

A DICTIONARY OF
BRITISH
PLACE NAMES

A. D. MILLS



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British Place Names

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Preface

This new dictionary includes a representative selection of some 17,000 major place names from the whole of the British Isles: England, Scotland and the Scottish islands, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands, and the Isle of Man. It incorporates a fully revised, updated and slightly expanded version of my *Dictionary of English Place Names* (Oxford University Press 1991, second edition 1998), together with wholly new additional entries from the other countries and the islands.

The revisions and refinements in the etymologies of a number of the English place names included reflect the results of the most recent published research, partly that produced in the latest county volumes and other monographs published by the English Place Name Society, partly that made available in various other major studies that have appeared in the last few years. The most important of these publications are listed in the updated Select Bibliography at the end of the book.

New entries covering a good selection of place names from Ireland (both Northern Ireland and the Republic), Scotland and Wales have been compiled by Mr Adrian Room (well known to many readers as a prolific author of numerous books of reference over a wide range of subjects, including names), originally for *The Oxford Names Companion* (2002). The Publishers and I are particularly grateful to Mr Room for most diligently and efficiently providing the initial draft for these additional entries, as well as for drafting new entries for some thirty English district council names not included in my *Dictionary of English Place Names*. Mr Room is also responsible for the useful and informative sections on Irish, Scottish and Welsh place names in the enlarged Introduction.

We have been most fortunate in being able to call on the specialized knowledge of three eminent place name experts to review the Irish, Scottish and Welsh entries respectively. Those for Northern Ireland and the Republic have been reviewed by Dr Kay Muhr, Senior Research Fellow of the Northern Ireland Place Name Project in the Department of Irish and Celtic Studies at Queen's University, Belfast, a former President of the Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland: the Northern Ireland entries are particularly indebted to her colleague Pat McKay's *Dictionary of Ulster Place Names* (Belfast 1999). Those for Scotland have been reviewed by Professor W. F. H. Nicolaisen, Honorary Research Professor at the University of Aberdeen and former President of the International Council of Onomastic Sciences. The entries for Wales have been reviewed by Professor Hywel Wyn Owen, Director of the Place Name Research Centre at the University of Wales, Bangor and Director of the Board of Celtic Studies Place Name Survey of Wales: indeed the Welsh place name entries are heavily indebted to Professor Owen's *The Place Name of Wales* (University of Wales Press, Pocket Guide series, 1998, reprint 2000). The Publishers and I would like to thank these scholars for all their specialist help and advice and for giving their time and expertise to the respective entries in the final list of names. Without their valuable and unique contribution, this volume would not have been possible.

Finally I would like to recall acknowledgements made in the first and second editions of my *Dictionary of English Place Names* (1991 and 1998) to the late Professor Kenneth Cameron and the late Mr Victor Watts who in their capacity as successive Honorary Directors of the English Place Name Survey kindly gave their permission to quote from the detailed county volumes published by the English Place Name Society. The untimely deaths of these two distinguished and respected scholars is a sad loss to place name studies. To them, and to the many others with whom I have discussed names or corresponded, or whose work has been published on various aspects of the subject either recently or over the last few decades, I remain deeply indebted. However I do of course take sole responsibility for the views finally proposed in this book, as well as for any errors or deficiencies remaining.

David Mills

Preface to the Revised Edition

For this revised edition a few light corrections have been made to existing entries and a number of etymologies have been revised or refined in the light of recent research (examples include Blore, Corscombe, Grasby, Hameringham, Penruddock, Rattlesden, Shoreditch and Wambrook). Some 200 new entries have been added. These include several old names dating back to the Anglo-Saxon period (Baulking, Deanshanger, Evesbatch, Tibenham, Worgret), some of them of Scandinavian Viking origin (Antrobus, Galby, Minsmere) and some Celtic (Conock, Dunchideock). Also added are a number of more recent (and often somewhat exotic) transferred names (California, Botany Bay, Lilliput, Quebec), a handful of names that are particularly iconic or at least rich in association (Anfield, Maiden Castle, Piccadilly, Sutton Hoo), and many names (both older and more recent) that are unusual or even downright curious (Boot, Crackpot, Flash, Indian Queens, Old Wives Lees, Pant, Pennycomequick and Wham).

David Mills

Monks Eleigh
July 2011

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Introduction

Place Names and their Meanings

Place names, those familiar but curious labels for places that feature in all their splendid variety on map and signpost, fulfil such an essential function in our daily lives that we take them very much for granted. Yet the place names of the British Isles are as much part of our cultural heritage as the various languages, historical events and landscapes from which they spring, and almost every place name has an older original meaning behind its modern form.

Indeed the place names of the countries and regions that make up the British Isles present us with the most astonishing linguistic richness and diversity. The picture is a complicated one. Names of English (Old English) origin predominate in much of England, but there are significant numbers of Scandinavian (Old Danish and Old Norse) names in the north-west, north, and east of the country, names of Cornish origin in Cornwall, and an overall sprinkling of Norman-French, Latin (rare), and ancient Celtic (Brittonic) names add spice to the mixture. In Ireland, (much of) Scotland, and in Wales, names of Celtic (respectively Irish and Scots Gaelic and Welsh) origin predominate, but again there are significant contributions from English, Scandinavian and Norman-French.

It is probably the case that most people will have wondered at some time or other about the original meaning of a place name—the name of their home town or of the other familiar places encountered en route to work by road or rail, the names of stations and destinations and those seen on road signs and signposts, and the more unusual names discovered on trips into the countryside or on holiday. Why Eccles, Stoke Poges, Great Snoring, or Leighton Buzzard? What is the meaning of names like Bangor, Banff, Bootle, or Ballynabrackey? How on earth did Croydon, Cricieth, and Crewe get their names, not to mention Billericay, Tipperary, and Drumnadrochit?

In fact all these names, like the vast majority of the names included in this dictionary, have original meanings that are not always apparent from their modern forms. That is because most place names today are what could be termed 'linguistic fossils'. Although they originated as living units of speech, coined by our distant ancestors as descriptions of places in terms of their topography, appearance, situation, use, ownership, or other association, most have become, in the course of time, mere labels, no longer possessing a clear linguistic meaning. This is perhaps not surprising when one considers that most place names are a thousand years old or more, and are expressed in vocabulary that may have evolved differently from the equivalent words in the ordinary language, or that may now be completely extinct or obscure.

Of course some place names, even very old ones, have apparently changed very little through the many centuries of their existence, and may still convey something of their original meaning when the words from which they are composed have survived in the ordinary language (even though the features to which they refer may have changed or disappeared). Thus English names such as Claybrooke, Horseheath, Marshwood, Nettlebed, Oxford, Saltmarsh, Sandford, and Woodbridge are shown by their early spellings to be virtually self-explanatory, having undergone little or no change in form or spelling over a very long period.

But even a casual glance at the alphabetical list of place names will show that such instant etymologies are usually a delusion. The modern form of a name can never be assumed to convey its original meaning without early spellings to confirm it, and indeed many names that look equally obvious and easy to interpret prove to have quite unexpected meanings in the light of the evidence of early records. Thus in England the name Easter is

'the sheep-fold', Slaughter 'the muddy place', Swine 'the creek or channel', and Wool 'the spring or springs'—the inevitable association of such names with well-known words in the ordinary vocabulary is understandable but quite misleading, for they all derive from old words which survive in fossilized form in place names but which are no longer found in the language.

Names then can never be taken at their face value, but can only be correctly interpreted after the careful scrutiny of the earliest attested spellings in the light of the dialectal development of the sounds of the appropriate language, after wide comparisons have been made with similar or identical names, and after other linguistic, historical, and geographical factors have been taken into account. These fundamental principles of place name etymology are most clearly illustrated by the names which now have identical forms but which prove to have quite distinct origins: for example, the English name Broughton (found also in Wales) occurs several times but has no less than three different origins ('brook farmstead', 'hill farmstead', and 'fortified farmstead'), the various places called Hinton fall into two distinct groups ('high farmstead' or 'farmstead belonging to a religious community'), and even a place name like Ashford can be deceptive and means something other than 'ash-tree ford' in two instances. On the other hand, English names now with different spellings can turn out to have identical origins: thus Aldermaston and Alderminster are both 'nobleman's farmstead', Chiswick and Keswick are both 'cheese farm', Hatfield and Heathfield are both 'heathy open land', and Naunton, Newington, Newton, Newton, and Niton are all 'new farmstead'. Even place names from quite different linguistic backgrounds can turn out to have identical meanings. Like Blackpool in Lancashire, the name Dublin means 'the black pool' (referring no doubt to the dark waters of the River Liffey), and the Cornish name Penzance means 'holy headland' just like Holyhead in Wales. It goes without saying that guesswork on the basis of a modern form is of little use, and that each name must be the subject of individual scrutiny. For the same reason it should be remembered that the interpretation offered for a particular name in the list may not apply to another name with identical modern spelling occurring elsewhere, which might well have a quite different origin and meaning on the evidence of its early spellings and of other information.

Scope and Arrangement of the Dictionary

The main object of this dictionary is simple—to explain the most likely meanings and origins of some 17,000 British place names in a clear, concise, and easily accessible form, based on the evidence and information so far available. The names included have been selected because they appear in all or several of the popular touring atlases, containing maps on a scale of three or four miles to the inch, produced by the Ordnance Survey and by the motoring organizations and other publishers. Thus the names of all the better-known places in the British Isles have been included: the names of towns and cities, of a good number of villages and hamlets and city suburbs, together with the names of counties and districts (old and new) and of many rivers and coastal features.

The entries are strictly alphabetical, each name being referred to the county or unitary authority in which the place is located. Priority in the entries is given to what the individual name 'means'. Thus wherever possible the suggested original meaning, that thought most likely as deduced from the evidence of early spellings and other information and from the fuller discussions of the name available in more detailed studies, is presented as a 'translation' into a modern English phrase of the old words or 'elements' that make up the name. The elements themselves are usually then cited in their original spelling and language, Celtic, Old English, Old Scandinavian, Gaelic, Welsh, or other as the case may be (a Glossary of some of the most common elements being provided at the end of the book).

Most names can be satisfactorily explained with respect to the elements from which they are derived, although the precise shades of meaning of the individual elements or of a particular compound may not always be easy to ascertain. For some names the evidence

so far available is not decisive, and explanations may be somewhat provisional. A few remain doubtful or obscure or partly so. It is of course possible that earlier or better evidence may still come to light for some names, especially for places in those English counties like Durham, Hampshire, Kent, Lancashire, Somerset, and Suffolk for which there is as yet no English Place Name Society survey, or for places in parts of Ireland, Scotland and Wales where detailed and systematic surveys have still to be completed.

Alternative explanations have often been given for names where two or more interpretations seem possible. For instance it is often difficult to say whether the qualifying element of a compound name is a personal name or a significant word, as in English names like Eversden, Hauxley, Hinxhill, Ranskill, and Yearsley. However for reasons of space some alternative explanations considered rather unlikely, problematical, or controversial have been omitted from the entries, in favour of those judged most plausible. Alternative interpretations of this kind are of course more fully rehearsed and discussed in the detailed surveys and monographs.

It should perhaps be pointed out that although the explanations suggested are considered to be the most likely, and are as accurate and reliable as possible within the limitations of scope and space imposed, final certainty in establishing the original meanings of many older place names is unlikely to be achieved because of the nature of the materials. Given the archaic character of many place names, and the fact that we can rarely know precisely when and by whom they were originally coined or came into use (as opposed to when they first appear in written records), there will always be an element of conjecture in their interpretation. However the study of place names is a continually developing and evolving field, as the last few decades have shown, and further revision and refinement of etymologies is bound to come out of current and future research.

Inevitably the rather concise explanations of meaning and origin attempted in this dictionary, although based on the latest research, have meant leaving aside other important considerations. It has not been possible to enter into the complexities of philological argument, or to explore questions as to the precise nature or location of a topographical or habitative feature, or to examine the identity and status of a person associated with a place and the precise significance of that association. Such matters as these, and many other considerations bearing on the significance of a place name in its historical, archaeological, and geographical context, are of course explored more fully in the various county surveys and studies of name-groups listed in the Select Bibliography, and they should be consulted by the interested reader wanting further information.

Although the scope of the present work does not allow for the presentation of a full range of early attested spellings such as would be required to provide visible support for the etymologies proposed in many cases, at least one early spelling (usually the earliest known) has been cited for most names, together with its date, to give some idea of the age of the name in question and of its original form. The sources of such spellings are not usually given, except where the source is of particular importance or interest, such as the Domesday Book of 1086 (abbreviated as 'DB'). Where spellings from Domesday Book or other early sources are followed by '[*sic*]'—Latin for 'thus'—this indicates that the spelling is cited exactly as it appears in that source even though it is apparently rather erratic or corrupt (the Norman scribes clearly had difficulty with the pronunciation and spelling of many British names!). In entries from the Celtic countries, since most Irish place names and many Scottish and Welsh place names have alternative Celtic and English or anglicized forms (not always corresponding in meaning), these have usually been noted. As before, readers needing further information about these alternative forms, or about the dates and sources of early spellings, or wishing to refer to fuller displays of spellings, should consult the detailed regional surveys and monographs (where these exist) listed in the Select Bibliography.

Elements and personal names cited with an asterisk are postulated or hypothetical forms, that is although there may be good evidence for their assumed existence in the early

languages in question, they are either not recorded in independent use or are only found in use at a later date. To avoid unnecessary complication, the terminology for the provenance of elements and personal names has been somewhat generalized: for instance Old English (OE) stands for all dialects, Anglian, West Saxon, etc.; Old Scandinavian (OScand.) embraces Old Norse and Old Danish as well as forms more correctly labelled Anglo-Scandinavian; Old French (OFrench) includes Norman-French, Anglo-Norman, etc.; and the term Celtic is used for British, Primitive Welsh, and the other early related Brittonic languages. Similarly the term 'personal name' is used of personal names proper as well as of bynames formed in the early period.

In compound names, where both elements are from the same language the term or abbreviation for that language appears only once: e.g. OE *sand* + *wīc* for Sandwich. Where two elements are from different languages in a so-called hybrid name, each element is separately labelled, e.g. OE **wīlig* + OScand. *toft* for Willitof. Cross references to other place names in the alphabetical list are given in small capitals. Place names and river-names no longer in current use are printed in italics (e.g. *Ashwell* under Ashwellthorpe, *Ravenser* under Spurn Head, and River *Ann* under Ampport and Andover).

Elliptical place names of various kinds have been given the fuller meanings that seemed appropriate. Thus English names of the type Byfleet and Underbarrow, consisting of preposition + noun, literally 'by stream' and 'under hill', have been translated '(place) by the stream', '(place) under the hill' to bring out the implicit meaning. So-called folk-names (originally the names of family or tribal groups rather than of places) have been similarly treated, for example Barking has been rendered '(settlement of) the family or followers of a man called *Berica'.

The Chronology and Languages of English Place Names

Place names show an astonishing capacity for survival, as the dates alone of most of the earliest spellings testify, even though it should be remembered that every name will of course be older than its earliest occurrence in the records, often a good deal older. In general it might be claimed that most of the English names included in this book are about a thousand years old, and that a good many are older than that. The various strata of English place names reflect all the great historical migrations, conquests, and settlements of the past and the different languages spoken by successive waves of inhabitants.

Some river-names, few in number but the most ancient of all, seem to belong to an unknown early Indo-European language which is neither Celtic nor Germanic. Such pre-Celtic names, sometimes termed 'Old European', may have been in use among the very early inhabitants of these islands in Neolithic times, and it is assumed that they were passed on to Celtic settlers arriving from the Continent about the 4th century BC. Among the ancient names that possibly belong to this small but important group are Colne, Humber, Itchen, and Wey.

During the last four centuries BC there took place the invasions and settlements of the Iron-Age Celts, peoples speaking various Celtic dialects which can be divided into two main groups, Goidelic or Gaelic (later differentiated into Irish, Scots, and Manx) and Brittonic or British (later differentiated into Welsh and Cornish). Celtic place names coined in British (really the language of the ancient Britons) were in use for several centuries and some have survived from the period when this Celtic language was spoken over the whole of what is now England as well as further west. These early place names of Celtic or British origin were borrowed by the Anglo-Saxons when they came to Britain from the 5th century AD onwards and are found all over England, only sporadically in the east but increasing in numbers further west towards Cornwall and Wales where they are of course still predominant. Celtic place names belong for the most part to several well-defined categories: names of tribes or territories like Devon and Leeds, names of important towns and cities like Carlisle, York, and Dover, names of hills and forests (now often transferred to places) like Crick, Mellor, Penge,

and Lytchett, and most frequent of all, river-names like Avon, Exe, Frome, Peover, and Trent. There are also a good many hybrid names, consisting of a Celtic name to which an Old English element has been added, like Lichfield, Chatham, Bredon, and Manchester. Some places, important at a very early date, had Celtic names in Romano-British times which were later replaced, for instance Cambridge was *Duroliponte*, Canterbury was *Durovernum*, and Leicester was *Ratae*: for these, reference should be made to the fuller treatments of individual names in the county surveys or to the specialized study by Rivet and Smith (see Bibliography).

The Roman occupation of Britain during the first four centuries AD left little mark on place names, for it is clear that Latin was mainly the official written language of government and administration rather than the spoken language of the countryside. Thus Celtic names, though usually Latinized in written sources, continued to be used throughout this period and were not replaced. However a few early names like Catterick and Lincoln contain Latin elements, and others like Eccles and (probably) Caterham were coined from Celtic elements that were borrowed from Latin during this early period. The small part played by Latin in place name formation during the Romano-British period should be distinguished from the later influence of Latin on English place names during the medieval period. In the Middle Ages, Latin was again the language of the church and administration, and this Medieval Latin was widely used in affixes like *Forum* 'market', *Magna* 'great', and *Regis* 'of the king' to distinguish places with identical names, as well as occasionally in the formation of names like Bruera, Dacorum, and Pontefract.

The Anglo-Saxon conquest and settlement of Britain began in the 5th century AD, spreading from east to west and culminating in the occupation of the whole of what is now England (except for Cornwall and some areas along the Welsh border), as well as south-east Scotland, by the 9th century. These new settlers were the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, Germanic tribes from Northern Europe whose language was Anglo-Saxon, now usually called Old English to emphasize its continuity with Middle and Modern English. It is in this language, Old English, that the great majority of the place names now in use in England were coined. This dominant stratum in English place names (apart from those of Cornwall) is a result of the political domination by the Anglo-Saxons of the Celtic-speaking Britons and the gradual imposition of the Old English language on them. Many Celtic names were borrowed by the incomers as already mentioned (important evidence for the survival of a British population and for continuity and contact between the two peoples), but thousands of new names were coined in Old English during the Anglo-Saxon period between the 5th and 11th centuries. Thus the majority of English towns and villages, and a good many hamlets and landscape features, have names of Old English origin that predate the Norman Conquest. These names vary in age, and it is not always easy to tell which names belong to the earlier phases of the settlement and which to the later part of the Anglo-Saxon period, although detailed studies have shown that many of the names containing the elements *hām*, *-ingas*, *-inga-*, *ĕg*, *feld*, *ford*, and *dūn* are among the earliest. It should in any case be remembered that all names are older than their earliest recorded spelling, so that names first mentioned in, for example, Domesday Book (1086) or even in a 12th-century source usually have their origins in this period.

The Scandinavian invasions and settlements took place during the 9th, 10th, and 11th centuries and resulted in many place names of Scandinavian origin in the north, north-west and east of England (as well of course as in many other parts of the British Isles). The Vikings came to Britain from two Scandinavian countries, Denmark and Norway, the Danes settling principally in East Anglia, the East Midlands, and a large part of Yorkshire, whilst the Norwegians were mainly concentrated in the north-west, especially Lancashire and Cumbria (as well as in areas outside England, particularly northern and western Scotland, the Isle of Man and the Scottish islands, and coastal districts of Ireland and Wales). The Germanic languages spoken by these Vikings, Old Danish and Old Norse (in this book

referred to jointly as Old Scandinavian), were similar in many ways to Old English, but there were also striking differences in sound system and vocabulary which reveal themselves in the early spellings of many place names from the areas mentioned. Although names of Scandinavian origin are rare to the south of Watling Street (because that formed the boundary of the Danelaw, which was the area subject to Danish law, established in the late 9th century), the distribution of Scandinavian names in the north and east varies greatly, parts of Norfolk, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, and Yorkshire being among the areas with the thickest concentration. To explain such large numbers of Scandinavian place names in these areas, recent scholarship has suggested that in addition to settlements made by Viking warriors and their descendants there was probably a large-scale migration and colonization from the Scandinavian homelands in the wake of the invasion. Many hundreds of names in the areas mentioned are completely of Scandinavian origin (Kirkby, Lowestoft, Scunthorpe, Braithwaite), others are hybrids, a mixture of Scandinavian and English (Grimston, Durham, Welby), and some (on account of the similarity of some Old English and Old Scandinavian words) could be from either language (Crook, Kettleburgh, Lytham, Snape). In addition many place names of Old English origin were modified by Scandinavian speech in these areas, for example by the substitution of *sk* and *k* sounds for *sh* and *ch* in names like Skidbrooke, Skipton, Keswick, and Kippax.

