth Colson, George H. Fathauer, E. Kathleen Gough, Marshall Sahlins and David Murray Schneider, eds.

tables, diagrams. One copy available at the Tozzer Library, Harvard University.

Elizabeth Colson


1957  Numbers in Northern Rhodesia [Letter 141]. Man 57:112.

Elizabeth Colson and Daniel F. McCall


1959  Studies on the Plateau Tonga of Northern Rhodesia [Microfiche]. East Ardsley, Yorkshire: Micro Methods, Ltd. 2 microfiche.

1959  "Yao," "Thonga," and "Ila-Tonga": papers leading to articles written for the Encyclopaedia Britannica [unpublished manuscripts]. Kroeber
Elizabeth Colson and Max Gluckman, eds.

1959  Seven Tribes of British Central Africa. Manchester: Published on behalf of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute, Northern Rhodesia by Manchester University Press. xx, 409 p. illustrations, maps, genealogical. table. 2nd edition, with minor corrections and a new preface. [reprinted in 1961].

Elizabeth Colson and Daniel F. McCall


Elizabeth Colson


1962  Essays on the Tonga-Speakers of Gwembe Valley. [Collected articles on Tonga by the author that are not included in the Social Organization of the Gwembe Tonga (1960)]. various paging. Copies located in the Anthropology Library, University of California, Berkeley, and originally also at the University of Zambia.


1962  Rain-Shrines of the Plateau Tonga of Northern Rhodesia. In The Plateau Tonga of Northern Rhodesia: Social and Religious Studies. Pp. 84-101. Manchester: Published on behalf of the Rhodes-Livingstone Institute, Northern Rhodesia by Manchester University Press.


1964  The Little People of Rhodesia. Northern Rhodesia Journal 5:567-568.


Elizabeth Colson and Mark Chona


Elizabeth Colson, Sam Clark, James Lee and Thayer Scudder


Elizabeth Colson


1966  Prospects for Social Research Related to the City of Darwin. [unpublished manuscript] Communication to Professor William
Stanner and Professor John Barnes. 6 p.


These five working papers were prepared while a fellow at the Stanford Center for Research in the Behavioral Sciences, 1966-67. These papers contributed to Allan H. Smith, and John L. Fischer, eds. (1970) The Behavioral and Social Sciences Survey: Anthropology. In addition to the editors, members of the Anthropology Panel of the Survey of Behavioral and Social Sciences (BASS) include: Stephen Boggs, Elizabeth Colson, Eugene Giles, Dell Hymes, Douglas Schwartz, and Sherwood Washburn.


Elizabeth Colson and Max Gluckman, eds.


Elizabeth Colson and Robert Heizer


Elizabeth Colson and Thayer Scudder


Elizabeth Colson


1969  Spirit Possession among the Tonga of Zambia. In Spirit Mediumship


Elizabeth Colson, Stephen T. Boggs, Eugene Giles, Dell H. Hymes, Douglas W. Schwartz and Sherwood L. Washburn


Elizabeth Colson (co-chair), Elizabeth Scott (co-chair), Susan Ervin-Tripp, Herbert Blumer and Frank Newman


Elizabeth Colson

1971  Comparison of Effects of Labor Migration on Bemba and Lozi Agricultural Production. [unpublished manuscript].


Robert F. Spencer and Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and M. G. Smith


Thayer Scudder and Elizabeth Colson

1972  The Kariba Dam Project: Resettlement and Local Initiative. In

Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Thayer Scudder


Elizabeth Colson


Van Gorcum.


Elizabeth Colson, George M. Foster, Thayer Scudder and Robert V. Kemper


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson, Eric Blinman and Robert Heizer

Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson, George M. Foster, Thayer Scudder and Robert V. Kemper, eds.


Elizabeth Colson and Thayer Scudder


Elizabeth Colson, Thayer Scudder, David Aberle, Kenneth Begishe, Clark Etsitty, Jennie Joe, Mary E. D. Scudder, Betty B. G. Tippeconnie, Roy Walters and John
Williamson


Elizabeth Colson, Benjamin Shipopa and Martin Munene

1979 The History of Nampeyo and the Life History of Chief Chona (Chilala) (with Benjamin Shipopa and Martin Munene) [unpublished manuscript]. Recorded by M. Munene in the Tonga language from Chief Chona’s dictation. Translated by Elizabeth Colson. 179 p.

