APPENDIX D

LIST OF WORKS CONSULTED

This Appendix provides a complete list of sources for the bibliography of English versification, including the five primary bibliographies listed in Chapter Three of this book, followed by a selective list for the other languages. Altogether, thirty-six of the seventy-five works listed below are cited elsewhere in the text (see citation numbers), where fuller discussion of these works may be found. Unless otherwise noted, each of these sources has been searched completely. I have also searched all the English and German scholarly journals concerned with linguistics, philology, literary criticism, and general aesthetics which began publication before 1920, the initial date for the MHRA and MLA bibliographies. The annual Jahresberichte published by the German Philological Society are especially valuable. For more extensive references to verse-systems other than English, see the items cited in Appendix A.
I: English


Bailey, Richard W., and Dolores M. Burton. English Stylistics: A Bibliography. Cambridge, Mass.: M.I.T. Press, 1965. Citation data in this work is frequently erroneous; annotations are intermittent but occasionally very long.


Bliss, A. J. "Prosody and Prose Rhythm." The New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature. Ed. George Watson. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1974. cols. 33–52. Unfortunately, the NCBEL reprinted CBEL citations without verification, and consequently the citation data in NCBEL is often unreliable. Nor is there any distinction between trivial and important entries in this very long list of brief titles. But the abridged, one-volume edition of the NCBEL recently announced for publication should improve in the reliability of its citation data, based on corrections supplied by this writer.


International Index to Periodicals. New York: H. W. Wilson Company, 1907–65. After 1965 the series title changes to Social Sciences and Humanities Index until 1974; after 1974 the title is Humanities Index, as the previously composite index is divided into two annual volumes. Valuable as a resource because it covers, especially in the earlier years, a considerable number of both scholarly and popular journals that the MLA did not include. Relevant subject headings vary from decade to decade, but the most productive are: Alliteration, English Language--Rhythm, English Language--Rime, English Language--Versification, English Language--Old English, English Language--Middle English, Poetics, Rime, Shakespeare, William--Versification, Versification.


Kluwer, Jeffrey D. "An Annotated Check List of Writings on Linguistics and Literature in the Sixties." Bulletin of the New York Public Library 76 (1972): 36–91. Given the restrictions of scope evident in its title, this checklist is the most thorough resource of its kind I have seen. Arranged alphabetically are 288 entries, nearly all of them annotated generously, followed by eleven Indexes: Bibliographies, Collections, Theories of Language, Linguistics and Literary Criticism, Linguistic Schools, Prosody, Psycholinguistics, Qualitative Studies, Style and Stylistics, Syntax and Grammar, and Non-Prosodic Analysis of Literary Periods and Authors and Works. Index VI on Prosody (pp. 82–85) contains subsections indexing Meter and Rhythm, Phonology--Sound Texture, Sound and Meaning, Suprasegmentals--Performance, and Prosodic Analyses (by author and poem). The cross-referencing system used here is awkward, but the superabundance of indexes is more than compensatory.


McNamee, Lawrence F. Dissertations in English and American Literature: Theses Accepted in English, American and German Universities 1865-1964. New York: R. R. Bowker, 1968. Also
------. Supplement One 1964-1968. New York, 1969, and


I have searched the volumes for 1920 through 1975, entire. See the annual section on "Metre"; beginning in 1971, the section on "Language, Literature, and the Computer"; and beginning in 1973, the section on "Stylistics."


I have searched the volumes for 1920 through 1968, and the General, English, American, and Linguistics sections of volumes I and III for 1969 through 1978, entire. Unlike the MHRA bibliography, the Postmodern MLA has no section for the traditional subject of Versification, so the student of form must find his sources by the traditional method--reading from cover to cover. Volume III on Linguistics contains a section on "Stylistics," and also a section on "Prosody (Suprasegmentals)." From the title of this latter section, one would expect it to treat aspects of speech (Pitch, Timing, Juncture)--which it does--but it also includes articles on meter and versification, using "Prosody" in the old sense of the term, wherein versification was a subcategory of Grammar. But by preserving the old conception the MLA preserves the old confusions; it is difficult to imagine a rational justification for this organization.

As of January 1979, however, the MLA Bibliographies for 1976-1977 are available for computer searching on a data base in the Lockheed system; a scan for all the variants of the keywords Prosody, Meter, and Versification should net most items of interest. Note also that there is a published Index to vols. 1-50 of PMLA, wherein see s.v. "Metre," "Rhythm," "Rime," and "Versification" (these are not restricted to English).


Brief annotations for 126 well-known sources.


For the study of English versification the relevant articles (all of which conclude with a bibliography) are the following:


Generous annotations on the major works up to 1935 which apply the methods of Acoustics (Phonetics) to English versification.


The successor to Wells. There is usually a subsection on Versification listed under each poem entry in the Bibliography in each volume, but as the section heads are extremely difficult to distinguish typographically I cannot recommend using these volumes extensively.

Long, discursive annotations, but relatively few entries.


II: Other Languages


Linguistic Bibliography/Bibliographie Linguistique. Published by the Permanent International Committee of Linguists Under the Auspices of the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies. Utrecht-Antwerp: Spectrum, 1937–1974 (latest available). See Section 8 on "Prosody, Metre, Versification," beginning with the 1962 volume, and, less usefully, the section on "Stylistics," which has been included from the beginning of the series.