The number of English place names of French origin is relatively small, in spite of the far-reaching effects of the Norman Conquest on English social and political life and on the English language in general. It is clear that by 1066, most settlements and landscape features already had established names, but the new French-speaking aristocracy and ecclesiastical hierarchy often gave distinctively French names to their castles, estates, and monasteries (Battle, Belvoir, Grosmont, Montacute, Richmond), some of them transferred directly from France, and there are a few names of French origin referring to landscape and other features (Devizes, Malpas). However the French influence on English place names is perhaps most evident in the way the names of the great French-speaking feudal families were affixed to the names of the manors they possessed. These manorial additions result in a great many hybrid 'double-barrelled' names which contribute considerable variety and richness to the map of England. Most of them serve to distinguish one manor from another with an identical name, and of course the surnames of the more powerful land-owning families occur in a good many different place names (Kingston Lacy, Stanton Lacy, Sutton Courtenay, Hirst Courtney, Drayton Bassett, Wootton Bassett, and so on). Some place names of this type are not easily recognizable from their modern spellings, since the manorial affixes are now compounded with the original elements (Herstmonceux, Owermoigne, Stogursey). A further important aspect of the French influence on English place names is the way it affected their spelling and pronunciation. Norman scribes had difficulty with some English sounds, often substituting their own (as seen for instance in the spellings of Domesday Book and other early medieval sources). Some of these Norman spellings have had a permanent effect on the names in question and have remained in use, disguising the original forms (Cambridge, Cannock, Diss, Durham, Nottingham, Salop, Trafford).

Of course not all of the names on the modern map, even names of sizeable settlements or well-known features, are as old as most of those so far mentioned. Other names besides the French names already noted originated in the Middle English period, that is between the 12th and 15th centuries inclusive. These include settlement names incorporating post-Conquest personal names and surnames like Bassenthwaite, Forston, and Vauxhall, names containing old elements but not on early record like Bournemouth and Paddock Wood, and various other names such as Broadstairs, Forest Row, Poplar, and Sacriston.

Finally there are some place names, perhaps surprisingly few, which originate in the post-medieval period or even in quite recent times. Many of course are names of new industrial towns or of suburban developments, others are names of coastal resorts or ports or of new administrative districts. Most of these 'modern' names seem rather artificial creations

compared with the earlier place names that began life as actual descriptions of habitations or natural features. Some are in fact simply straight transfers of older names without any change of form (like the London borough-name Waltham Forest, or the 'revived' district names Bassetlaw and Dacorum), some are based on rather fanciful identifications of ancient names made by early antiquarians (like Adur and Morecambe), and others are new adaptations of existing old names with some sort of addition (like Devonport, Thamesmead, and New Brighton). Of the newly formed modern names, some are straightforwardly descriptive of a local feature whether natural (Highcliffe) or man-made (Ironbridge), others are named from a building around which the settlement developed (the pub in Nelson and Queensbury, the chapel in St Helens and Chapel St Leonards), some are named from fields (Hassocks and Whyteleafe), others refer to local products (Coalville, Port Sunlight), commemorate a famous historical event (Peacehaven, Vigo, Waterloo) or even a famous novel (Westward Ho!). In addition a good number of the names coined in more recent times commemorate entrepreneurs or other notable individuals, some consisting simply of their names (Fleetwood, Peterlee, Telford), others incorporating these into a sort of spurious form that looks older than it is (Carterton, Maryport, Stewartby), others referring to landowners (Camden Town) or local families (Burgess Hill, Gerrards Cross).

Some Different Place Name Types and Structures

All English place names, whether of Celtic, Old English, or Scandinavian origin, can be divided into three main groups: folk-names, habitative names, and topographical names.

Of the three, **folk-names** form the smallest group though nevertheless a very important and interesting one. Place names in this category were originally the names of the inhabitants of a place or district. Thus tribal names came to denote the district occupied by the tribe, as with Essex and Sussex (both old Anglo-Saxon kingdoms), and Norfolk and Suffolk (divisions of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of East Anglia). The names Jarrow, Hitchin, and Ripon also represent tribes (later their territories) from Anglo-Saxon times, and names like Clewer and Ridware must represent the settlements of smaller groups. Of particular interest, because they are to be associated with the early phases of the Anglo-Saxon settlement, are the names formed with the suffix *-ingas* ('people of', 'dwellers at') like Hastings, Reading, and Spalding, all of them originally denoting family or tribal groups, later their settlements.

Habitative names form a much larger group. They denoted inhabited places from the start, whether homesteads, farms or enclosures, villages or hamlets, strongholds, cottages, or other kinds of building or settlement. In names of this type the second element describes the kind of habitation, and among others the Old English elements *hām* 'homestead', *tūn* 'farm', *worth* 'enclosure', *wīc* 'dwelling', *cot* 'cottage', *burh* 'stronghold', and the Old Scandinavian elements *bý* 'farmstead' and *thorp* 'outlying farmstead' are particularly common, as in names like Streatham, Middleton, Lulworth, Ipswich, Didcot, Aylesbury, Grimsby, and Woodthorpe. Detailed studies of the various habitative elements have shown that they had a wide range of meanings which varied according to their use at different periods or in different parts of the country or in combination with other elements. For example Old English *tūn* may have its original meaning 'enclosure' in some names, whereas in others 'farmstead', 'village', 'manor', or 'estate' may be more appropriate. The reader is recommended to consult the Glossary at the end of the book to discover some of the alternative meanings evidenced for other habitative elements like *beretīn*, *burh*, *thorp*, *wīc*, **wīc-hām*, and so on.

Topographical names also form a very large and diverse group. Some may have consisted originally of a description of some topographical or physical feature, either natural or man-made, which was then transferred to the settlement near the feature named, probably at a very early date. Others may have been applied as settlement-names to already established (pre-English) settlement sites characterized by the topographical feature. Thus names for

rivers and streams, springs and lakes, fords and roads, marshes and moors, hills and valleys, woods and clearings, and various other landscape features are also the names of inhabited places. Typical examples of the type are Sherborne, Fulbrook, Bakewell, Tranmere, Oxford, Breamore, Stodmarsh, Swindon, Goodwood, Bromsgrove, Bexley, and Hatfield—all have second elements that denote topographical features. Indeed our early ancestors made use of a vast topographical vocabulary, applied with precision and subtlety in any one period or locality to the natural and artificial features they depended upon for their subsistence and survival. However, the meanings of topographical terms can vary a good deal from name to name, for some elements used over a long period in the formation of English place names underwent considerable changes of meaning during medieval times, for instance Old English *feld* originally ‘open land’ developed a later sense ‘enclosed plot’, Old English *wald* ‘forest’ came to mean ‘open upland’, and Old English *lēah* ‘wood’ became ‘woodland clearing’ and then ‘meadow’. The choice of the most likely meaning for one of these elements in an individual name is therefore a matter of judgement, based among other things on locality, the nature of the compound, and assumptions about the age of the name. Moreover recent research has increasingly shown that what seem to be similar terms for hills or valleys, woodland or marshland, or agricultural land, had fine distinctions of meaning in early times. For instance the different Old English terms for ‘hill’ like *dūn*, *hyll*, *hrycg*, *hōh*, *hēafod*, and **ofer*, far from being synonymous, seem to have had their own specialized meanings. In addition these and other common topographical elements like *ēg* ‘island’, *hamm* ‘enclosure’, and *halh* ‘nook’ were each capable of a wide range of extended meanings according to date, region, and the character of the landscape itself. Indeed the meanings suggested for names containing these elements can often be checked and refined by those with a close knowledge of the local topography of the places in question. The Glossary at the end of the book provides a selection of the meanings found for some of these topographical elements and gives an idea of the great range and variety of this vocabulary.

From the structural point of view, most English place names are compounds, that is they consist of two elements, the first of which usually qualifies the second. The first element in such compounds may be a noun, an adjective, a river-name, a personal name, or a tribal name. The names mentioned in the last paragraph are typical examples of compound place names formed during the Old English period. However some place names, known as simplex, consist of one element only, at least to begin with: examples include names like Combe (‘the valley’), Hale, Lea, Stoke, Stowe, Thorpe, Worth, and Wyke. Less common are names consisting of three elements such as Claverton (‘burdock ford farmstead’), Redmarley, Woodmansterne, and Wotherton; in most of these the third element has probably been added later to an already existing compound. There are also other kinds of place name composition, one of the most frequent being the use of the medial connective particle *-ing-* in place names like Paddington, probably best explained as ‘estate associated with a man called Padda’. In addition some compound place names in the western parts of England (especially in Cornwall, counties bordering Wales, and in Cumbria) have a different formation. They are so-called ‘name-phrases’ in which the usual order of elements as found in English place names is reversed following Celtic practice. In this group are names like Aspatria (‘Patrick’s ash-tree’), Bewaldeth, Brigsteer, Landulph, and Tremaine. Of course names with this characteristic Celtic word-order are also predominant throughout Ireland, Wales, and much of Scotland.

So-called ‘double-barrelled’ names, usually originating as ordinary simplex or compound names but later having an affix added to distinguish them from similar or identical names, are often of the manorial type already mentioned in which the affix is the name of a land-owning individual or family (for example Langton Matravers or Leighton Buzzard). But many other kinds of affix occur, most of them dating from the 13th or 14th centuries. Some refer to the size or shape of the place as in Much Wenlock or Long Buckley, others to geographical position relative to neighbouring manors as in High Barnet or Nether and Over Haddon, others to soil conditions as in Black Callerton or Dry Doddington, or to a local product as in

Iron Acton and Saffron Walden. Some affixes indicate the presence of a castle or other building or the existence of a market, as in Castle Rising, Steeple Bumpstead, Market Harborough, and Chipping Sodbury. A good number of the most notable affixes are Latin, as already noted, among them such resounding examples as Barton in Fabis, Ryme Intrinseca, Toller Porcorum, and Whitchurch Canonicorum (the last three from Dorset). But even the 'double-barrelled' names are not always what they seem: names like East Garston and Tur Langton which at face value seem to belong to this category turn out to have unexpected origins as ordinary compounds that are now completely disguised.

Many old place names, especially compounds, have undergone some degree of reduction or contraction in the long period since they were first coined. Some names originally consisting of several syllables like Brighton or York have been considerably reduced by the centuries of use in speech. A common characteristic of compound place names, and one which often helps to disguise their origin, is the shortening of original long vowels and diphthongs, as in compound words in the ordinary vocabulary. Just as *holi-* and *bon-* in the compounds *holiday* and *bonfire* represent *holy* and *bone* with their historically long vowels (*hālig* and *bān* in Old English), so in compound place names Old English elements like *brād* 'broad', *brōm* 'broom', *hām* 'homestead', *stān* 'stone', and *strēt* 'street' occur with shortened vowels in names like Bradford, Bromley, Hampstead, Stanley, Standon, Stratford, and Stretton. The same tendency, together with weakening of stress, also affected the second elements of compound names, resulting in some originally distinct elements coinciding in form and pronunciation. Once shortened, the important Old English habitative element *hām* 'homestead, village' came to sound like the quite separate topographical element *hamm* 'enclosure, river-meadow'. As a result, without definite evidence of one kind or another, it is not possible to be sure whether a number of place names originally contained *hām* or *hamm* (in such cases both elements will usually have been cited as possible alternatives). The same combination of shortening of vowel and weakening of stress leads to the confusion of other elements that were originally quite distinct, among them Old English *dūn* 'down, hill', *denu* 'valley', and *tūn* 'farmstead': thus the modern forms of Croydon (from *denu*), Morden (from *dūn*), and Islington (also from *dūn*) belie their origins.

Some of the archaic features of English place names are grammatical in origin. Old English was a highly inflected language, and although certain grammatical endings of Old English nouns, adjectives, and personal names disappeared from the ordinary language by the 11th or 12th centuries, they have left their permanent mark on a good number of place names. Thus the genitive (i.e. possessive) singular of so-called 'weak' nouns and personal names (Old English *-n*) often survives as *-n* in names like Dagenham (Old English *Dæccan hām* '*Dæcca's homestead'), Graveney, Putney, Tottenham, and Watnall. There are also many fossilized remains of the Old English dative endings of nouns and adjectives in place names, since place names would often naturally occur in adverbial or prepositional contexts requiring the dative case in Old English. Thus the old dative singular ending of the 'weak' adjective (*-an*) is often preserved in the middle of a modern name, as for instance in Bradnop (Old English *brādan hope* '(at) the broad valley'), Bradenham, Henley, and Stapenhill. Even more common are modern place names that reflect the old dative case ending of an Old English noun. Thus the names Cleeve, Hale, and Sale derive from old dative forms of the words *clif*, *halh*, and *salh*, and most examples of the name Barrow represent Old English *bearwe* '(at) the wood or grove'. The common element *burh* 'fortified place' (the word *borough* in modern English) often appears in place names as *Bury*, *-bury* from the Old English dative singular form *byrig*, but as *Burgh*, *-borough* from the nominative case of the same word. The distinctive dative plural ending *-um* of the Old English noun has also left its trace in the modern forms of many place names, especially in the Midlands and North. Instances include Coatham, Cotham, Coton, Cottam, and Cotton (all probably from Old English *cotum* '(at) the cottages'), Laneham (from Old English *lanum* '(at) the lanes'), and

other similar names like Downholm, Newsham, and Oaken. Occasionally too, in the place names of the old Danelaw area of the North and East, old grammatical endings from the early Scandinavian languages spoken by the Vikings have been preserved. Thus there are traces of an old genitive (possessive) ending *-ar* in names like Helperthorpe, Osmotherley, and Windermere, an Old Scandinavian plural ending *-ar* is reflected in the modern forms of Sawrey and Burton upon Stather, and the Old Scandinavian dative plural *-um* is found in names like Arram and Kelham.

It should perhaps be noted here that many of the shorter Old English and Scandinavian men's names in use in the Anglo-Saxon period and incorporated into place names, especially those ending in *-a* or *-i*, actually resemble names used for women in modern times. For this reason particular care has been taken in the explanations of place names to indicate the gender of the person involved. Examples of such masculine personal names liable to be misinterpreted by the modern reader include Anna (in Amble and Ancaster), Betti (in Beachley and Bettiscombe), Emma (in Emley), Hilda (in Hillingdon), Káti (in Cadeby), Lill (in Lilleshall), and Sali (in Saleby). To a more limited extent the opposite may also be true, that some Old English and Scandinavian women's names may have rather a masculine look to the modern reader, and place names incorporating these are explained with this in mind, examples being Helperby, Kenilworth, and Wilbraham containing the feminine personal names Hjalp, Cynehild, and Wilburh respectively.

The phenomenon known as 'back-formation' accounts for a good many modern river-names. Once the original meaning of a place name was forgotten, there was sometimes a tendency for antiquarians and others to try to reinterpret it as if it contained the name of the river or stream on which the place was situated. Thus Plym came to be the name of the river at Plympton because the village name (historically 'farmstead of the plum-tree') came to be understood as 'farmstead on the stream called Plym'. Other examples of back-formation include Arun from Arundel, Chelmer from Chelmsford, Len from Lenham, Mole from Molesey, Roch from Rochdale, Rom from Romford, Stort from Stortford, and Wandle from Wandsworth. Many of these rivers and streams are known to have had genuine earlier names which were replaced by the new back-formations, usually from about the 16th century onwards.

Irish Place Names

A glance at a map of Ireland will show a preponderance of anglicized Irish place names, both in the Republic and in Northern Ireland. Most of them are descriptive of some kind of settlement, building, or natural feature and include such frequently found elements as *Bally-* (Irish *baile*, 'farmstead, townland') *Carrick-* or *Carrig-* (*carraig*, 'rock'), *Derry-* (*doire*, 'oak grove'), *Drum-* (*droim*, 'ridge'), *Inch-* or *Inish-* (*inis*, 'island'), *Kil-* or *Kill-* (*cill*, 'church', but sometimes *coill*, 'wood'), *Knock-* (*cnoc*, 'hill'), *Letter-* (*leitir*, 'hillside'), and *Slieve-* (*sliabh*, 'mountain'). Both *Lis-* (*lios*) and *Rath-* (*ráth*) are usually translated 'ring fort', the former word denoting the fort as a whole and the latter usually implying the presence of a church or monastery. *Dun-* (*dún*), on the other hand, usually rendered 'fort' or 'fortress', denotes the dwelling of a king or chieftain. The commonly occurring *Ballin-* or *Ballina-* may represent either *baile na*, 'homestead of the ...', or *béal átha na*, 'ford-mouth of the ...'. Examples of such names and their respective Irish forms are *Ballyshrule* (*Baile Sruthail*), 'townland of the stream', *Carrickfergus* (*Carraig Fhearghais*), 'Fergus's rock', *Derryboy* (*Doire Buí*), 'yellow oak grove', *Drumahoe* (*Droim na hUamha*), 'ridge of the cave', *Kilteely* (*Cill Tíle*), 'Til's church', *Killadangan* (*Coill an Daingin*), 'wood of the fortress', *Knockmoyle* (*Cnoc Maoil*), 'bald hill', *Letterbrick* (*Leitir Bruic*), 'hillside of the badger', *Slieveardagh* (*Sliabh Ardach*), 'mountain of the high field', *Lismore* (*Lios Mór*), 'big fort', *Rathfeigh* (*Ráth Faiche*), 'fort of the green', *Dungannon* (*Dún Geanainn*), 'Geanann's fort', *Ballinderreen* (*Baile an Doirín*), 'townland of the little oak grove', and *Ballingar* (*Béal Átha na gCarr*), 'ford-mouth of the carts'.

Other common Irish place name words include *achadh*, 'field', *aird*, 'promontory', *beag*, 'small', *beann* or *binn*, 'peak', *bóthar*, 'road', *caol*, 'narrow (place)', *cloch*, 'stone', *cluain*, 'meadow', *craobh*, 'tree', *domhnach*, 'church' (from Latin *dominicum*), *glas*, 'grey-green', *gléann*, 'valley', *loch*, 'lake', *mainistir*, 'monastery' (from Latin *monasterium*), *ros*, 'promontory', or sometimes 'grove', *teach*, 'house', often implying a saint's house, *teampall*, 'church' (from Latin *templum*), *tobar*, 'well', and *tóchar*, 'causeway'. Examples of names incorporating these are *Aghaboe* (*Achadh Bó*), 'field of the cows', *Ardmore* (*Aird Mhór*), 'great promontory', *Beginish* (*Beag Inis*), 'small island', *Benbeg* (*Beann Beag*), 'little peak', *Boherard* (*Bóthar Ard*), 'high road', *Kealkill* (*An Caolchoill*), 'the narrow wood', *Clonakilty* (*Cloich na Coillte*), 'stone of the woods', *Clonmore* (*Cluain Mhór*), 'large pasture', *Creevelea* (*Craobh Liath*), 'grey sacred tree', *Donaghmore* (*Domhnach Mór*), 'big church', *Glaslough* (*Glasloch*), 'grey-green lake', *Glendowan* (*Gléann Domhain*), 'deep valley', *Loughrea* (*Loch Riach*), 'grey lake', *Monasterevin* (*Mainistir Eimhín*), 'Eimhín's monastery', *Rosslare* (*Ros Láir*), 'middle promontory', *Timolin* (*Tigh Moling*), 'Moling's house', *Templemichael* (*Teampall Mhichil*), 'Michael's church', *Tobercurry* (*Tobar an Choire*), 'well of the cauldron', and *Ballintogher* (*Baile an Tóchair*), 'homestead of the causeway'.