A. Q. Statonspicer, Elizabeth Colson and R. E. Bassett


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Thayer Scudder


1980 Valley Tonga Residential Patterns: Comment Relating to Letters of

Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson, James Anderson and Lenore Ralston


Elizabeth Colson and Thayer Scudder


Elizabeth Colson


Thayer Scudder and Elizabeth Colson


Thayer Scudder, Elizabeth Colson, David F. Aberle, Jennie R. Joe, et al

Thayer Scudder, Elizabeth Colson and Mary E. D. Scudder


Lenore Ralston, James Anderson and Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Charles Wagley

1984  Video Dialogues in Anthropology: Elizabeth Colson and Charles Wagley, 1984 [Sc-89.10.10]. 2 hrs, sound, color. Human Studies Film Archives, Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. An abbreviated version of this discussion can be found online both here and here.

Elizabeth Colson


Scott M. Morgan and Elizabeth Colson, eds.


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Thayer Scudder


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and L. Blaxter


Douglas C. North, Robert Bates, Robert Brenner, James Coleman, Elizabeth Colson, Kent Flannery and Vernon Smith


Elizabeth Colson


1991  The History of Nampeyo. Lusaka: Kenneth Kaunda Foundation. viii, 76


Thayer Scudder and Elizabeth Colson


Lucy Mcfadden were to have edited the symposium papers.

Conrad Phillip Kottak and Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson

1995  Whither Our Subjects--and Ourselves [Unpublished Manuscript]. Written for the Anthropology Newsletter, but submitted much too late for publication.

Elizabeth Colson and Conrad Phillip Kottak


Elizabeth Colson

1997  Siagonda: A Gwembe Woman. In Batonga across the Waters: A
Travelling Exhibition of the Batonga of Zambia and Zimbabwe, Forty Years after the Building of the Kariba Dam: Catalogue. Grazyna Zaucha, Lidia Polubiec and Alisa Green, eds. Choma, Zambia: Choma Museum Crafts Centre.

Thayer Scudder and Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson


1998 The Sins of the Fathers [unpublished manuscript].

Gerald D. Berreman, Elizabeth Colson and Milton Singer


Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Suzanne Calpestri


Burton Benedict, Elizabeth Colson and Olly Wilson

Lisa Cliggett and Elizabeth Colson

2001 All This Theft: Property and Loss [in Gwembe Valley] [unpublished manuscript]. Book-length manuscript, in preparation.

Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson and Suzanne Calpestri


Thayer Scudder and Elizabeth Colson


Elizabeth Colson


2004 Heroism, Martyrdom, and Courage: An Essay on Tonga Ethics. In


2006 Interview and Talk of Elizabeth Colson at the ASA Diamond Jubilee Conference, and after-dinner talk on the history of Anthropology [One hour plus each, available online]. Interviewed by Alan Macfarlane.


2007 Displacement. In A Companion to the Anthropology of Politics. David


Lisa Cliggett, Elizabeth Colson, Rodrick Hay, Thayer Scudder and Jon Unruh


Jane I. Guyer, Eric F. Lambin, Lisa Cliggett, Peter Walker, Kojo Amanor, Thomas Bassett, Elizabeth Colson, Rod Hay, Katherine Homewood, Olga Linares, Opoku Pabi, Pauline Peters, Thayer Scudder, Matthew Turner and Jon Unruh


Elizabeth Colson

2008 A Bibliography of Published and Unpublished Work on the Tonga-Speaking People of Zambia and Zimbabwe [unpublished manuscript, .pdf file available online]. 55 p. Also apparently posted without attribution as a Wikipedia article.


2008 Children at Risk: The Hazards of Childhood in Gwembe Valley [unpublished manuscript]. Manuscript in the author's collection.


2010 Book Review: Immigrant Ambassadors: Citizenship and Belonging in


Lisa Cliggett, Elizabeth Colson, Rodrick Hay, Thayer Scudder and Jon Unruh


Elizabeth Colson


2013 Culture Summary: Tonga [Fq12] [Based on a revision of the author's (1995) encyclopedia entry "Tonga"]. Human Relations Area Files.


Minako Araki, Lisa Cliggett, Elizabeth Colson, Chet S. Lancaster, Barrie Reynolds and Thayer Scudder

2014 Tonga : Fq12, Human Relations Area files [Compendium of some published work on Tonga by Colson and others]. Human Relations
Area Files.

Elizabeth Colson

2016 Bibliography of the Tonga People (Africa) [Published online without Attribution]. Wikipedia.


Additional References

Jack Glazier


D. A. Koenig and L. D. Ralston


Chet Lancaster and Kenneth P. Vickery, eds.


The Bibliography of Elizabeth Florence Colson. Copyright © 2007 The Regents of the University of California. All rights reserved. Document maintained on server: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ by the Anthropology Library. See also a somewhat less encompassing list of citations here.

Catalogued works of Elizabeth Colson, extensively catalogued at the George and Mary Foster Anthropology Library, University of California, Berkeley. Most of these catalogued works are also held by the Anthropology Library.