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Review of the book Historical Dictionary of Poland

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and Adriana Gozdecka-Sanford. Scarecrow, 1994. 339p (European historical dictionaries, 3) bibl afp ISBN 0-8108-2818-9, \$47.50

Beginning with a chronology and overview of Polish history, the authors provide articles on more than 400 people, places, events, institutions, and political parties in Poland past and present. Although most entries are brief, several ("Literature," "Roman Catholicism") exceed three pages. This volume clearly would have benefited from an overall index—for example, the entry for "Kielce" does not discuss the pogrom there, but it is mentioned in the much longer article "Jews." The authors do not discuss their criteria for inclusion, so this reviewer wonders why there are articles on Poland's relations with various countries but no entry for either Czechoslovakia or Cieszyn (Teschen). The one small black-and-white map is outdated, showing Poland's neighbor to be the USSR. The approximately 100-page bibliography is superb, however, covering a wide range of scholarly articles and monographs in English. This well-researched and well-written book will be a valuable reference tool for both students and faculty. All academic and public libraries.—
J. A. Drobnicki, formerly, St. John's University