Caiseal and *caisleán* both mean 'castle' (from Latin *castellum*), but the former word is normally used of a ring fort with stone walls, while the latter is used specifically of a medieval or post-medieval castle. *Caiseal* is mostly found in the north-west of the country. Examples are *Cashelgarran* (*Caiseal an Ghearráin*), 'fort of the horse', and *Castledearg* (*Caisleán na Deirge*), 'castle of the (river) Derg'.

Viking settlers introduced Scandinavian names to the east and south coasts of Ireland from the 9th century. Many end in *-ford*, which is not 'ford' but 'sea inlet' (OScand. *fjorþr*, English *fjord*), as for *Carlingford*, 'inlet of the hag', *Strangford*, 'inlet with a strong current', and *Waterford*, 'inlet where wethers are loaded'. *Wicklow* is 'Vikings' meadow' (*vikingr* + *ló*), while Dublin's *Howth* is *hofuth*, 'headland'. *Wexford* combines OIrish *escir*, 'sandbank', and OScand. *fjorþr*. Inland, *Leixlip* is 'salmon leap' (*leax* + *hlaup*). Most places with Scandinavian names have unrelated Irish names, so Waterford is *Port Láirge*, 'bank of the haunch', and Wexford *Loch Garman*, 'lake of the (river) Garma'. The province names *Leinster*, *Munster*, and *Ulster* have an OScand. genitive *-s* before Irish *tír*, 'territory'. The name of *Dublin* is Irish (*dubh* + *linn*, 'black pool'), but was used by the Vikings for the town they built by the River Liffey. The city's official Irish name is *Baile Átha Cliath*, 'town of the hurdle ford'.

Anglo-Norman place names appeared in the 12th century. Few now remain, but examples are *Mitchelstown*, 'Mitchel's homestead', and *Pomeroy*, 'apple orchard'. Some Anglo-Norman names were subsequently gallicized, such as *Ballylanders* (Irish *Baile an Londraigh*), 'de Londra's homestead', presumably denoting an Anglo-Norman family from London.

The Plantations of the 16th and 17th centuries brought an influx of more directly English names, such as *Cookstown* and *Draperstown*. The Irish names are often unrelated, as *An Chorr Chríochach*, 'the boundary hill', for Cookstown, and *Baile na Croise*, 'town of the cross', for Draperstown. *Maryborough*, named from Queen Mary I of England, is now known by its Irish name of *Port Laoise*, 'port of the tribe of Laeighis', while *Queen's County*, after the same monarch, is now again *Laois*, earlier anglicized as *Leix*. *Offaly* (*Uibh Fhailil*), '(place of the) descendants of Failge', was similarly *King's County*, after Mary's husband, King Philip II of Spain, but *Kingstown*, now again *Dun Laoghaire*, 'Laoghaire's fort', was a later renaming, after King George IV.

Scottish Place Names

Scotland's earliest Celtic names are British (Cumbric), in a language akin to Welsh spoken by the 'Ancient' Britons, or Pictish, in a similar language spoken by the Picts. Names such as

Glasgow, 'green hollow', and *Melrose*, 'bare moor', are British, while Pictish produced the distinctive *Pit-* names found in the northeast of Scotland, Fife, and Angus, such as *Pitcairn*, *Pitlochry*, and *Pittenuem*. The element represents Pictish **pett*, 'portion (of land)', a word ultimately related to English *piece*.

The majority of Scotland's names are Gaelic, however, in the language of the original Scots from Ireland. They incorporate such common words as *ard*, 'height, point' (*Ardnamurchan*, 'point of the otters'), *baile*, 'homestead, village' (*Ballantrae*, 'village on the shore'), *beinn*, 'mountain' (*Benbrack*, 'speckled mountain'), *ceann*, 'head, end' (*Kintyre*, 'end of the land'), *cill*, 'church' (*Kilbride*, 'church of St Bridget'), *druim*, 'ridge' (*Drumnadrochit*, 'ridge of the bridge'), *dùn*, 'fort' (*Dunoon*, 'river fort'), *inis*, 'island' (*Inchcolm*, 'St Columba's island'), *inbhir*, 'river mouth' (*Inverness*, 'mouth of the River Ness'), *loch*, 'lake' (*Lochinvar*, 'lake of the height'), *ros*, 'promontory' (*Rosemarkie*, 'point of land by the horse stream'), and *srath*, 'valley' (*Strathallan*, 'valley of the Allan Water').

South-eastern Scotland has a number of English names, introduced by the Northumbrian Angles from the 7th century. Examples are *Haddington*, 'farm associated with Hada', *Prestwick*, 'outlying farm of the priests', and *Whithorn*, 'white building'. From the 8th century, Scandinavian names began to appear, especially in northern and north-western Scotland. Among them are *Dingwall*, 'field of the assembly', *Kirkwall*, 'church bay', *Lerwick*, 'mud inlet', *Scalloway*, 'bay by the shielings', and *Stornoway*, 'steering bay'. OScand. *bólstathr*, 'homestead', lies behind a number of names in the north, and especially in Orkney and Shetland, such as *Isbister*, 'east dwelling', *Kirkabister*, 'church homestead', *Lybster*, 'dwelling place by the slope', and *Scrabster*, 'homestead of the young seagull'. The word is greatly reduced in *Skibo*, 'Skíthi's farm'. OScand. *kirkja*, 'church', the source of Scottish *kirk*, gave such names as *Kirkcudbright*, 'St Cuthbert's church', *Kirkoswald*, 'St Oswald's church', and the common *Kirkton*, 'village with a church'. In the first two of these, the word order is Celtic, not Scandinavian.

More recent names include Norman French names such as *Beaully* ('beautiful place'), 'military' names of the 17th and 18th centuries, such as *Fort Augustus*, *Fort George*, and *Fort William*, and names dating from this same period that commemorate a settlement's founder or his wife or daughter, such as *Bettyhill*, *Campbeltown*, *Fraserburgh*, *Grantown*, *Helensburgh*, and *Jemimaville*. *Edinburgh*, popularly derived from St Edwin, 7th-century king of Northumbria, in fact dates from before his time.

Welsh Place Names

The majority of place names in Wales are Welsh and descriptive of a natural feature or location, such as *Moelfre*, 'bare hill', or *Penmaenmawr*, 'headland of the great rock'. Common Welsh words in place names include *aber*, 'river-mouth' (*Aberystwyth*, 'mouth of the Ystwyth'), *caer*, 'fort' (*Caerphilly*, 'Ffili's fort'), *cwm*, 'valley' (*Cwmafan*, 'valley of the Afan'), *llan*, 'church' (*Llanfair*, 'St Mary's church'), *llyn*, 'lake' (*Llyn Tegid*, 'Tegid's lake'), *nant*, 'stream, valley' (*Nantyglo*, 'valley of the coal'), *tre* or *tref*, 'farm' (*Trefeglwys*, 'church farm'), *pont*, 'bridge' (*Pontypridd*, 'bridge by the earthen house'), and *porth*, 'harbour' (*Porthcawl*, 'harbour of the sea kale').

Viking raids on the coasts of Wales from the 9th century have left their imprint in distinctive Scandinavian names, especially those of islands such as *Anglesey*, 'Ongull's island', *Caldy*, 'cold island', *Ramsey*, 'wild garlic island', and *Skomer*, 'cloven island'. Coastal towns with Viking names include *Fishguard*, 'fish yard', *Milford Haven*, 'harbour at the sandy inlet', and *Swansea*, 'Sveinn's island'. Norman names followed from the 11th century, such as *Beaumaris*, 'beautiful marsh', *Grosmont*, 'great hill', and *Malpas*, 'difficult passage'. English names became established from the 12th century, such as *Chepstow*, 'market place', *Haverfordwest*, 'western ford of the goats', *Holyhead*, 'holy headland', and *Wrexham*, 'Wryhtel's river meadow'. *Snowdon*, 'snow hill', is recorded in 1095.

Distinctive names of the 18th and 19th centuries are those adopted from biblical places, such as *Bethesda* and *Carmel*. They are mainly names of small villages that arose around a Nonconformist chapel. The slate quarries of *Bethesda* made it a town with a name of this type. Mine owners, ironmasters, or other industrial or commercial entrepreneurs gave their names to such places as *Griffithstown*, *Morrison*, *Port Talbot*, and *Tredegar*. Such names are mostly found in South Wales.

A number of places in Wales have a name that is an anglicized form of the Welsh original, such as *Cardiff* (*Caerdydd*) and *Denbigh* (*Dinbych*), while several places with Scandinavian or English names have an unrelated Welsh name, such as *Abergwaun*, 'mouth of the (river) Gwaun', for Fishguard, *Abertawe*, 'mouth of the (river) Tawe', for Swansea, and *Caergybi*, 'Cybi's fort', for Holyhead. *Montgomery*, named from its Norman lord, is Welsh *Trefaldwyn*, 'town of Baldwin', another Norman.

The Wider Significance of Place Names

It will of course already be apparent that the interest of a place name does not stop at its etymological meaning and derivation: rather these provide the basic and essential starting point for the fuller appreciation of a place name's significance in its wider linguistic, historical, archaeological, or geographical context. Although the scope of the present book does not allow this fuller exploration and appraisal of individual names, a few other points will be touched upon here in addition to those already mentioned, and readers are recommended to follow up such aspects as may interest them in the various studies listed in the Select Bibliography.

Place names can tell us a great deal about tribal migrations, invasions and settlements. In England, older names of Celtic origin (supported by place names containing such elements as Old English *walh* 'a Briton') testify to direct communication between the Celtic Britons and the English-speaking Anglo-Saxon invaders, and indeed indicate the survival of a British population in some districts. The vast majority of English place names reflect the steady progress from east to west and the overwhelming success of the Anglo-Saxon invasions and settlements of the 5th century onwards, certain name-types being particularly associated with the early phases of immigration and colonization and others reflecting the gradual establishment of a new administrative and manorial system and the continued exploitation of the land for agriculture. Names of French origin, and those with manorial affixes consisting of Norman-French family names, are reminders of the Norman Conquest and its widespread political, social and linguistic consequences, including the imposition of the feudal system. In the north, north-west and east of England, as well as in other parts of the British Isles such as northern and western Scotland, the Isle of Man and the Scottish islands, and coastal districts of Ireland and Wales, the distribution and considerable numbers of Scandinavian place names suggest the extent and relative density of the Viking settlements in those areas. In addition the distribution of particular place name elements can often be significant: for instance the 300 or so names in north-east Scotland containing the word **pett* 'share of land' (such as *Pitlochry* and *Pitlurg*) can be used to indicate the area settled by the Picts, and this clear linguistic evidence is strongly supported by archaeological finds.

A very small number of place names have pagan associations, some for instance providing evidence for the worship of the heathen deities Woden, Thunor and Tiw in early Anglo-Saxon England before the conversion of the English to Christianity in the 7th century. Names like *Wednesfield*, *Thundersley* and *Tysoe* are among the names referring to these gods, and *Wye* and *Harrow* contain words for a heathen temple. In Ireland place names like *Armagh* and *Maynooth* refer to pagan Irish deities, and Celtic river-names like *Brent* in England, *Dee* in England and Scotland, and *Bann* and *Shannon* in Ireland, all with meanings like 'goddess, holy one', suggest a cult of river worship in ancient times. On the other hand place names with Christian associations are extremely common in England as well as in Ireland, Scotland,

and Wales. Many refer to churches and other holy places (such as Hawkchurch, Ormskirik, Kidderminster, Templeoran, Kilmarnock and Llandudno), some to crosses and holy springs (as in Crosby, Holywell, Ruthwell, Crosspatrick and Tobermory), and others to ownership by priests or other ecclesiastics (for example Monkton, Fryerning, Abbotsbury, Prestatyn and Kilnamanagh).

Many place names from all parts of the British Isles provide information of archaeological interest. Some places are named from their situation on Roman roads or on ancient routes and tracks. Others contain elements referring to earthworks and fortifications, ranging from Iron-Age hill forts and Roman camps to medieval strongholds and castles. Particularly common are names referring to ancient burial sites, burial mounds and tumuli.

Numerous place names illustrate the social structures and legal customs of early times in the various countries and regions of the British Isles. All ranks of society are represented in place names, from kings and queens and others of noble birth to the humble peasant. Some names reflect the early divisions of the social hierarchy, others indicate various aspects of land tenure, others inform us about sites where important meetings and assemblies were held, others reveal details of ancient boundaries, lookout places, old land disputes, and even leisure activities like sport and hunting.

Many persons and families from many different periods of history and from many different linguistic and cultural backgrounds are in a sense commemorated in the place names of the British Isles. Some of these can of course be identified with particular men and women or families known from the historical record, but about the vast majority of them nothing more is known other than what the place names themselves tell us. Some may have been important overlords or chieftains, many must have been thegns or noblemen granted their estates by kings or bishops, others may have been farmers or relatively humble peasants. A small but significant minority of the people named are women. These are probably unlikely to have been secular leaders, but a few seem to have been religious persons or founders of churches and the rest were no doubt the widows or daughters of manorial lords who had been granted their estates in earlier times.

British place names provide abundant evidence for early personal names of all kinds, some of them well known from the surviving historical records, others rare and more hypothetical. In those regions and countries where the various Celtic languages continued to flourish—Cornwall, the Isle of Man, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales—the personal names, like the place names in which they appear, are overwhelmingly Celtic in form and origin. In England, many of the Old English personal names for both men and women fell into disuse after 1066, being largely replaced by Christian names introduced by the Normans. Because of these drastic changes in name-giving fashions, our knowledge of the personal nomenclature of the Old English period is incomplete, for it is quite clear that only a proportion of the numerous names in use during the six centuries after the Anglo-Saxon settlement have survived in the ordinary written records. Here place names provide good evidence for the existence of many personal names of both men and women that are otherwise unrecorded. Such personal names, inferred from comparative evidence and postulated to occur with varying degrees of certainty in particular place names, are customarily asterisked (like the *Dæcca in Dagenham or the *Berica in Barking) to indicate that they are not found in independent use.

The way place names from all parts of the British Isles reflect the face of the landscape, utilizing a rich and diverse vocabulary to describe every undulation and type of terrain, has already been touched upon. The natural history of this varying landscape is also abundantly represented, as is clear from the many different species of trees and plants, wild animals and birds, fish and even insects, that are evidenced among the elements found in names. Moreover, place names reflect every aspect of human activity in the different regions over a long period, from the utilization and development of the land by our forefathers for

agricultural purposes, to their exploitation of the environment for communications, trade, and industry.

The numerous British place names containing woodland terms provide good evidence for the distribution, use and management of woods, copses and groves in early times. Those containing words for types of woodland clearing indicate areas of former forest and the particular purposes for which clearings were used. Names derived from elements denoting various kinds of field, pasture, meadow, arable and enclosure suggest different aspects of land-use in the subsistence agriculture of our ancestors, in which arable land had to be broken in to produce crops, meadow-land provided hay, and pastureland and enclosures were needed for animals. Place names give information too about the kind or quality of the soil, the crops grown and harvested, the domestic creatures reared, the practice of transhumance, and the goods produced.

The importance of river valleys for early settlement, providing fertile soils, ease of access and a good water supply, is reflected in the number of places named from the rivers or streams on which they are situated. Many other place names refer to the roads or routes on which they stand, also essential for communications and trade. The large group of names containing elements meaning 'ford' or 'bridge' show the vital part played by river crossings, whilst those derived from words for 'landing-place' or 'harbour' suggest the early importance of trade and transport by water. Many elements indicate the local industries and occupations of particular places and regions, as for example milling, fishing, salt-making, charcoal-burning, coal-mining, pot-making, iron-working, quarrying, timber production, bee-keeping, and many others.

The study of place names has made important contributions to our knowledge of the original vocabulary of Old English as well as that of the early Celtic and Scandinavian languages. Dozens of words once used in living speech may never have found their way into literary or historical writings before they went out of use, but such words often occur in place names formed in the early period. It will be apparent from the alphabetical list of names that this archaic vocabulary (customarily asterisked to show that it is only evidenced in place names and not otherwise recorded) is well represented among the entries. Moreover many words recorded in independent use are evidenced much earlier in place names than in the ordinary languages, and these too are by convention asterisked. Many other old words, once part of the living languages but now lost from the general vocabulary, survive in fossilized form in place names. A good selection of these old words, those most frequently found in the place names of the British Isles, are listed for convenience in the Glossary of Some Common Elements at the end of the book.

It is of course the case that the current local pronunciation of place names, especially in the Celtic language areas of the British Isles but also quite often in England, differs from what the modern spelling might lead us to expect (English examples might include Beaulieu, Bicester, Chiswick, Cholmondeley, Stiffkey and Towcester). Although such matters are outside the scope of this book, the historical and linguistic reasons for these characteristics and disparities are often of some interest and are dealt with in the detailed regional or county surveys, whilst the current pronunciations of many names can be found in the specialized pronouncing dictionaries. Indeed further information of any kind about any of the names included in this dictionary, as well as information about names not included for reasons of space, should be sought in the regional surveys or other monographs and studies dealing with particular name-types and groups of names, a selection of which is listed in the Bibliography.

List of Counties and Unitary Authorities

England

B. & NE. Som.	Bath & North East Somerset	Herts. I. of Scilly I. of Wight Kent Kirkl. Knows. K. upon Hull	Hertfordshire Isles of Scilly Isle of Wight
Barns.	Barnsley	Lancs. Leeds Leic. Leics. Lincs. Lpool. Luton Manch. Medway Middlesbr. Milt. K. Newc. upon T. Norfolk NE. Lincs.	Kirklees Knowsley City of Kingston upon Hull Lancashire
Beds.	Bedfordshire	N. Lincs. N. Som. N. Tyne. N. Yorks. Northants. Northum. Nott. Notts. Oldham Oxon. Peterb. Plym. Poole Portsm. Readg. Red. & Cleve. Rochdl. Rothm. Rutland Salford	City of Leicester Leicestershire Lincolnshire Liverpool Manchester Middlesbrough Milton Keynes Newcastle upon Tyne
Birm.	Birmingham		
Black. w. Darw.	Blackburn with Darwen		
Bmouth.	Bournemouth		
Bolton			
Bpool.	Blackpool		
Brack. For.	Bracknell Forest		
Brad.	Bradford		
Bright. & Hove	Brighton & Hove		
Brist.	City of Bristol		
Bucks.	Buckinghamshire		
Bury			
Calder.	Calderdale		
Cambs.	Cambridgeshire		
Ches.	Cheshire		
Cornwall			
Covtry.	Coventry		
Cumbria			
Darltn.	Darlington		
Derby	City of Derby		
Derbys.	Derbyshire		
Devon			
Donc.	Doncaster		
Dorset			
Dudley			
Durham			
E. R. Yorks.	East Riding of Yorkshire		
E. Sussex	East Sussex		
Essex			
Gatesd.	Gateshead		
Glos.	Gloucestershire		
Gr. London	Greater London		
Halton			
Hants.	Hampshire		
Hartlepl.	Hartlepool		
Herefs.	Herefordshire		

Sandw.	Sandwell	Republic of Ireland	
Sefton		Carlow	
Sheff.	Sheffield	Cavan	
Shrops.	Shropshire	Clare	
Slough		Cork	
Solihull.	Solihull	Donegal	
Somerset		Dublin	
S. Gos.	South	Galway	
Gloucestershire		Kerry	
S. Tyne.	South Tyneside	Kildare	
Sotn.	City of Southampton	Kilkenny	
St Hel.	St Helens	Laois	
Staffs.	Staffordshire	Leitrim	
Sthend.	Southend-on-Sea	Limerick	
Stock. on T.	Stockton on Tees	Longford	
Stockp.	Stockport	Louth	
Stoke	City of Stoke	Mayo	
Suffolk		Meath	
Sundld.	Sunderland	Monaghan	
Surrey		Offaly	
Swindn.	Swindon	Roscommon	
Tamesd.	Tameside	Sligo	
Tel. & Wrek.	Telford & Wrekin	Tipperary	
Thurr.	Thurrock	Waterford	
Torbay		Westmeath	
Traffd.	Trafford	Wexford	
Wakefd.	Wakefield	Wicklow	
Warrtn.	Warrington		
Warwicks.	Warwickshire		
W. Berks.	West Berkshire	Scotland	
Wigan		Abdn.	Aberdeen City
Wilts.	Wiltshire	Aber.	Aberdeenshire
Winds. & Maid.	Windsor & Maidenhead	Ang.	Angus
		Arg.	Argyll and Bute
Wirral		Edin.	City of Edinburgh
W. Sussex	West Sussex	Clac.	Clackmannanshire
Wokhm.	Wokingham	Dumf.	Dumfries and Galloway
Wolverh.	Wolverhampton		Dumfries and Galloway
Worcs.	Worcestershire	Dund.	Dundee City
Wsalt.	Walsall	E. Ayr.	East Ayrshire
York	City & County of York	E. Dunb.	East Dunbartonshire
		E. Loth.	East Lothian
		E. Renf.	East Renfrewshire
Northern Ireland		Falk.	Falkirk
Antrim		Fife	
Armagh		Glas.	Glasgow City
Derry		Highland	
Down		Invclyd.	Inverclyde
Fermanagh		Midloth.	Midlothian
Tyrone			

Moray		Carm.	Carmarthenshire
N. Ayr.	North Ayrshire	Cern.	Ceredigion
N. Lan.	North Lanarkshire	Conwy	
Orkn.	Orkney	Denb.	Denbighshire
Perth.	Perth and Kinross	Flin.	Flintshire
Renf.	Renfrewshire	Gwyd.	Gwynedd
Sc. Bord.	Scottish Borders	Mer. T.	Merthyr Tydfil
Shet.	Shetland	Mon.	Monmouthshire
S. Ayr.	South Ayrshire	Neat.	Neath Port Talbot
S. Lan.	South Lanarkshire	Newpt.	Newport
Stir.	Stirling	Pemb.	Pembrokeshire
W. Dunb.	West Dunbartonshire	Powys	
W. Isles	Western Isles (Eilean Siar)	Rhon.	Rhondda Cynon Taf
		Swan.	Swansea
W. Loth.	West Lothian	Torf.	Torfaen
		Vale Glam.	Vale of Glamorgan
		Wrex.	Wrexham
Wales			
Angl.	Isle of Anglesey		
Blae.	Blaenau Gwent		
Bri.	Bridgend		
Cphy.	Caerphilly		
Card.	Cardiff		
		The Channel Islands and Isle of Man	
		Guernsey	
		Jersey	
		Isle of Man	

Abbreviations

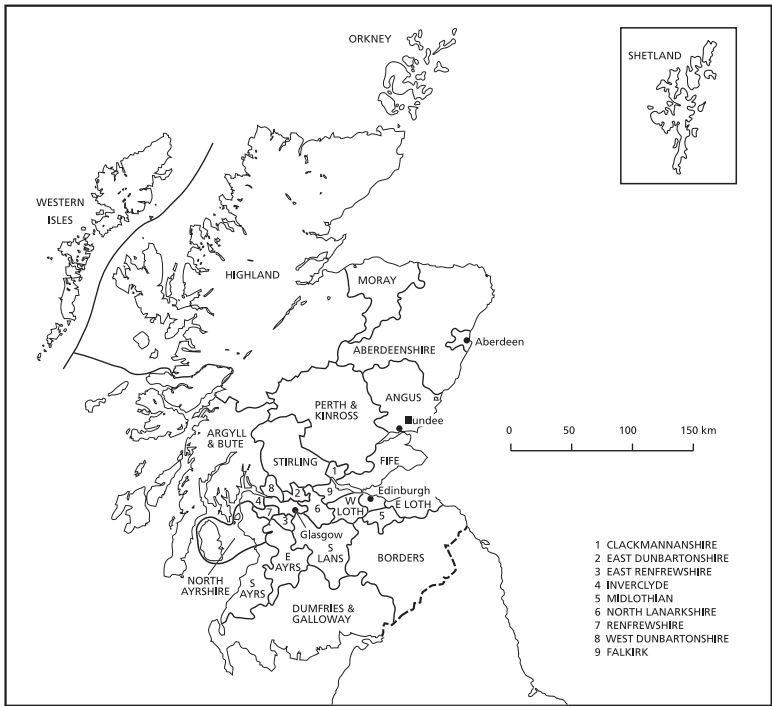
Anglo-Scand. c.	Anglo-Scandinavian <i>circa</i> (‘approximately’)	ModE OCornish OE	Modern English Old Cornish Old English (the English language c.450–c.1100)
cent. DB	century Domesday Book (includes <i>Great Domesday, Little Domesday, and Exon Domesday</i>)	OFrench OGaelic OGerman OIrish OScand.	Old French Old Gaelic Old German Old Irish Old Scandinavian (the language of the Vikings, comprising Old Danish and Old Norse)
eModE	early Modern English (the English language c.1500–c.1650)		Old Welsh personal name Scandinavian Saint
EPNS	English Place Name Society		
ME	Middle English (the English language c.1100–c.1500)	OWelsh pers. name Scand. St	
MIrish	Middle Irish		

Maps

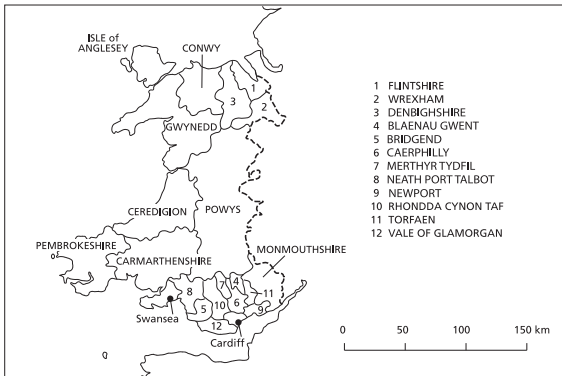
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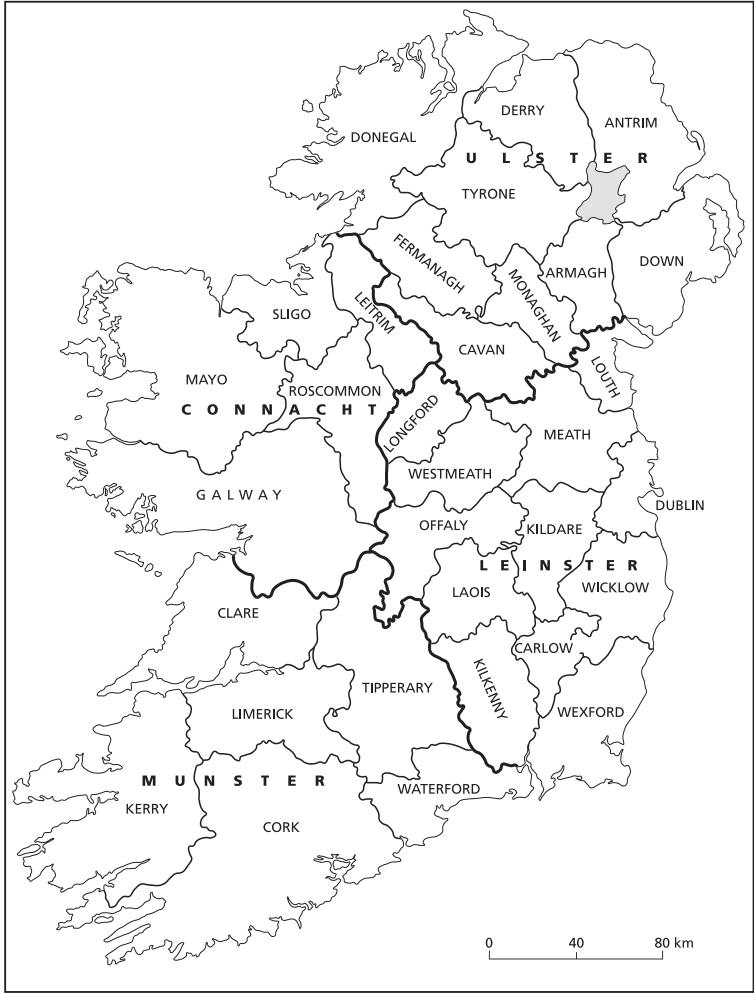
England: Counties and Unitary Authorities



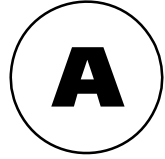
Scotland: Counties and Unitary Authorities



Wales: Counties and Unitary Authorities



Ireland: Counties and Unitary Authorities



Ab Kettleby Leics. See KETTLEBY.

Abbas Combe Somerset. See COMBE.

Abberley Worcs. *Edboldelege* 1086 (DB). 'Woodland clearing of a man called Eadbeald'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Abberton Essex. *Edburgetuna* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or estate of a woman called Eadburh'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Abberton Worcs. *Eadbrihtingctun* 972, *Edbretintune* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Eadbeorht'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Abberwick Northum. *Alburwic* 1170. 'Dwelling or (dairy) farm of a woman called Aluburh or Alhburh'. OE pers. name + *wīc*.

Abess Roding Essex. See RODING.

Abbey Dore Herefs. See DORE.

Abbey Hulton Staffs. See HULTON.

Abbey Town Cumbria. *Abbey Towne* 1649. 'Estate by the abbey', with reference to the former abbey of Holme Cultram.

Abbeydorney (*Mainistir Ó dTorna*) Kerry. 'Abbey of Uí Thorná'.

Abbeyfeale (*Mainistir na Féile*) Limerick. 'Abbey of the River Feale'.

Abbeylara (*Mainistir Leathrátha*) Longford. 'Abbey of the half ring-fort'.

Abbeyleix (*Mainistir Laoise*) Laois. 'Abbey of Laois'.

Abbeyshrule (*Mainistir Shruthla*) Longford. 'Abbey of the stream'.

Abbeystead Lancs. *Abbey* 1323. '(Deserted) site of the abbey', with reference to the abbey of Wyresdale. ME *abbeye* + *stede*.

Abbots, Abbotts as affix. See main name, e.g. for **Abbots Bickington** (Devon) see BICKINGTON.

Abbotsbury Dorset. *Abbedesburie* 946, *Abedesberie* 1086 (DB). 'Fortified house or manor of the abbot'. OE *abbod* + *burh* (dative *byrig*). With reference to early possession by the abbot of Glastonbury.

Abbotsford Sc. Bord. '(Place of the) abbot's ford'. The mansion was built by Sir Walter Scott in 1816 on land owned by the Abbot of Melrose by a ford over the Tweed.

Abbotsham Devon. *Hama* 1086 (DB), *Abbudesham* 1238. OE *hamm* 'enclosure' with the later addition of *abbod* 'abbot' (referring to early possession by the abbot of Tavistock).

Abbotskerswell Devon. *Cærsuylle* 956, *Carsuella* 1086 (DB), *Karswill Abbatis* 1285. 'Spring or stream where water-cress grows'. OE *cærse* + *wella*. Affix from early possession by the abbot of Horton.

Abbotsley Cambs. *Abboldesle* 12th cent. 'Woodland clearing of a man called Ealdbeald'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Abdon Shrops. *Abetune* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or estate of a man called Abba'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Aberaeron Cerng. *ad ostium Ayron* 1184. 'Mouth of the River Aeron'. Welsh *aber*. The Celtic river name means 'battle'.

Aberafan. See ABERAVON.

Aberavon (*Aberafan*) Neat. *Abberauyn* c.1400, *Aberavan* 1548. 'Mouth of the River Afan'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name is probably derived from a pers. name.

Abercraf Powys. *Abercraven* 1680. 'Mouth of the River Craf'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name means 'garlic' (Welsh *craf*).

Aberdār. See ABERDARE.

Aberdare (*Aberdâr*) Rhon. *Aberdar* 1203. 'Mouth of the River Dâr'. Welsh *aber*. The Celtic river name means 'oak river'.

Aberdaron Gwyd. 'Mouth of the River Daron'. Welsh *aber*. The Celtic river name means 'oak river'.

Aberdaugleddau. See MILFORD HAVEN.

Aberdeen Abdn. *Aberdon* c.1187, *Aberden* c.1214. 'Mouth of the River Don'. Pictish *aber*. The river is named after *Devona*, a Celtic goddess. Modern Aberdeen is at the mouth of the DEE, but the name relates to Old Aberdeen, at the mouth of the Don.

Aberdour Fife. *Abirdaur* 1226. 'Mouth of the River Dour'. Pictish *aber*. The river-name means 'water'.

Aberdovey. See ABERDYFI.

Aberdyfi Gwyd. *Aberdewi* 12th cent., *aber dyfi* 14th cent. 'Mouth of the River Dyfi'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name probably means 'dark one'.

Aberfeldy Perth. 'Confluence of Peallaidh'. Pictish *aber*. *Peallaidh* is the name of a water sprite said to haunt the place where the Moness Burn enters the Tay.

Aberford Leeds. *Ædburford* 1176. 'Ford of a woman called Eadburh'. OE pers. name + *ford*.

Aberfoyle Stir. *Abirfull* 1481. 'Confluence of the pool'. Pictish *aber* + Gaelic *poll* (genitive *phuill*). The two headstreams of the River Forth unite near here, and are joined by the River Foyle.

Abergafenni. See ABERGAVENNY.

Abergavenny (*Abergafenni* or *Y Fenni*) Mon. *Gobannio* 4th cent., *Abergavenni* 1175. 'Mouth of the River Gafenni'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name probably means 'the smith', referring to the ironworks exploited here by the Romans, whose fort was *Gobannum*, from the same Celtic source.

Abergele Conwy. *Opergelei* 9th cent., *Abergele* 1257. 'Mouth of the River Gele'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name means 'blade' (OWelsh *gelau*).

Abergwaun. See FISHGUARD.

Aberhonddu. See BRECON.

Aberlour Moray. 'Confluence of the Lour Burn'. Pictish *aber*. The river-name means 'babbling brook'. The town's formal name is *Charlestown of Aberlour*, after *Charles Grant*, who laid the original village out in 1812.

Abermo. See BARMOOUTH.

Abernethy Perth. *Aburnethige* c.970. 'Confluence of the River Nethy'. Pictish *aber*. The river-name means 'pure' (Pictish *nectona*). *Nectonos* is also the name of a Celtic water divinity.

Aberpennar. See MOUNTAIN ASH.

Aberporth Cerng. *Aberporth* 1284. 'Estuary in the bay'. Welsh *aber* + *porth*.

Aber-soch Gwyd. *Absogh* 1350, *Avon Soch* 1598. 'Mouth of the River Soch'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name meaning 'nosing one', referring to the way the river 'roots' its course through the land.

Abersychan Torf. *Aber Sychan* c.1850. 'Mouth of the River Sychan'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name is based on Welsh *sych*, 'dry', implying a river that dries up in summer.

Abertawe. See SWANSEA.

Aberteifi. See CARDIGAN.

Aberteleri. See ABERTILLERY.

Abertillery (*Abertyleri* or *Aberteleri*) Blaе. *Teleri* 1332, *Aber-Tilery* 1779. 'Confluence of the River Teleri'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name derives from a pers. name.

Abertyleri. See ABERTILLERY.

Aberystwyth Cerng. *Aberestuuth* 1232, *aber ystwyth* 14th cent., *Aberystwith*, or *Aberrheidol* 1868. 'Mouth of the River Ystwyth'. Welsh *aber*. The river-name means 'winding one' (Welsh *ystwyth*). *Aberystwyth* is now at the mouth of the *Rheidol*, but the name relates to the *Ystwyth*, to the south, where a Norman castle was built in 1110.

Abingdon Oxon. *Abbandune* 968, *Ab(b)endone* 1086 (DB). 'Hill of a man called Æbba or of a woman called Æbbe'. OE pers. name (genitive *-n*) + *dūn*.

Abinger Surrey. *Abinceborne* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Abingewurd* 1191. 'Enclosure of the family or followers of a man called Abba', or 'enclosure at Abba's place'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* or *-ing* + *worth*. **Abinger Hammer** is named from the

former iron foundry here, called *The Hammer Mill* 1600.

Abington, 'estate associated with a man called Abba', OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*: **Abington, Great & Abington, Little** Cambs. *Abintone* 1086 (DB). **Abington Pigotts** Cambs. *Abintone* 1086 (DB), *Abington Pigotts* 1635. Manorial affix from the *Pykot* family, here from the 15th cent.

Abington (*Mainistir Uaithne*) Limerick. 'Abbey of (the district of) Uaithne'.

Ablington Glos. *Eadbaldington* 855. 'Estate associated with a man called Eadbeald'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Ablington Wilts. *Alboldintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ealdbeald'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Aboyne Aber. *Obyne* 1260. Obscure. The full formal name is *Charleston of Aboyne*, after Charles Gordon, 1st Earl of *Aboyne* (d.1681), who erected a burgh of barony here in 1670.

Abram Wigan. *Adburgham* late 12th cent. 'Homestead or enclosure of a woman called Eadburch'. OE pers. name + *hām* or *hamm*.

Abridge Essex. *Affebriigg* 1203. 'Bridge of a man called Æffa'. OE pers. name + *brycg*.

Abthorpe Northants. *Abetrop* 1190. 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Abba'. OE pers. name + OE *throp* or OScand. *thorp*.

Abby Lincs. *Abi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village on the stream'. OScand. *á* + *bý*.

Acaster Malbis (York) & **Acaster Selby** (N. Yorks). *Acastre* 1086 (DB), *Acaster Malebisse* 1252, *Acastre Seleby* 1285. 'Fortification on the river'. OScand. *á* (perhaps replacing OE *ēa*) + OE *ceaster*. Manorial affixes from lands here held by the *Malbis* family and by Selby Abbey.

Accrington Lancs. *Akarinton* 12th cent. 'Farmstead or village where acorns are found or stored'. OE *æcern* + *tūn*.

Achabog (*Achadh Bog*) Monaghan. *Aghabog* 1665. 'Soft field'.

Acharacle Highland. 'Torquil's ford'. OScand. pers. name + Gaelic *àth*.

Achnashellach Forest Highland. *Achnashellicht* 1543. 'Field of the willows'. Gaelic *achadh* + *na* + *seileach*, with addition of English *forest*.

Achonry (*Achadh Conaire*) Sligo. 'Field of Conaire'.

Achray Forest Stir. *Achray* 1791. Probably 'shaking ford'. Gaelic *àth* + *chrathaidh*. A 'shaking ford' is a quagmire. *Forest* was added by the Forestry Commission.

Achurch Northants. *Asencircan* c.980, *Asechire* 1086 (DB). 'Church of a man called *Asa or Ási'. OE or OScand. pers. name + OE *cirice*.

Acklam, '(place at) the oak woods or clearings', OE *ác* + *lēah* (in a dative plural form *lēagum*): **Acklam** Middlesbr. *Acum* 1086 (DB). **Acklam** N. Yorks. *Acum* 1086 (DB).

Acklington Northum. *Eclinton* 1177. Probably 'estate associated with a man called Eadlāc'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Ackton Wakefd. *Aitone* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Aicton* c.1166. 'Oak-tree farmstead'. OScand. *eik* + OE *tūn*.

Ackworth, High & Ackworth, Low Wakefd. *Aceurde* 1086 (DB). 'Enclosure of a man called Acca'. OE pers. name + *worth*.

Aclare (*Áth an Chláir*) Sligo. 'Ford of the plain'.

Acle Norfolk. *Acle* 1086 (DB). 'Oak wood or clearing'. OE *ác* + *lēah*.

Acol Kent. *Acholt* 1270. 'Oak wood'. OE *ác* + *holt*.

Acomb, '(place at) the oak-trees', OE *ác* in a dative plural form *ácum*: **Acomb** Northum. *Akum* 1268. **Acomb** York. *Akum* 1222.

Aconbury Herefs. *Akornebir* 1213. 'Old fort inhabited by squirrels'. OE *ácweorna* + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Acre, Castle, Acre, South & Acre, West Norfolk. *Acre* 1086 (DB), *Castelacr* 1235, *Sutacra* 1242, *Westacre* 1203. 'Newly cultivated land'. OE *æcer*. Distinguishing affixes from OFrench *castel* (with reference to the Norman castle here), OE *sūth* and *west*.

Acton, a common name, usually 'farmstead or village by the oak-tree(s)' or 'specialized farm where oak timber is worked', OE *ác* + *tūn*; examples include: **Acton** Gtr. London. *Acton* 1181. **Acton Beauchamp** Herefs. *Aactune* 727. Manorial affix from the *Beauchamp* family, here from the 12th cent. **Acton Burnell & Acton Pigott** Shrops. *Actune*, *Æctune* 1086

(DB), *Acton Burnell* 1198, *Acton Picot* 1242. Manorial affixes from the *Burnell* and *Picot* families, here in the 12th cent. **Acton, Iron S.** *Glos. Actune* 1086 (DB), *Irenacton* 1248. Affix is OE *īren* 'iron', referring to old iron-workings here. **Acton Round** Shrops. *Achetune* 1086 (DB), *Acton la Runde* 1284. Affix is ME *ro(u)nd* 'round in shape' or from its early possession by the Earls of *Arundel* (perhaps falsely interpreted as containing the word *ro(u)nd*). **Acton Scott** Shrops. *Actune* 1086 (DB), *Scottes Acton* 1289. Manorial affix from the *Scot* family, here in the 13th cent. **Acton Trussell** Staffs. *Actone* 1086 (DB), *Acton Trussel* 1481. Manorial affix from the *Trussell* family, here in the 14th cent.

However some Actons have a different origin: **Acton** Dorset. *Tacatone* 1086 (DB). Probably 'farmstead or village where young sheep are reared'. OE **tacca* + *tūn*. Initial *T-* was dropped in the 16th cent. due to confusion with the preposition *at*. **Acton** Suffolk. *Acantun* c.995, *Achetuna* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ac(c)a'. OE pers. name + *tūn*. **Acton Turville** S. *Glos. Achetone* 1086 (DB), *Acton Torville* 1284. Identical in origin with the previous name. Manorial affix from the *Turville* family, here from the 13th cent.

Acton Armagh. *Acton* 1619. The village was founded by Charles Poyntz in 1600 and named after his native *Iron Acton*, *Glos.*

Adare (*Áth Dara*) Limerick. 'Ford of the oak'.

Adbaston Staffs. *Edboldestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eadbald'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Adber Dorset. *Eatan beares* 956, *Ateberie* 1086 (DB). 'Grove of a man called Eata'. OE pers. name + *bearu*.

Adderbury, East & Adderbury, West Oxon. *Eadburggebyrig* c.950, *Edburgberie* 1086 (DB). 'Stronghold of a woman called Eadburh'. OE pers. name + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Adderley Shrops. *Eldrededei* 1086 (DB). 'Woodland clearing of a woman called Althryth'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Adderstone Northum. *Edredeston* 1233. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eadrēd'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Addingham Brad. *Haddingcham* c.972, *Odingehem* 1086 (DB). Probably 'homestead associated with a man called Adda'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *hām*.

Addington, 'estate associated with a man called Eadda or Æddi', OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*: **Addington** Bucks. *Edintone* 1086 (DB). **Addington** Gtr. London. *Eddintone* 1086 (DB). **Addington** Kent. *Eddintune* 1086 (DB). **Addington, Great & Addington, Little** Northants. *Edintone* 1086 (DB).

Addiscombe Gtr. London. *Edescamp* 1229. 'Enclosed land of a man called Æddi'. OE pers. name + *camp*.

Addlestone Surrey. *Attelesdene* 1241. 'Valley of a man called *Ættel'. OE pers. name + *denu*.

Addlethorpe Lincs. *Arduletorp* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Eardwulf'. OE pers. name + OS cand. *thorp*.

Adel Leeds. *Adele* 1086 (DB). From OE *adela* 'dirty, muddy place'.

Adeney Tel. & Wrek. *Eduney* 1212. 'Island, or dry ground in marsh, of a woman called Eadwynn'. OE pers. name + *ēg*.

Aderavoher (*Eadar dhá Bhóthair*) Sligo. 'Place between two roads'.

Adisham Kent. *Adesham* 616, *Edesham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead of a man called *Eadi or Æddi'. OE pers. name + *hām*.

Adlestrop *Glos. Titlestrop* [sic] 714, *Tedestrop* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called *Tætel'. OE pers. name + *throp*. Initial *T-* disappeared from the 14th cent. due to confusion with the preposition *at*.

Adlingfleet E. R. Yorks. *Adelingesfluet* 1086 (DB). 'Water-channel or stream of the prince or nobleman'. OE *ætheling* + *flēot*.

Adlington, 'estate associated with a man called Eadwulf', OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*; **Adlington** Ches. *Eduuintune* 1086 (DB). **Adlington** Lancs. *Edeluinton* c.1190.

Admaston Staffs. *Ædmundeston* 1176. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eadmund'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Admington Warwicks. *Edelmintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Æthelhelm'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Adrigole (*Eadargóil*) Cork. 'Place between forks'.

Adrivale (*Eadargóil*) Cork. 'Place between forks'.

Adstock Bucks. *Edestoche* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Æddi or Eadda'. OE pers. name + *stoc*.

Adstone Northants. *Atenestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called *Ættin'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Adur W. Sussex, district name from the River **Adur**, a late back-formation from *Portus Adurni* 'Adurnos's harbour', said to be at the mouth of this river by the 17th cent. antiquarian poet Drayton.

Adwell Oxon. *Advelle* 1086 (DB). 'Spring or stream of a man called Ead(d)a'. OE pers. name + *wella*.

Adwick le Street, Adwick upon

Dearne Donc. *Adeuuić* 1086 (DB). 'Dwelling or (dairy) farm of a man called Adda'. OE pers. name + *wīc*. Distinguishing affixes from the situation of one Adwick on a Roman road (OE *stræt*) and of the other on the River Dearne (see BOLTON UPON DEARNE).

Affpuddle Dorset. *Affapidele* 1086 (DB). 'Estate on the River Piddle of a man called Æffa'. OE pers. name + river-name (see PIDDLEHINTON).

Agangarrive Hill (*Aigeán Garbh*) Antrim. 'Rough hill'.

Agglethorpe N. Yorks. *Aculestorp* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Āculf'. OE pers. name + OS cand. *thorp*.

Agha (*Achadh*) Carlow. 'Field'.

Aghaboe (*Achadh Bó*) Laois. 'Field of the cows'.

Aghabrack (*Achadh Breac*) Westmeath. 'Speckled field'.

Aghabullogue (*Achadh Bolg*) Cork. 'Field of the bulges'.

Aghacashel (*Achadh an Chaisil*) Limerick. 'Field of the stone fort'.

Aghacommon (*Achadh Camán*) Armagh. *Aghcamon* 1617. 'Field of the little bends'.

Aghada (*Achadh Fada*) Cork. 'Long field'.

Aghadarragh (*Achadh Darach*) Tyrone. 'Field of the oak-tree'.

Aghadaugh (*Achadh Damh*) Westmeath. 'Field of the oxen'.

Aghadoe (*Achadh dá Eo*) Kerry. 'Field of the two yews'.

Aghadowey (*Achadh Dubhthaigh*) Derry. *Achad Dubhthaig* c.1170. 'Dubhthach's field'.

Aghadown (*Achadh Dúin*) Cork. 'Field of the fort'.

Aghafatten (*Achadh Pheatáin*) Antrim. *Aghafatten* 1780. Possibly 'Peatán's field'.

Aghagallon (*Achadh Gallan*) Tyrone, Antrim. 'Field of the standing stone'.

Aghagower (*Achadh Ghobair*) Mayo. 'Field of the spring'.

Aghalane (*Achadh Leathan*) Fermanagh. *Aghalane* 1622. 'Broad field'.

Aghalee (*Achadh Lì*) Antrim. *Acheli* 1306. 'Field'. The second element is obscure.

Aghamore (*Achadh Mór*) Mayo. 'Big field'.

Aghanacliff (*Achadh na Cloiche*) Louth. 'Field of the stones'.

Aghanloo (*Áth Lú*) Derry. *Athlounge* 1397. 'Lú's ford'.

Aghatubrid (*Achadh Tiobraid*) Kerry. 'Field of the well'.

Aghavannagh (*Achadh Bheannach*) Wicklow. 'Hilly field'.

Aghavea (*Achadh beithe*) Fermanagh. 'Birch field'.

Aghawoney (*Achadh Mhóna*) Donegal. 'Field of the bog'.

Agher (*Achair*) Meath. 'Space'.

Aghern (*Áth Chairn*) Cork. 'Ford of the cairn'.

Aghery Lough (*Loch Eachraí*) Down. 'Lake of the horses'.

Aghintain (*Achadh an tSéin*) Tyrone. *Aghityan* 1613. 'Field of the good luck'.

Aghinver (*Achadh Inbhir*) Fermanagh. 'Field of the river-mouth'.

Aghleam (*Eachléim*) Mayo. 'Horse leap'.

Aghlish (*Eaglais*) Kerry. 'Church'.

Aghnabohy (*Achadh na Boithe*) Westmeath. 'Field of the huts'.

Aghnahily (*Achadh na hAille*) Laois. 'Field of the cliff'.

Aghnamullen (*Achadh na Muileann*) Monaghan. *Aghnamullen* 1530. 'Field of the mills'.

Aghnaskeagh (*Achadh na Scéithe*) Louth. 'Field of the shields'.

Aghory (*Áth Óraí*) Armagh. *Aghoorier* 1610. 'Ford of the boundary'.

Aghowla (*Achadh Abhla*) Limerick. 'Field of the apple-tree'.

Aghowle (*Achadh Abhla*) Limerick, Wicklow. 'Field of the apple-tree'.

Aghyaran (*Achadh Uí Áráin*) Tyrone. *Agharan* 1666. 'Field of Uí Árán'.

Aghyowle (*Achadh Abhla*) Fermanagh. 'Field of the apple-tree'.

Agivey (*Áth Géibhe*) Derry. *Athgeybi* 1492. Possibly 'ford of the fetter'.

Aglis (*An Eaglais*) Waterford. 'The church'.

Agola (*Áth Gobhlach*) Antrim. 'Ford of the fork'.

Ahafona (*Áth an Phóna*) Kerry. 'Ford of the pound'.

Ahakista (*Áth an Chiste*) Kerry. 'Ford of the box'.

Ahalia, Lough (*Loch an tSáile*) Galway. 'Lake of the salt water'.

Ahascragh (*Áth Eascrach*) Galway. 'Ford of the gravel ridge'.

Ahenny (*Áth Eine*) Tipperary. 'Ford of the fire'.

Ahoghill (*Áth Eochaille*) Antrim. *Ahochill* 1306. 'Ford of the yew wood'.

Aikton Cumbria. *Aictun* c.1200. 'Oak-tree farmstead'. OS cand. *eik* + OE *tūn*.

Aille (*Aille*) Clare, Mayo. 'Cliffs'.

Aillenaveagh (*Aill na bhFiach*) Galway. 'Cliff of the ravens'.

Ailsa Craig (island) S. Ayr. Gaelic *allasa* + *creag* 'rock'. The first element is obscure.

Ailsworth Peterb. *Ægeleswurth* 948, *Eglesworde* 1086 (DB). 'Enclosure of a man called *Ægel'. OE pers. name + *worth*.

Ainderby Steeple N. Yorks. *Eindrebi* 1086 (DB), *Aynderby wyth Stepil* 1316. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eindriþi'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*. Affix is OE *stēpel* 'church steeple, tower'.

Ainsdale Sefton. *Einuluesdel* 1086 (DB). 'Valley of a man called *Einulfr'. OS cand. pers. name + *dalr*.

Ainstable Cumbria. *Ainstapillith* c.1210. 'Slope where bracken grows'. OS cand. *einstapi* + *hlith*.

Ainsworth Bury. *Hainesworthe* c.1200. 'Enclosure of a man called *Ægen'. OE pers. name + *worth*.

Aintree Sefton. *Ayntre* 1220. 'Solitary tree'. OS cand. *einn* + *tré*.

Airdrie N. Lan. *Airdrie* 1584. 'High slope'. Gaelic *ard* + *ruigh*.

Airmyn E. R. Yorks. *Ermenie* 1086 (DB). 'Mouth of the River Aire'. River-name + OS cand. *mynni*. The river-name **Aire** is possibly from OS cand. *eyjar* 'islands', but may be of Celtic or pre-Celtic origin with a meaning 'strongly flowing'.

Airton N. Yorks. *Airtone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead on the River Aire'. Old river-name (see AIRMYN) + OE *tūn*.

Aisby, 'farmstead or village of a man called Ási', OS cand. pers. name + *bý*: **Aisby** Lincs., near Blyton. *Asebi* 1086 (DB). **Aisby** Lincs., near Sleaford. *Asebi* 1086 (DB).

Aisholt, Lower Somerset. *Æscholt* 854. 'Ash-tree wood'. OE *æsc* + *holt*.

Aiskew N. Yorks. *Echescol* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Aykescogh* 1235. 'Oak wood'. OS cand. *eik* + *skógr*.

Aislaby N. Yorks., near Pickering. *Aslache(s) bi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Áslákr'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Aislaby N. Yorks., near Whitby. *Asulue(s)bi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ásulfr'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Aisthorpe Lincs. *Estorp* 1086 (DB). 'East outlying farmstead or hamlet'. OE *éast* + OS cand. *thorp*.

Akeld Northum. *Achelda* 1169. ‘Oak-tree slope’. OE *ác* + *helde*.

Akeley Bucks. *Achelei* 1086 (DB). ‘Oak wood or clearing’. OE *ācen* + *lēah*.

Akeman Street (Roman road from Bath to St Albans). *Accemannestrete* 12th cent. OE *stræt* ‘Roman road’ with an uncertain first element also found in an early alternative name for BATH, *Acemannes ceastre* 10th cent., from OE *ceaster* ‘Roman town or city’. *Ac(c)emannes-* may reflect a British name for BATH, **Acumannā* ‘Aquaе-place’, with reference to the Roman name *Aquaе Sulis* ‘waters of Sulis, a pagan goddess’.

Akenham Suffolk. *Acheham* 1086 (DB). ‘Homestead of a man called Aca’. OE pers. name (genitive *-n*) + *hām*.

Alberbury Shrops. *Alberberie* 1086 (DB). ‘Stronghold or manor of a woman called Aluburh’. OE pers. name + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Albourne W. Sussex. *Aleburn* 1177. ‘Stream where alders grow’. OE *alor* + *burna*.

Albrighton Shrops., near Shifnal. *Albricstone* 1086 (DB). ‘Farmstead or village of a man called Æthelbeorht’. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Albrighton Shrops., near Shrewsbury. *Etbritone* 1086 (DB). ‘Farmstead or village of a man called Ēadbeorht’. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alburgh Norfolk. *Aldeberga* 1086 (DB). ‘Old mound or hill’, or ‘mound or hill of a man called Alda’. OE (*e*)*ald* or OE pers. name + *beorg*.

Albury, ‘old or disused stronghold’, OE (*e*)*ald* + *burh* (dative *byrig*): **Albury** Herts. *Eldeberie* 1086 (DB). **Albury** Surrey. *Ealdeburi* 1062, *Eldeberie* 1086 (DB).

Alby Hill Norfolk. *Alebei* 1086 (DB). ‘Farmstead or village of a man called Āli’. OScand. pers. name + *bý*.

Alcaston Shrops. *Ælmundestune* 1086 (DB). ‘Farmstead or village of a man called Ealhmund’. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alcester Warwicks. *Alencestre* 1138. ‘Roman town on the River Alne’. Celtic river-name (see ALNE) + OE *ceaster*.

Alciston E. Sussex. *Alsistone* 1086 (DB). ‘Farmstead or village of a man called Ælfsige or Ealhlsige’. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alconbury Cambs. *Acumesberie* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Alcundesberia* 12th cent. ‘Stronghold of a man called Ealhmund’. OE pers. name + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Aldborough, ‘old or disused stronghold’, OE (*e*)*ald* + *burh*: **Aldborough** Norfolk. *Aldeburg* 1086 (DB). **Aldborough** N. Yorks. *Burg* 1086 (DB), *Aldeburg* 1145. Here referring to a Roman fort.

Aldbourne Wilts. *Ealdincburnan* c.970, *Aldeborne* 1086 (DB). ‘Stream associated with a man called Ealda’. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *burna*.

Aldbrough, ‘old or disused stronghold’, OE (*e*)*ald* + *burh*: **Aldbrough** E. R. Yorks. *Aldenburch* 1086 (DB). **Aldbrough** N. Yorks. *Aldeburne* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Aldeburg* 1247.

Aldbury Herts. *Aldeberie* 1086 (DB). ‘Old or disused stronghold’. OE (*e*)*ald* + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Aldeburgh Suffolk. *Aldeburc* 1086 (DB). ‘Old or disused stronghold’. OE (*e*)*ald* + *burh*. The river-name **Alde** is a back-formation from the place name.

Aldeby Norfolk. *Aldebury* 1086 (DB), *Aldeby* c.1180. ‘Old or disused stronghold’. OE (*e*)*ald* + *burh* (dative *byrig*) replaced by OScand. *bý* ‘farmstead’.

Aldenham Herts. *Ældenham* 785, *Eldeham* 1086 (DB). ‘Old homestead’, or ‘homestead of a man called Ealda’. OE (*e*)*ald* (dative *-an*) or OE pers. name (genitive *-n*) + *hām*.

Alderbury Wilts. *Æthelware byrig* 972, *Alwarberie* 1086 (DB). ‘Stronghold of a woman called *Æthelwaru’. OE pers. name + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Alderford Norfolk. *Araforda* 1163. ‘Ford where alders grow’. OE *alor* + *ford*.

Alderholt Dorset. *Alreholt* 1285. ‘Alder wood’. OE *alor* + *holt*.

Alderley Glos. *Atrelie* 1086 (DB). ‘Woodland clearing where alders grow’. OE *alor* + *lēah*.

Alderley Edge Ches. *Aldredelie* 1086 (DB). ‘Woodland clearing of a woman called Althryth’. OE pers. name + *lēah*. The 19th-cent. addition *Edge* is taken from the abrupt escarpment here, itself called Alderley Edge (from OE *ecg*).

Aldermaston W. Berks. *Ældremanestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead of the chief or nobleman'. OE (e)*aldormann* + *tūn*.

Alderminster Warwicks. *Aldermanneston* 1167. Identical in origin with the previous name.

Alderney (island) Channel Islands. *Aurene* c.1042, *Aureneie* 1238. 'Gravel or mudflat island'. OS cand. **aurinn* (an adjectival derivative of *aurr* 'gravel, mud') + *ey*. In the 4th cent. *Maritime Itinerary*, Alderney is recorded as *Riduna*, possibly a Celtic name meaning 'before the hill' and perhaps originally a name for the port dating from the Roman period.

Aldershot Hants. *Halreshet* 1171. 'Projecting piece of land where alders grow'. OE *alor* + *scēat*.

Alderton, usually 'estate associated with a man called Ealdhere', OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*: **Alderton** Glos. *Aldritone* 1086 (DB).

Alderton Northants. *Aldritone* 1086 (DB).

Alderton Wilts. *Aldrintone* 1086 (DB).

However two Aldertons have a different origin, 'farmstead where alders grow', OE *alor* + *tūn*: **Alderton** Shrops. *Olreton* 1309.

Alderton Suffolk. *Aletuna* 1086 (DB).

Alderwasley Derbys. *Alrewasleg* 1251. 'Clearing by the alluvial land where alders grow'. OE *alor* + **wæsse* + *lēah*.

Aldfield N. Yorks. *Aldefeld* 1086 (DB). 'Old (i.e. long used) stretch of open country'. OE *ald* + *feld*.

Aldford Ches. *Aldefordia* 1153. 'The old (i.e. formerly used) ford'. OE *ald* + *ford*.

Aldham, 'the old homestead', or 'homestead of a man called Ealda', OE *eald* or OE pers. name + *hām*: **Aldham** Essex. *Aldeham* 1086 (DB). **Aldham** Suffolk. *Aldeham* 1086 (DB).

Aldingbourne W. Sussex. *Ealdingburnan* c.880, *Aldingborne* 1086 (DB). 'Stream associated with a man called Ealda'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *burna*.

Aldingham Cumbria. *Aldingham* 1086 (DB). Probably 'homestead of the family or followers of a man called Alda'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *hām*.

Aldington, 'estate associated with a man called Ealda', OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*:

Aldington Kent. *Aldintone* 1086 (DB).

Aldington Worcs. *Aldintona* 709, *Aldintone* 1086 (DB).

Aldreth Cambs. *Alrehetha* 1170. 'Landing-place by the alders'. OE *alor* + *hȳth*.

Aldridge Wsall. *Alrewic* 1086 (DB). 'Dwelling or farm among alders'. OE *alor* + *wīc*.

Aldringham Suffolk. *Alrincham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead of the family or followers of a man called Aldhere'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *hām*.

Aldsworth Glos. *Ealdeswyrthe* 1004, *Aldesurde* 1086 (DB). 'Enclosure of a man called *Ald'. OE pers. name + *worth*.

Aldwark, 'old fortification', OE (e)*ald* + *weorc*: **Aldwark** Derbys. *Aldwerk* 1140.

Aldwark N. Yorks. *Aldeuerc* 1086 (DB).

Aldwick W. Sussex. *Aldewyc* 1235. 'Old dwelling', or 'dwelling of a man called Ealda'. OE *eald* or OE pers. name + *wīc*.

Aldwincle Northants. *Eldewincle* 1086 (DB). 'River-bend of a man called Ealda'. OE pers. name + **wincel*.

Aldworth W. Berks. *Elleorde* [*sic*] 1086 (DB), *Aldewurda* 1167. 'Old enclosure', or 'enclosure of a man called Ealda'. OE *eald* or OE pers. name + *worth*.

Aldwych Gtr London. Street named after the medieval settlement recorded as *Aldewich* 1211. 'The old trading place'. OE *ald* + *wīc*.

Alexandria W. Dunb. '(Place of) Alexander'. The town arose in the mid-18th cent. and the name was given in c.1760 for *Alexander* Smollett (d.1799), MP for Bonhill.

Alfington Devon. *Alfinton* 1244. 'Estate associated with a man called Ælf'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alfold Surrey. *Alfold* 1227. 'Old fold or enclosure'. OE *eald* + *fald*.

Alford Aber. *Afford* c.1200, *Afurd* 1654. Origin and meaning obscure.

Alford Lincs. *Alforde* 1086 (DB). Probably 'old ford'. OE *ald* + *ford*. The road carried by the ford may be Roman.

Alford Somerset. *Aldedeford* 1086 (DB). 'Ford of a woman called Ealdgȳth'. OE pers. name + *ford*.

Alfreton Derbys. *Elfstretune* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Alferton* 12th cent. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ælfhere'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alfrick Worcs. *Alcredeswike* early 13th cent. 'Dwelling or farm of a man called Ealhræd'. OE pers. name + *wic*.

Alfriston E. Sussex. *Alvricestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ælfric'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alhampton Somerset. *Alentona* 1086 (DB). 'Estate on the River Alham'. Celtic river-name (of uncertain meaning) + OE *tūn*.

Alkborough N. Lincs. *Alchebarge* 1086 (DB), *Alchebarua* 12th cent. Probably 'hill of a man called Al(u)ca'. OE pers. name + *beorg*.

Alkerton Oxon. *Alcrintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ealhhere'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alkham Kent. *Ealham* c.1100. 'Homestead in a sheltered place, or used as a sanctuary'. OE *ealh* + *hām*.

Alkington Shrops. *Alchetune* 1086 (DB), *Alkinton* 1256. 'Estate associated with a man called Ealha'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alkmonton Derbys. *Alchementune* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ealhmund'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

All Cannings Wilts. See CANNINGS.

All Stretton Shrops. See STRETTON.

Allendale Town Northum. *Alewenton* 1245. 'Settlement by (in the valley of) the River Allen'. Celtic or pre-Celtic river-name (of uncertain meaning) + OE *tūn*, with the later insertion of OScaud. *dalr* 'valley'.

Allenheads Northum. '(Place by) the source of the River Allen'. Celtic or pre-Celtic river-name + OE *hēafod*.

Allensmore Herefs. *More* 1086 (DB), *Aleinesmor* 1220. 'Marshy ground of a man called Ala(i)n'. OFrench pers. name + OE *mōr*.

Aller Somerset. *Alre* late 9th cent., 1086 (DB). '(Place at) the alder-tree'. OE *alor*.

Allerby Cumbria. *Aylwardcrosseby* 1260, *Aylwardby* c.1275. 'Farmstead (with crosses) of a man called Ailward (Æthelward)'. OE pers. name + OScaud. *bý* (earlier *krossa-bý*).

Allerdale (district) Cumbria. *Alnerdall* 11th cent., *Alldersdale* 1268. 'Valley of the River Ellen'. A revival of an old ward-name. Celtic river-name (of uncertain meaning) + OScaud. *dalr*.

Allerford Somerset, near Minehead. *Alresford* 1086 (DB). 'Alder-tree ford'. OE *alor* + *ford*.

Allerston N. Yorks. *Alurestan* 1086 (DB). 'Boundary stone of a man called Ælfhere'. OE pers. name + *stān*.

Allerthorpe E. R. Yorks. *Aluuarestorp* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Ælfward or *Alfvarth'. OE or OScaud. pers. name + OScaud. *thorp*.

Allerton, usually 'farmstead or village where alder-trees grow', OE *alor* + *tūn*: **Allerton** Brad. *Alretune* 1086 (DB). **Allerton** Lpool. *Alretune* 1086 (DB). **Allerton Bywater** Leeds. *Alretune* 1086 (DB), *Allerton by ye water* 1430. Affix 'by the water' (OE *wæter*) refers to its situation on the River Aire. **Allerton, Chapel** Leeds. *Alretun* 1086 (DB), *Chapel Allerton* 1360. Affix is ME *chapele* 'a chapel'.

However some Allertons have a different origin: **Allerton, Chapel** Somerset. *Alwarditone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead of a man called Ælfward'. OE pers. name + *tūn*. Affix as in previous name. **Allerton Mauleverer** N. Yorks. *Aluertone* 1086 (DB), *Aluertone Mauleuerer* 1231. 'Farmstead of a man called Ælfhere'. OE pers. name + *tūn*. Manorial affix from the *Mauleverer* family, here from the 12th cent.

Allesley Covtry. *Alleslega* 1176. 'Woodland clearing of a man called Ælle'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Allestree Derby. *Adelardestre* 1086 (DB). 'Tree of a man called Æthelheard'. OE pers. name + *trēow*.

Allixton Leics. *Adelachestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called *Æthellāc'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Allhallows Medway. *Ho All Hallows* 1285. Named from the 12th-cent. church of All Saints here. For *Ho* in the early form, see HOO.

Allihies (*Na hAilichí*) Cork. 'The cliff fields'.

Allington, a common name, has a number of different origins: **Allington** Kent, near Lenham. *Alnoitone* 1086 (DB), *Eilnothinton* 1242. 'Farmstead associated with a man called Æthelnoth'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Allington Kent, near Maidstone. *Elentun* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead associated with a man called Ælla or Ælle'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Allington Lincs. *Adelingtone* 1086 (DB).

'Farmstead of the princes'. OE *ætheling* + *tūn*.

Allington Wilts., near Amesbury. *Aldintona*

1178. 'Farmstead associated with a man called

Ealda'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*. **Allington**

Wilts., near Devizes. *Adelingtone* 1086 (DB).

'Farmstead of the princes'. OE *ætheling* + *tūn*.

Allington, East Devon. *Alintone* 1086 (DB).

'Farmstead associated with a man called Ælla or

Ælle'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Allistragh (*An Aileastrach*) Armagh.

Tallastagh 1609. 'Place of the wild irises'.

Allithwaite Cumbria. *Hailiuthait* c.1170.

'Clearing of a man called Eilifr'. OS cand. pers. name + *thweit*.

Alloa Clac. *Alveth* 1357. 'Rocky plain'. Gaelic *almhagh*.

Allonby Cumbria. *Alayneby* 1262. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Alein'. OFrench pers. name + OS cand. *bý*.

Allow (*Abhainn Alla*) (river) Cork. 'River of (the district of) Ealla'.

Alloway S. Ayr. *Auleway* 1324. 'Rocky plain'. Gaelic *almhagh*.

Allt Melyd. See MELIDEN.

Allweston Dorset. *Alfeton* 1214, *Alfletheston* 1244, *Alueveston* 1268. 'Farmstead or village of a woman called Ælflæd or Ælfgifu'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Almeley Herefs. *Elmelie* 1086 (DB). 'Elm wood or clearing'. OE *elm* + *lēah*.

Almer Dorset. *Elmere* 943. 'Eel pool'. OE *æġ* + *mere*.

Almington Staffs. *Almentone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Alhmund'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Almondbury Kirkl. *Almaneberie* 1086 (DB). 'Stronghold of the whole community'. OS cand. **almenn* (genitive plural *almanna*) + OE *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Almondsbury S. Glos. *Almodesberie* 1086 (DB). 'Stronghold of a man called Æthelmōd or Æthelmund'. OE pers. name + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Alne N. Yorks. *Alna* c.1050, *Alne* 1086 (DB). A Celtic name of uncertain meaning.

Alne, Great & Alne, Little Warwicks. *Alne* 1086 (DB). Named from the River Alne, a Celtic river-name probably identical in origin with the River Aln (see ALNHAM).

Alness Highland. *Alenes* 1226. 'Allan station, level place on the River Allan'. Gaelic *Alanaís*. Pre-Celtic river-name ('flowing water') + Gaelic *fas*.

Alnham Northum. *Alneham* 1228. 'Homestead on the River Aln'. Celtic river-name (earlier *Alaunos*, of uncertain meaning) + OE *hām*.

Alnmouth Northum. *Alnemuth* 1201. 'Mouth of the River Aln'. Celtic river-name (see ALNHAM) + OE *mūtha*.

Alnwick Northum. *Alnewich* 1178. 'Dwelling or farm on the River Aln'. Celtic river-name (see ALNHAM) + OE *wīc*.

Alperton Gr. London. *Alprinton* 1199. 'Estate associated with a man called Ealhbeorht'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alphamstone Essex. *Alfelmestuna* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ælfhelm'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alpheton Suffolk. *Alfled(e)ston* 1204. 'Farmstead or village of a woman called Ælflæd or Æthelflæd'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alphington Devon. *Alfintune* c.1060, *Alfintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ælf'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alport Derbys. *Aldeport* 12th cent. 'Old town'. OE (*e*)*ald* + *port*.

Alpraham Ches. *Alburgham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead of a woman called Alhburh'. OE pers. name + *hām*.

Alresford Essex. *Ælesford* c.1000, *Eilesforda* 1086 (DB). 'Ford of the eel, or of a man called *Ægel'. OE *æġ* or OE pers. name + *ford*.

Alresford, New & Alresford, Old Hants. *Alresforda* 701, *Alresforde* 1086 (DB). 'Alder-tree ford'. OE *alor* (genitive *alres*) + *ford*. The river-name **Alre** is a back-formation from the place name.

Alrewas Staffs. *Alrewasse* 942, *Alrewas* 1086 (DB). 'Alluvial land where alders grow'. OE *alor* + **wæsse*.

Alsager Ches. *Eleacier* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Allesacher* 13th cent. 'Cultivated land of a man called Ælle'. OE pers. name + *æcer*.

Alsh, Loch. See KYLE OF LOCHALSH.

Alsop en le Dale Derbys. *Elleshope* 1086 (DB), *Alsop en le dale* 1535. 'Valley of a man called Ælle'. OE pers. name + *hop*. Later affix means 'in the valley'.

Alston Cumbria. *Aldeneby* 1164–71, *Aldeneston* 1209. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Halfdan'. OS cand. pers. name + OE *tūn* (earlier OS cand. *by*).

Alstone Glos. *Ælfsigestun* 969. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ælfsige'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alstonefield Staffs. *Ænestanefelt* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Alfstanefeld* 1179. 'Open country of a man called Ælfstān'. OE pers. name + *feld*.

Altgowlan (*Alt an Ghabhláin*) Roscommon. 'Hillside of the fork'.

Altamuskin (*Alt na Múscán*) Tyrone. *Altmuskan* 1611. 'Hillside of the loose clay'.

Altan (*Altán*) Donegal. 'Little height'.

Altan, Lough (*Loch Alltáin*) Donegal. 'Lake of the flocks'.

Altarnun Cornwall. *Altrenune* c.1100. 'Altar of St Nonn'. Cornish *alter* 'altar of a church' + female saint's name.

Altavilla (*Alta a' Bhile*) Limerick. 'Hillside of the sacred tree'.

Altcar, Great (Lancs.) & **Altcar, Little** (Sefton). *Acrer* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Altekar* 1251. 'Marsh by the River Alt'. Celtic river-name (meaning 'muddy river') + OS cand. *kjarr*.

Altham Lancs. *Elvetham* c.1150. 'Enclosure or river-meadow where there are swans'. OE *elfitu* + *hamm*.

Althorne Essex. *Aledhorn* 1198. '(Place at) the burnt thorn-tree'. OE *æled* + *thorn*.

Althorp Northants. *Olletorp* 1086 (DB), *Olethorp* 1208. 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called *Olla'. OE pers. name + OS cand. *thorp*.

Althorpe N. Lincs. *Aletorp* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Ali'. OS cand. pers. name + *thorp*.

Altinure (*Alt an Iúir*) Cavan, Derry. 'Height of the yew-tree'.

Altishahane (*Alt Inse Uí Chatháin*) Tyrone. *Altonisechan* c.1655. 'Hillside of the island of Uí Chatháin'.

Altnamechin (*Alt na Meacan*) Armagh. 'Hillside of the root vegetables'.

Altnaveagh (*Alt na bhFiach*) Tyrone. 'Hillside of the ravens'.

Altofts Wakefd. *Altoftes* c.1090. Probably 'the old homesteads'. OE *ald* + OS cand. *toft*.

Alton, usually 'farmstead at the source of a river', OE *æwíell* + *tūn*: **Alton** Hants. *Aultone* 1086 (DB). **Alton Pancras** Dorset. *Awultune* 1012, *Altone* 1086 (DB), *Aweltone Pancratii* 1226. Affix from the dedication of the church to St Pancras. **Alton Priors** Wilts. *Aweltun* 825, *Auuiltone* 1086 (DB), *Aulton Prioris* 1199. Affix from its early possession by the Priory of St Swithin at Winchester.

However other Altons have a different origin: **Alton** Derbys. *Alton* 1296. 'Old farmstead'. OE *ald* + *tūn*. **Alton** Staffs. *Elvetone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead of a man called *Ælfa'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Altore (*Altóir*) Roscommon. 'Altar'.

Altrincham Traffd. *Aldringeham* 1290. 'Homestead of the family or followers of a man called Aldhere', or 'homestead at the place associated with Aldhere'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* or *-ing* + *hām*.

Alum Bay I. of Wight, first recorded in 1720 and so called from the large quantities of alum mined here as early as the 16th cent. **Alum Chine** Dorset, also on record from the 18th cent., alludes to mining of the same mineral, used in paper-making and leather-tanning.

Alva Clac. *Alweth* 1489. 'Rocky plain'.

Alvah Aber. *Alweth* 1308. 'Rocky plain'. The name applies to both *Bridge of Alvah* and *Kirktown of Alvah*.

Alvanley Ches. *Elveldelie* 1086 (DB). 'Woodland clearing of a man called Ælfweald'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Alvaston Derby. *Alewaldestune* c.1002, *Alewoldestune* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Æthelwald or Ælwald'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alvechurch Worcs. *Ælfgythe cyrcan* 10th cent., *Alvievecherche* 1086 (DB). 'Church of a woman called Ælfgyth'. OE pers. name + *cirice*.

Alvecote Warwicks. *Avecote* c.1160. 'Cottage(s) of a man called Afa'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Alvediston Wilts. *Alfwieteston* 1165. Probably 'farmstead or village of a man called Ælfgeat'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alveley Shrops. *Alvidelege* 1086 (DB). 'Woodland clearing of a woman called Ælfgyth'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Alverdiscott Devon. *Alveredescota* 1086 (DB). 'Cottage of a man called Ælfrēd'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Alverstoke Hants. *Stoce* 948, *Alwarestoch* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a woman called Ælfwaru or *Æthelwaru'. OE pers. name + *stoc*.

Alverstone I. of Wight. *Alvrestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ælfrēd'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alverton Notts. *Aluriton* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ælfhere'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alvescot Oxon. *Elfegescote* 1086 (DB). 'Cottage of a man called Ælfhēah'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Alveston S. Glos. *Alwestan* 1086 (DB). 'Boundary stone of a man called Ælfwīg'. OE pers. name + *stān*.

Alveston Warwicks. *Eanulfestun* 966, *Alvestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Æanwulf'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Alvingham Lincs. *Aluingeham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead of the family or followers of a man called Ælf'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *hām*.

Alvington Glos. *Eluinton* 1220. Probably identical in origin with the next name.

Alvington, West Devon. *Alvintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ælf'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alwalton Cambs. *Æthelwoldingtun* 955, *Alwoltune* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Æthelwald'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Alwinton Northum. *Alwenton* 1242. 'Farmstead or village on the River Alwin'.

Celtic or pre-Celtic river-name (of uncertain meaning) + OE *tūn*.

Alwoodley Leeds. *Aluoldelei* 1086 (DB), *Adelwaldeslea* 1166. 'Woodland clearing of a man called Æthelwald'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Alyth Perth. *Alicht* c.1249, *Alyth* 1327. Perhaps 'rocky place'. Gaelic *eileach*.

Ambergate Derbys. , a recent name, first recorded in 1836, referring to a toll-gate near the River **Amber** (a pre-Celtic river-name of uncertain meaning) which also gives name to the district of **Amber Valley**.

Amberley, probably 'woodland clearing frequented by a bird such as the bunting or yellow-hammer', OE *amer* + *lēah*: **Amberley** Glos. *Unberleia* [sic] 1166, *Omberleia*, *Amberley* c.1240. **Amberley** W. Sussex. *Amberle* 957, *Ambrelie* 1086 (DB).

Ambersham, South W. Sussex. *Æmbresham* 963. 'Homestead or river-bend land of a man called *Æmbre'. OE pers. name + *hām* or *hamm*.

Amble Northum. *Ambell* 1204, *Anebell* 1256. Probably 'promontory of a man called *Amma or Anna'. OE pers. name + *bile*.

Amblecote Dudley. *Elmelecote* 1086 (DB). Probably 'cottage of a man called *Æmela'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Ambleside Cumbria. *Ameleseta* c.1095. 'Shieling or summer pasture by the river sandbank'. OS cand. *á* + *melr* + *sætr*.

Ambleston (*Treamlod*) Pemb. *Amleston* 1230. 'Amelot's farm'. OFrench pers. name + OE *tūn* (Welsh *tref*).

Ambrosden Oxon. *Ambresdone* 1086 (DB). Possibly 'hill of a man called *Ambre', OE pers. name + *dīn*. Alternatively 'hill of the bunting' if the first element is rather OE *amer*.

Amcotts N. Lincs. *Amecotes* 1086 (DB). 'Cottages of a man called *Amma'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Amersham Bucks. *Agmodesham* 1066, *Elmodesham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead or village of a man called Eallmund'. OE pers. name + *hām*.

Amesbury Wilts. *Ambresbyrig* c.880, *Ambresberie* 1086 (DB). Possibly 'stronghold of a man called *Ambre', OE pers. name + *burh* (dative *byrig*). Alternatively '(disused)

stronghold frequented by buntings' if the first element is rather OE *amer*.

Amington Staffs. *Ermendone* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Aminton* 1150. Probably 'estate associated with a man called *Earma'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Amlwch Angl. *Anulc* 1254, *Amelogh* 1352. '(Place) near the swamp'. Welsh *am* + *llwch*.

Ammanford (*Rhydaman*) Carm. *Amman* 1541. 'Ford over the River Aman'. OE *ford* (Welsh *rhyd*). The river-name means 'pig' (Welsh *banw*), for a river that 'roots' its way through the ground.

Amotherby N. Yorks. *Aimundrebi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eymundr'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Ampleforth N. Yorks. *Ampreforde* 1086 (DB). 'Ford where dock or sorrel grows'. OE *ampre* + *ford*.

Ampney Crucis, Ampney St Mary, Ampney St Peter & Down

Ampney Glos. *Omenie* 1086 (DB), *Ameneye Sancte Crucis* 1287, *Ammeneye Beate Marie* 1291, *Amenel Sancti Petri* c.1275, *Dunamenell* 1205. Possibly named from **Ampney Brook**, 'stream of a man called *Amma', OE pers. name (genitive *-n*) + *ēa*. Alternatively the second element may be OE *ēg* 'island, area of raised ground in marsh'. Distinguishing affixes from the dedication of the churches to the Holy Rood (Latin *crucis* 'of the cross'), St Mary and St Peter, and from OE *dūne* 'lower downstream'.

Ampport Hants. *Anna de Port* c.1270. 'Estate on the River *Ann* held by a family called *de Port*'. Celtic river-name (meaning 'ash-tree stream') + manorial affix (from its Domesday owner), see ANDOVER.

Ampthill Beds. *Ammetelle* 1086 (DB). 'Anthill, hill infested with ants'. OE *ǣmette* + *hyll*.

Ampton Suffolk. *Hametuna* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called *Amma'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Amwell, Great & Amwell, Little Herts. *Emmwelle* 1086 (DB). 'Spring or stream of a man called *Æmma'. OE pers. name + *wella*.

Anascaul (*Abhainn an Scáil*) (river) Kerry. 'River of the phantom'.

Ancaster Lincs. *Anecastre* 12th cent. Probably 'Roman fort or town associated with a man called An(n)a'. OE pers. name + *cæster*.

Ancroft Northum. *Ancroft* 1195. 'Lonely or isolated enclosure'. OE *āna* + *croft*.

Anderby Lincs. *Andreby* c.1135. Possibly 'farmstead or village of a man called Arnthórr'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*. Alternatively the first element may be OS cand. *andri* 'snow-shoe' perhaps in the sense 'billet of wood'.

Andersonstown (*Baile Andarsan*) Antrim. *Anderson's Town Village* 1832. 'Anderson's town'.

Anderton Ches. *Anderton* 1184. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eanrēd or Eindriith'. OE or OS cand. pers. name + *tūn*.

Andover Hants. *Andeferas* 955, *Andovere* 1086 (DB). '(Place by) the ash-tree waters'. Celtic river-name *Ann* (an earlier name for the River Anton and Pillhill Brook) with the Celtic word also found in DOVER.

Andoversford Glos. *Onnan ford* 759, *Anneford* c.1243, *Annesford* 1327. 'Ford of a man called Anna'. OE pers. name + *ford*.

Anerley Grt. London, so named from a solitary house built here by a Scotsman in the mid-19th cent. which he called by the dialect word *anerly* 'lonely'.

Anfield Lpool. *Hongfield* 1642. Possibly 'field on a slope'. ME *hange* + *feld*.

Angersleigh Somerset. *Lega* 1086 (DB), *Aungerlegh* 1354. OE *lēah* 'woodland clearing' with manorial addition from the *Aunger* family, here in the 13th cent.

Anglesey (*Môn*) (island) Angl. *ynys uon* 815, *Anglesege* 1098, *Ongulsey* 13th cent., *Anglesey*, or *Anglesea* 1868. 'Ongull's island'. OS cand. pers. name + *ey*. The Welsh name cannot satisfactorily be explained. Hence the Roman name, *Mona*.

Angmering W. Sussex. *Angemæringum* c.880, *Angemare* 1086 (DB). '(Settlement of) the family or followers of a man called *Angenmǣr'. OE pers. name + *-ingas* (dative *-ingum*).

Angram '(place at) the pastures or grasslands', OE **anger* in a dative plural form **ang(e)rum*: **Angram** N. Yorks., near Keld. *Angram* late 12th cent. **Angram** N. Yorks., near York. *Angram* 13th cent.

Angus (the unitary authority). *Enegus* 12th cent. ('Place of) Angus'. With reference to *Angus*, 8th-cent. king of the Picts.

Ankail (*Eing Caol*) Kerry. 'Narrow strip'.

Anlaby E. R. Yorks. *Unlouebi* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Anlauebi* 1203. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Óláfr'. OScand. pers. name + *by*.

Anmer Norfolk. *Anemere* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Anedemere* 1291. 'Duck pool'. OE *æned* + *mere*.

Ann, Abbots Hants. *Anne* 901, 1086 (DB), *Anne Abbatis* c.1270. 'Estate on the River *Ann* belonging to the abbot'. Celtic river-name (meaning 'ash-tree stream') with manorial affix referring to early possession by Hyde Abbey at Winchester.

Anna Valley Hants., a recent name, coined from the old river-name *Ann* as in previous name, see ANDOVER.

Annabella (*Eanach Bile*) Cork. 'Marsh of the sacred tree'.

Annacarty (*Áth na Cairte*) Tipperary. 'Ford of the cart'.

Annacloon (*Eanach Cluana*) Down. *Enaghluan* 1422. 'Marsh of the haunch-like hill'.

Annacloy (*Áth na Cloiche*) Down. *Annacloy* 1621. 'Ford of the stone'.

Annacotty (*Áth an Choite*) Limerick. 'Ford of the boat'.

Annacurragh (*Eanach Churraigh*) Wicklow. 'Marsh of the bog'.

Annadorn (*Áth na nDorn*) Down. *Annaghorney* 1627. 'Ford of the fists'.

Annaduff (*Eanach Dubh*) Leitrim. 'Black marsh'.

Annagassan (*Áth na gCasán*) Louth. 'Ford of the paths'.

Annagh (*Eanach*) Mayo. 'Marsh'.

Annaghdown (*Eanach Dúin*) Galway. 'Marsh of the fortress'.

Annaghmore (*Eanach Mór*) Armagh, Laois, Offaly. 'Big marsh'.

Annahilt (*Eanach Eilte*) Down. (*Molibae*) *Enaig Elti* c.830. 'Marsh of the doe'.

Annakisha (*Áth na Cise*) Cork. 'Ford of the wicker causeway'.

Annalee (*Abhainn Eanach Lao*) (river) Cavan. 'River of the marsh of the calf'.

Annalong (*Áth na Long*) Down. *Analong* c.1655. 'Ford of the ships'.

Annalore (*Áth na Lobhar*) Monaghan. 'Ford of the leper'.

Annamoe (*Áth na mBó*) Wicklow. 'Ford of the cows'.

Annan Dumf. *Anava* 7th cent., *Estrahanent* 1124, *Stratanant* 1152, *Annandesdale* 1179. 'Place by the) River *Annan*'. The Celtic (or pre-Celtic) river-name means 'water'. The last three forms of the name above have added an element meaning 'valley' (Cumbric *ystrad*, Gaelic *srath*, OScand. *dalr* or OE *dæl*).

Annaveagh (*Áth na bhFiada*) Monaghan. 'Ford of the deer'.

Annesley Woodhouse Notts. *Aneslei* 1086 (DB), *Anseleia* c.1190, *Annesley Wodehouse* 13th cent. Possibly 'woodland clearing of a man called *Ān'. OE pers. name + *lēah*. Alternatively perhaps identical with ANSLEY Warwicks. The 13th-cent. addition denotes 'woodland hamlet'.

Annfield Plain Durham. A modern name, first recorded 1857, perhaps identical with ANFIELD Lpool.

Annsborough (*Baile Anna*) Down. *Anne-borough* 1823. After *Annsborough House*, itself perhaps named after the *Annesley* family.

Ansford Somerset. *Almundesford* 1086 (DB). 'Ford associated with a man called Ealhmund'. OE pers. name + *ford*.

Ansley Warwicks. *Hanslei* 1086 (DB), *Anesteleye* 1235. Probably 'woodland clearing with a hermitage'. OE *ānsell* + *lēah*.

Anslow Staffs. *Eansythelege* 1012. 'Woodland clearing of a woman called Eanswith'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Anstey, Ansty, a name found in various counties, from OE *ānstig* 'single track, track linking other routes' or *anstig* 'steep track'; examples include: **Anstey** Leics. *Anstige* 1086 (DB). **Anstey, East & Anstey, West** Devon. *Anesti(n)ga* 1086 (DB). **Ansty** Warwicks. *Anestie* 1086 (DB). **Ansty** Wilts. *Anestige* 1086 (DB). **Ansty Cross, Higher Ansty** Dorset. *Anesty* 1219.

- Anston, North & Anston, South** Rothm. *Anestan, Lítelanstan* 1086 (DB), *Norhanstan, Suthanstan* 1297. 'The single or solitary stone'. OE *āna* + *stān*.
- Anstruther** Fife. *Ainestrooder* 1178–88, *Anestrothir* c.1205. Perhaps 'stream of Ethernan'. Gaelic *sruthair*.
- Anthorn** Cumbria. *Eynthorn* 1279. 'Solitary thorn-tree'. OS cand. *einn* + *thorn*.
- Antingham** Norfolk. *Antingham* 1044–7, 1086 (DB). 'Homestead of the family or followers of a man called *Anta'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *hām*.
- Antonine Wall** Dumf, Falk. The wall from the Forth to the Clyde was built in AD 142 for the Roman emperor *Antoninus* Pius.
- Antony** Cornwall. *Antone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead of a man called Anna or *Anta'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.
- Antrim** (*Aontroim*, earlier *Aontreibh*) Antrim. (*Fiontan*) *Oentreibh* 612. 'Single house'.
- Antrobus** Ches. *Entrebus* 1086 (DB), *Anderbusk* 1295. Possibly 'bush of a man called Endrithi or *Andrithi'. OS cand. pers. name + *buskr*.
- Anwick** Lincs. *Amuinc* [sic], *Haniwic* 1086 (DB), *Amewic* 1218, *Anewic* c.1221. 'Dwelling or farm of a man called Amma or Anna'. OE pers. name + *wīc*.
- Anyalla** (*Eanaigh Gheala*) Monaghan. *Anyalle* 1591. 'White marshes'.
- Aperfield** Gtr. London. *Apeldrefeld* 1242. 'Open land where apple-trees grow'. OE *apuldor* + *feld*.
- Apethorpe** Northants. *Patorp* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Apetorp* 1162. 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Api'. OS cand. pers. name + *thorp*.
- Apley** Lincs. *Apeleia* 1086 (DB). 'Apple wood'. OE *æppel* + *lēah*.
- Apperknowle** Derbys. *Apelknol* 1317. 'Apple-tree hillock'. OE *æppel* + *cnoll*.
- Apperley** Glos. *Apperleg* 1210. 'Wood or clearing where apple-trees grow'. OE *apuldor* + *lēah*.
- Appin** (district) Highland. 'Abbey land'. Gaelic *apainn*.
- Appleby**, 'farmstead or village where apple-trees grow', OE *æppel* (perhaps replacing OS cand. *epli*) + OS cand. *by*: **Appleby** Cumbria. *Aplebi* 1130. **Appleby** N. Lincs. *Aplebi* 1086 (DB). **Appleby Magna & Appleby Parva** Leics. *Æppelby* 1002, *Aplebi* 1086 (DB). Distinguishing affixes are Latin *magna* 'great' and *parva* 'little'.
- Applecross** Highland. *Aporcrosan* c.1080. 'Mouth of the River Crosan'. Pictish *aber*. The river-name means 'little cross' (Gaelic *cross* + diminutive suffix *-an*).
- Appledore**, '(place at) the apple-tree', OE *apuldor*: **Appledore** Devon. *le Apildore* 1335. **Appledore** Kent. *Apuldre* 10th cent., *Apeldres* 1086 (DB).
- Appleford** Oxon. *Æppelford* c.895, *Apleford* 1086 (DB). 'Ford where apple-trees grow'. OE *æppel* + *ford*.
- Appleshaw** Hants. *Appelsag* 1200. 'Small wood where apple-trees grow'. OE *æppel* + *sceaga*.
- Appleton**, 'farmstead where apples grow, apple orchard', OE *æppel-tūn*; examples include: **Appleton** Oxon. *Æppeltune* 942, *Apletune* 1086 (DB). **Appleton** Warrtn. *Epletune* 1086 (DB). **Appleton, East** N. Yorks. *Apelton* 1086 (DB). **Appleton-le-Moors** N. Yorks. *Apeltun* 1086 (DB). Affix means 'near the moors'. **Appleton-le-Street** N. Yorks. *Apletun* 1086 (DB). Affix means 'on the main road'. **Appleton Roebuck** N. Yorks. *Æppeltune* c.972, *Apleton* 1086 (DB), *Appleton Roebucke* 1664. Manorial affix from the *Rabuk* family, here in the 14th cent. **Appleton Wiske** N. Yorks. *Apeltona* 1086 (DB). Affix refers to its situation on the River Wiske (from OE *wisc* 'marshy meadow').
- Appletreewick** N. Yorks. *Apletrewic* 1086 (DB). 'Dwelling or farm by the apple-trees'. OE *æppel-trēow* + *wīc*.
- Appley Bridge** Lancs. *Appelleie* 13th cent. 'Apple-tree wood or clearing'. OE *æppel* + *lēah*.
- Apsley End** Beds. *Aspele* 1230. 'Aspen-tree wood'. OE *æspe* + *lēah*.
- Apuldram** W. Sussex. *Apeldreham* 12th cent. 'Homestead or enclosure where apple-trees grow'. OE *apuldor* + *hām* or *hamm*.
- Aran Islands** (*Árainn*) Galway. 'Islands of the ridge'.

Aranmore (*Árainn Mhór*) Donegal. 'Big ridge'.

Arberth. See NARBERTH.

Arboe (*Ard Bó*) Tyrone. (*Colman*) *Airdi Bó* c.830. 'Height of the cows'.

Arborfield Wokhm. *Edburgefild* c.1190, *Erburgefild* 1222. Probably 'open land of a woman called Hereburh'. OE pers. name + *fild*.

Arbroath Ang. *Aberbrothok* 1178, *Arbroath*, or *Aberbrothwick* 1868. 'Mouth of the River Brothock'. Pictish *aber*. The river-name means 'seething one' (Gaelic *brothach*).

Ardagh (*Ardach*) Longford. 'High field'.

Ardaghy (*Ardachadh*) Monaghan. 'High field'.

Ardakillen (*Ard an Choillín*) Roscommon. 'Height of the little wood'.

Ardanleagh (*Ardán Liath*) Limerick. 'Little grey height'.

Ardara (*Ard an Rátha*) Donegal. *Árd an Rátha* c.1854. 'Height of the fort'.

Ardaragh (*Ard Darach*) Down. *Ardarre* 1549. 'Height of the oak-tree'.

Ardattin (*Ard Aitinn*) Carlow. 'Height of the gorse'.

Ardavagga (*Ard a' Mhagaidh*) Offaly. 'Height of merriment'.

Ardballymore (*Ardvhaile Mór*) Westmeath. 'Big high homestead'.

Ardcath (*Ard an Chatha*) Meath. 'Height of the battle'.

Ardcolm (*Ard Coilm*) Wexford. 'Height of Colm'.

Ardcrony (*Ard Cróine*) Tipperary, Wexford. 'Cróine's height'.

Ardree (*Baile Átha Fhirdhia*) Louth. 'Ferdia's ford'.

Ardreen (*Ardín*) Cork, Kerry. 'Little height'.

Ardley Herts. *Eardeleage* 939, *Erdelei* 1086 (DB). 'Woodland clearing of a man called *Earda'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Ardlen (old forest) Warwicks. See HENLEY-IN-ARDEN.

Ardlerin (*Ard Éireann*) Laois, Offaly. 'Height of Ireland'.

Ardersier Highland. *Arrosser* 1227, *Ardersseir* 1257. 'Promontory of the artisan'. Gaelic *ard-na-saor*.

Ardfert (*Ard Fhearta*) Kerry. 'Height of the grave'.

Ardfield (*Ard Ó bhFicheallaigh*) Cork. 'Height of Uí Fhicheallaigh'.

Ardfinnan (*Ard Fhionáin*) Tipperary. 'Fionán's height'.

Ardgarvan (*Ard an Garbháin*) Derry. *Ardagarnen* 1616. 'Height of the gravel'.

Ardgivna (*Ard Goibhne*) Sligo. 'Height of the smith'.

Ardglass (*Aird Ghlais*) Down. (*go*)*hAird Glais* 1433. 'Grey point'.

Ardglass (*Ard Glas*) Cork. 'green height'.

Ardgroom (*Dhá Dhrom*) Cork. 'Two ridges'.

Ardingary (*Ard an Gháire*) Donegal. 'Height of shouting'.

Ardingly W. Sussex. *Erdingelea* early 12th cent. 'Woodland clearing of the family or followers of a man called *Earda'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *lēah*.

Ardington Oxon. *Ardintone* 1086 (DB). Probably 'estate associated with a man called *Earda'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Ardivaghan (*Ard Uí Mhócháin*) Westmeath. 'Ó Mocháin's height'.

Ardkearagh (*Ard Caorach*) Kerry. 'Height of sheep'.

Ardkeen (*Ard Caoin*) Down. *Ardkene* 1306. 'Pleasant height'.

Ardlea (*Ard Liath*) Laois. 'Grey height'.

Ardleigh Essex. *Erleiam* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Ardlega* 12th cent. Probably 'woodland clearing with a dwelling place'. OE *eard* + *lēah*.

Ardley Oxon. *Eardulfes lea* 995, *Ardulveslie* 1086 (DB). 'Woodland clearing of a man called Eardwulf'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Ardlougher (*Ard Luachra*) Cavan. *Ardloagher* 1611. 'Height of the rushes'.

Ardmillan (*Ard an Mhuilinn*) Down. 'Height of the mill'.

Ardmore (*Aird Mhór*) Armagh, Derry, Galway, Mayo, Waterford. 'Big height'.

Ardmore Point Highland (Islay). 'Large point'. Gaelic *ard* + *mór*, and English *point*.

Ardmorney (*Ard Murnaigh*) Westmeath. 'Morna's height'.

Ardnacrohy (*Ard na Croiche*) Limerick. 'Height of the gallow's'.

Ardnacrusa (*Ard na Croise*) Clare. 'Height of the cross'.

Ardnaglug (*Ard na gClog*) Westmeath. 'Height of the bell'.

Ardnagroghery (*Ard na gCrochaire*) Cork. 'Height of the hangmen'.

Ardnamoghill (*Ard na mBuachail*) Donegal. 'Height of the boys'.

Ardnamurchan (peninsula) Highland. *Art Muirchol* c.700, *Ardnamurchin* 1309. 'Point of the otters (literally "sea dogs")'. Gaelic *ard* + *na* + *muir* + *cù* (genitive plural *chon*). The first form of the name above seems to suggest a final element *chol*, 'sin', with 'sea sins' implying piracy.

Ardnapreaghau (*Ard na bPréachán*) Limerick. 'Height of the crows'.

Ardnaree (*Ard na Ría*) Mayo. 'Height of the executions'.

Ardnurcher (*Áth an Urchair*) Westmeath. 'Ford of the cast'.

Ardpatrick (*Ard Pádraig*) Limerick. 'Patrick's height'.

Ardrahan (*Ard Raithin*) Galway. 'Height of ferns'.

Ardress (*An tArdriasc*) Armagh. *Tardresk* 1609. 'High bog'.

Ardrishaig Arg. 'Height of the brambles'. Gaelic *ard* + *dris*.

Ardroe (*Aird Rua*) Galway. 'Red point'.

Ardross Highland. 'Height of the moorland'. Gaelic *ard* + *ros*. Alternatively, 'height of the headland', from the same elements.

Ardrossan N. Ayr. *Ardrossene* c.1320. 'Height of the little headland'. Gaelic *ard* + *ros* + diminutive suffix *-an*.

Ards Peninsula (*Aird Uladh*) Down. (*i*)*nAird Ulad* c.830. 'Peninsula of the Ulstermen'.

Ardscoil (*Ard Scol*) Kildare. 'Height of schools'.

Ardsheelane (*Ard Stóilán*) Kerry. 'Height of Stóilán'.

Ardsley Barns. *Erdeslaia* 12th cent. 'Woodland clearing of a man called Eorēd or Ēanrēd'. OE pers. name + *lēah*.

Ardsley East Leeds. *Erdeslawe* 1086 (DB). 'Mound of a man called Eorēd or Ēanrēd'. OE pers. name + *hlāw*.

Ardstraw (*Ard Sratha*) Tyrone. (*muintir*) *Aird Sratha* c.900. 'Height of the river island'.

Ardtole (*Ard Tuathail*) Down. 'Tuathal's height'.

Ardwick Manch. *Atherdwic*, *Atheriswyke*, *Aderwyk* 1282. From OE *wīc* 'specialized farm or building' with an uncertain male pers. name, possibly OE *Æthelwæd* or *Ēadræd*.

Areley Kings Worcs. *Erneleia* c.1138, *Kyngges Arley* 1405. 'Wood or clearing frequented by eagles'. OE *earn* + *lēah*. Affix *Kings* because it was part of a royal manor.

Argideen (*Airgidin*) (river) Cork. 'Silver (river)'.

Argos Hill E. Sussex. First recorded as *Argarshill*, *Ergershill* 1547, probably so called from the name of a local family.

Argyll (district) Arg. *Arregaitheal* c.970, *Argail* 1292. 'Coastland of the Gaels'. Gaelic *oirthir Ghaideal*.

Arkendale N. Yorks. *Arghendene* 1086 (DB). Possibly 'valley of a man called *Eorcna'. OE pers. name + *denu* (replaced from the 14th cent. by OS cand. *dāl*). Alternatively the first element may be OE *arce* (genitive *arcan*) 'ark, chest', perhaps used in a transferred topographical sense.

Arkesden Essex. *Archesdana* 1086 (DB). Possibly 'valley of a man called Arnke'. OS cand. pers. name + OE *denu*.

Arkholme Lancs. *Ergune* 1086 (DB). '(Place at) the shielings or hill-pastures'. OScand. *erg* in a dative plural form *ergum*.

Arkley Grt. London. *Arkeleyslond* 1332, *Arkeley* 1547. Possibly 'woodland clearing by the ark, or where arks are made'. OE (*e*)*arc* 'ark, chest, bin or other receptacle' + *lēah*.

Arklow (*An tInbhear Mór*) Wicklow. *Herketelou* 1177. 'Arnke'll's meadow'. OScand. pers. name + *ló*. The Irish name means 'the big estuary'.

Arksey Donc. *Archeseia* 1086 (DB). Possibly 'island, or dry ground in marsh, of a man called Arnkel'. OScand. pers. name + OE *ēg*.

Arlecdon Cumbria. *Arlauchdene* c.1130. Possibly 'valley of the stream frequented by eagles'. OE *earn* + *lacu* + *denu*.

Arlescote Warwicks. *Orlavescote* 1086 (DB). 'Cottage(s) of a man called Ordlāf'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Arlesey Beds. *Alricheseia* 1062, 1086 (DB). 'Island or well-watered land of a man called Ælfrīc'. OE pers. name + *ēg*.

Arless (*Ardlios*) Laois. 'High fort'.

Arleston Tel. & Wrek. *Erdelveston* 1180. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Eardwulf'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Arley, usually 'wood or clearing frequented by eagles', OE *earn* + *lēah*: **Arley** Warwicks. *Earnlege* 1001, *Arlei* 1086 (DB). **Arley, Upper** Worcs. *Earnleie* 996, *Ernlege* 1086 (DB).

However the following may have a different origin: **Arley** Ches. *Arlegh* 1340. Possibly 'grey wood', or 'wood on a boundary'. OE *hār* + *lēah*.

Arlingham Glos. *Erlingeham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead or enclosure of the family or followers of a man called *Eorl(a)'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *hām* or *hamm*.

Arlington Devon. *Alferdintona* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ælfrith'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Arlington E. Sussex. *Erlington* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Eorl(a)'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Arlington Glos. *Ælfredīngctune* 1004, *Alvredintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Ælfrēd'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Armadaile Highland (Skye). *Armidill* 1723. 'Arm-shaped valley'. OScand. *armr* + *dalr*.

Armadaile W. Loth. The town arose in the mid-19th cent. and was named after William Honeyman, Lord Armadaile, who took his title from *Armadaile*, Highland, near Melvich. Its own name has the same origin as ARMADALE, Skye.

Armagh (*Ard Mhacha*) Armagh. *Ard Macha* 444. 'Macha's height' or 'height of the plain'.

Armathwaite Cumbria. *Ermithwait* 1212. 'Clearing of the hermit'. ME *ermite* + OScand. *thweit*.

Arminghall Norfolk. *Hameringahala* 1086 (DB). Possibly 'nook of land of the family or followers of a man called *Ambre or Eanmær'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *halh*.

Armitage Staffs. *Armytage* 1520. '(Place at) the hermitage'. ME *ermitage*.

Armoey (*Oirthear Maí*) Antrim. *Airther Maigi* c.900. 'East of the plain'.

Armscote Warwicks. *Eadmundescote* 1042. 'Cottage(s) of a man called Eadmund'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Armthorpe Donc. *Ernulvestorp* 1086 (DB). 'Outlying farmstead or hamlet of a man called Earnwulf or Arnulf'. OE or OScand. pers. name + OScand. *thorp*.

Arncliffe N. Yorks. *Arneclif* 1086 (DB). 'Cliff of the eagles'. OE *earn* + *clif*.

Arcott, Upper & Arcott, Lower Oxon. *Earnigcote* 983, *Ernicote* 1086 (DB). 'Cottage(s) associated with a man called *Earn'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *cot*.

Arne Dorset. *Arne* 1268. Probably OE *ærn* 'house or building'. Alternatively '(place at) the heaps of stones or tumuli', from OE **hær* in a dative plural form **harum*.

Arnesby Leics. *Erendesbi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called larund or *Erendi'. OScand. pers. name + *by*.

Arnold, 'nook of land frequented by eagles', OE *earn* + *halh*: **Arnold** E. R. Yorks. *Ærnhal* 1190. **Arnold** Notts. *Ernehale* 1086 (DB).

Arnside Cumbria. *Harnolvesheuet* 1184–90. 'Hill or headland of a man called Earnwulf or Arnulf'. OE or OScand. pers. name + OE *hēafod*.

Arra Mountain (*Sliabh Ára*) Tipperary. 'Mountain of (the district of) Ára'.

Arram E. R. Yorks. *Argun* 1086 (DB). '(Place at) the shielings or hill-pastures'. OS cand. *erg* in a dative plural form *ergum*.

Arran (island) N. Ayr. Meaning uncertain. Ancient name.

Arranmore (*Árainn Mhór*) Donegal. *hAruinn Uí Dhomhnuill* c.1600. 'Great ridge'.

Arrathorne N. Yorks. *Ergthorn* 13th cent. 'Thorn-tree by the shieling or hill-pasture'. OS cand. *erg* + *thorn*.

Arreton I. of Wight. *Eaderingtune* c.880, *Adrintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called Éadhere'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Arrington Cambs. *Earnningtone* c.950, *Erningtone* 1086 (DB). Probably 'farmstead of the family or followers of a man called *Earn(a)'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *tūn*.

Arrow (river) Herefs. See STAUNTON ON ARROW.

Arrow Warwicks. *Arne* [sic] 710, *Arue* 1086 (DB). Named from the River **Arrow**, an ancient Celtic or pre-Celtic river-name probably meaning 'swift one'.

Arryheernabin (*Áirí Thír na Binne*) Donegal. 'Shieling of the country of the peak'.

Arthington Leeds. *Hardintone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called *Earda'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Arthingworth Northants. *Arningvorde* 1086 (DB). 'Enclosure associated with a man called *Earn(a)'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *worth*.

Articlave (*Ard an Chléibh*) Derry. *Ard Cleibh* c.1680. 'Height of the basket'.

Artiferrall (*Ard Tighe Fearghail*) Antrim. 'Height of Fearghal's house'.

Artigarvan (*Ard Tí Garbháin*) Tyrone. *Ordogarvan* c.1655. 'Height of Garbhán's house'.

Artnagross (*Ard na gCros*) Antrim. *Artnagross* 1780, 'Height of the crosses'.

Artrea (*Ard Tré*) Tyrone. (*airchindeach*) *Arda Trea* 1127. 'Tré's height'.

Arundel W. Sussex. *Harundel* 1086 (DB). 'Valley where the plant horehound grows'. OE *hārhtūne* + *dell*. The river-name **Arun** is a back-formation from the place name.

Arvagh (*Ármhach*) Cavan. *Arvaghbeg*, *Arvaghmore* 1630. 'Battlefield'.

Asby, 'farmstead or village where ash-trees grow', OS cand. *askr* + *bý*: **Asby** Cumbria, near Arlecdon. *Asbie* 1654. **Asby, Great & Asby, Little** Cumbria. *Aschaby* c.1160.

Ascot, Ascott, 'eastern cottage(s)', OE *ēast* + *cot*: **Ascot** Winds. & Maid. *Estcota* 1177. **Ascott under Wychwood** Oxon. *Estcot* 1220. Affix means 'near the forest of Wychwood' (an OE name, *Hwiccewudu* 840, meaning 'wood of a tribe called the *Hwicce*').

Asdee (*Eas Daoi*) Kerry. 'Dark waterfall'.

Asenby N. Yorks. *Æstanesbi* 1086 (DB), 'farmstead or village of a man called Eysteinn'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Asfordby Leics. *Osferdebie* 1086 (DB), *Asfordebi* 1184. Possibly 'farmstead of a man called Ásfróthr', OS cand. pers. name + *bý*. Or an OE **Æscford* 'ash-tree ford' + *bý*.

Asgarby, 'farmstead or village of a man called Ásgeirr', OS cand. pers. name + *bý*: **Asgarby** Lincs., near Sleaford. *Asegarby* 1201. **Asgarby** Lincs., near Spilsby. *Asgerebi* 1086 (DB).

Ash, '(place at) the ash-tree(s)', OE *æsc*; examples include: **Ash** Kent, near Sandwich. *Æsce* c.1100. **Ash** Surrey. *Essa* 1170. **Ash Magna** Shrops. *Magna Asche* 1285. Affix is Latin *magna* 'great'. **Ash Priors** Somerset. *Æsce* 1065, *Esse Prior* 1263. Affix from its early possession by the Prior of Taunton.

Ashampstead W. Berks. *Essamestede* 1155-8. 'Homestead by the ash-tree(s)'. OE *æsc* + *hām-stede*.

Ashbocking Suffolk. *Assa* 1086 (DB), *Bokkyng* *Assh* 1411. '(Place at) the ash-tree(s)'. OE *æsc* + manorial affix from the *de Bocking* family, here in the 14th cent.

Ashbourne Derbys. *Esseburne* 1086 (DB). 'Stream where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *burna*.

Ashbrittle Somerset. *Aisse* 1086 (DB), *Esse Britel* 1212. '(Place at) the ash-tree(s)'. OE *æsc* + manorial affix from its possession by a man called *Britel* in 1086.

Ashburnham E. Sussex. *Esseborne* 1086 (DB), *Esburneham* 12th cent. 'Meadow by the stream where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *burna* with the later addition of *hamm*. The river here is still called **Ashburn**.

Ashburton Devon. *Æsburman lande* 1008–12, *Essebreitone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village by the stream where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *burna* + *tūn* (in the earliest spelling alternating with OE *land* 'cultivated land, estate').

Ashbury, 'stronghold where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* + *burh* (dative *byrig*): **Ashbury** Devon. *Esseberie* 1086 (DB). **Ashbury** Oxon. *Eissesberie* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Æseberia* 1187.

Ashby, a common name in the North and Midlands, usually 'farmstead or village where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* or OS cand. *askr* + OS cand. *bý*; however 'farmstead of a man called Askí', OS cand. pers. name + *bý*, is a possible alternative for some names; examples include: **Ashby** N. Lincs. *Aschebi* 1086 (DB). **Ashby by Partney** Lincs. *Aschebi* 1086 (DB). See PARTNEY. **Ashby, Canons** Northants. *Ascebi* 1086 (DB), *Esseby Canons* 13th cent. Affix from the priory here, founded in the 12th cent. **Ashby, Castle** Northants. *Ascebi* 1086 (DB), *Castel Assheby* 1361. Affix from the former castle here. **Ashby, Cold** Northants. *Essebi* 1086 (DB), *Caldessebi* c.1150. Affix is OE *cald* 'cold, exposed'. **Ashby cum Fenby** NE. Lincs. *Aschebi* 1086 (DB). Fenby is *Fen(de)bi* 1086 (DB), 'farmstead in a fen or marsh', OE *fenn* + OS cand. *bý*; Latin *cum* is 'with'. **Ashby de la Launde** Lincs. *Aschebi* 1086 (DB). Manorial affix from the *de la Launde* family, here in the 14th cent. **Ashby de la Zouch** Leics. *Ascebi* 1086 (DB), *Esseby la Zuche* 1205. Manorial affix from the (*de*) *la Zuche* family, here in the 12th cent. **Ashby Folville** Leics. *Ascebi* 1086 (DB). Manorial affix from the *de Foleuilla* family, here in the 12th cent. **Ashby Magna & Ashby Parva** Leics. *Essebi* 1086 (DB). Affixes are Latin *magna* 'great', *parva* 'little'. **Ashby, Mears** Northants. *Asbi* 1086 (DB), *Esseby Mares* 1281. Manorial affix from the *de Mares* family, here in the 12th cent. **Ashby Puerorum** Lincs. *Aschebi* 1086 (DB). Latin affix means 'of the boys', in allusion to a bequest for the support of the choir-boys of Lincoln Cathedral. **Ashby St Ledgers** Northants. *Ascebi* 1086 (DB), *Esseby Sancti Leodegarii* c.1230. Affix from the dedication of the church to St Leger. **Ashby St Mary** Norfolk. *Ascebei* 1086 (DB). Affix from

the dedication of the church. **Ashby, West** Lincs. *Aschebi* 1086 (DB).

Ashcombe Devon. *Aissecome* 1086 (DB). 'Valley where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *cumb*.

Ashcott Somerset. *Aissecote* 1086 (DB). 'Cottage(s) where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *cot*.

Ashdon Essex. *Æstchendune* c.1036, *Ascenduna* 1086 (DB). 'Hill overgrown with ash-trees'. OE *æscen* + *dūn*.

Ashdown Forest Sussex. *Essendon* 1207. Identical in origin with the previous name.

Asheldham Essex. *Assildeham* c.1130. 'Homestead of a woman called *Æschild'. OE pers. name + *hām*.

Ashen Essex. *Asce* 1086 (DB), *Asshen* 1344. '(Place at) the ash-trees'. OE *æsc* in a dative plural form *æscum*.

Ashendon Bucks. *Assedune* 1086 (DB). 'Hill overgrown with ash-trees'. OE *æscen* + *dūn*.

Ashfield, 'open land where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* + *feld*: **Ashfield** Notts. *Esfeld* 1216. An old name now revived as a district name. **Ashfield cum Thorpe** Suffolk. *Assefelda* 1086 (DB). The preposition *cum* is Latin for 'with'; Thorpe is from OS cand. *thorp* 'secondary settlement, dependent outlying farmstead or hamlet'. **Ashfield, Great** Suffolk. *Eascefelda* 1086 (DB).

Ashford, usually 'ford where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* + *ford*: **Ashford** Devon. *Aiseforda* 1086 (DB). **Ashford Bowdler & Ashford Carbonel** Shrops. *Esseford* 1086 (DB), *Asford Budlers, Aysford Carbonel* 1255. Manorial affixes from the *de Boulers* and *Carbunel* families, here at an early date. **Ashford in the Water** Derbys. *Æscforda* 926, *Aissecford* 1086 (DB). Affix 'in the Water' occurs from the late 17th cent., no doubt with reference to the meandering course of the River Wye here.

However two Ashfords have a different origin: **Ashford** Kent. *Essetesford* 1086 (DB). 'Ford by a clump of ash-trees'. OE **æscet* + *ford*. **Ashford** Surrey. *Ecelesford* 969, *Eceford* 1086 (DB). Probably 'ford of a man called *Eccel'. Celtic pers. name + OE *ford*.

Ashill Norfolk. *Asscelea* 1086 (DB). 'Ash-tree wood'. OE *æsc* + *lēah*.

Ashill Somerset. *Aisselle* 1086 (DB). 'Hill where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *hyll*.

Ashingdon Essex. *Assandun* 1016, *Nesenduna* [sic] 1086 (DB). 'Hill of the ass, or of a man called *Assa'. OE *assa* or OE pers. name (genitive *-n*) + *dūn*.

Ashington Northum. *Essenden* 1205. 'Valley where ash-trees grow'. OE *æscen* + *denū*.

Ashington W. Sussex. *Essingetona* 1073. 'Farmstead of the family or followers of a man called *Æsc*'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *tūn*.

Ashleworth Glos. *Escelesuorde* 1086 (DB). 'Enclosure of a man called **Æscel*'. OE pers. name + *worth*.

Ashley, a common name, 'ash-tree wood or clearing', OE *æsc* + *lēah*; examples include: **Ashley** Cambs. *Esselie* 1086 (DB). **Ashley** Ches. *Ascelie* 1086 (DB). **Ashley** Devon. *Eshelegh* 1238. **Ashley** Dorset. *Asselegh* 1246. **Ashley** Hants., near Lymington. *Esselie* 1086 (DB). **Ashley** Hants., near Winchester. *Asselegh* 1275. **Ashley** Northants. *Ascele* 1086 (DB). **Ashley** Staffs. *Esselie* 1086 (DB). **Ashley Green** Bucks. *Essleie* 1227, *Asshely grene* 1468.

Ashling, East & Ashling, West W. Sussex. *Estlinges* 1185. Probably '(settlement of) the family or followers of a man called **Æsc*la'. OE pers. name + *-ingas*.

Ashmansworth Hants. *Æscmæreswierthe* 909. 'Enclosure by the ash-tree pool'. OE *æsc* + *mere* + *worth*.

Ashmore Dorset. *Aisemare* 1086 (DB). 'Pool where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *mere*.

Ashorne Warwicks. *Hassorne* 1196. 'Horn-shaped hill where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *horn*.

Ashover Derbys. *Essovre* 1086 (DB). 'Ridge or slope where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + **ofer*.

Ashow Warwicks. *Ascshot* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Essesho* 12th cent. 'Hill-spur of the ash-tree or of a man called *Æsc*'. OE *æsc* or OE pers. name + *hōh*.

Ashperton Herefs. *Spertune* [sic] 1086 (DB), *Aspretonia* 1144. Probably 'farmstead or village of a man called *Æs*ceorht or *Æs*ceorn'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Ashprington Devon. *Aisbertone* 1086 (DB). 'Estate associated with a man called *Æs*ceorht or *Æs*ceorn'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Ashreigney Devon. *Aissa* 1086 (DB), *Esshereingni* 1238. '(Place at) the ash-tree(s)'.

OE *æsc* + manorial affix from the *de Regny* family, here in the 13th cent.

Ashtead Surrey. *Stede* 1086 (DB), *Estede* c.1150. 'Place where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *stede*.

Ashton, a common name, usually 'farmstead where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* + *tūn*; examples include: **Ashton** Ches. *Estone* 1086 (DB).

Ashton Herefs. *Estune* 1086 (DB). **Ashton** Northants., near Oundle. *Ascetone* 1086 (DB). **Ashton-in-Makerfield** Wigan. *Eston* 1212. Affix is an old district name (*Macrefeld* 1121), from a Celtic word meaning 'wall, ruin' + OE *feld* 'open land'. **Ashton Keynes** Wilts. *Æsc*tun 880-5, *Essitone* 1086 (DB), *Aysheton Keynes* 1572. Manorial affix from the *de Keynes* family, here from the 13th cent. **Ashton, Long** N. Som. *Estune* 1086 (DB), *Longe Ashton* 1467. Affix from the length of the village.

Ashton, Steeple & Ashton, West Wilts. *Æystone* 964, *Aistone* 1086 (DB), *Westaston* 1248, *Stepelaston* 1268. Distinguishing affixes from OE *stīpel* 'church steeple' and *west*. **Ashton under Hill** Worcs. *Æsc*tun 991, *Esstone* 1086 (DB), *Assheton Underhill* 1544. Affix 'under the hill' refers to BREDON Hill. **Ashton-under-Lyne** Tamesd. *Haistune* c.1160, *Ashton under Lyme* 1305. Affix is from an old district name *Lyme*, possibly 'escarpment', see BURSLEM. **Ashton upon Mersey** Traffid. *Asshton* 1408. On the River Mersey, 'boundary river' from OE *mære* (genitive *-s*) + *ēa*.

However some Ashtons have a different origin: **Ashton** Northants., near Northampton. *Asce* 1086 (DB), *Asshen* 1296. '(Place at) the ash-trees'. OE *æsc* in a dative plural form *æscum*. **Ashton, Higher & Ashton, Lower** Devon. *Aiserstone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead of a man called *Æs*chere'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Ashurst, 'wooded hill growing with ash-trees', OE *æsc* + *hyrst*: **Ashurst** Kent. *Aeischester* c.1100. **Ashurst** W. Sussex. *Essehurst* 1164.

Ashurstwood W. Sussex. *Foresta de Esseherst* 1164. Identical in origin with the previous names.

Ashwater Devon. *Aissa* 1086 (DB), *Esse Valteri* 1270. '(Place at) the ash-tree(s)'. OE *æsc* + manorial affix from its possession by a man called *Walter* in the 13th cent.

Ashwell, 'spring or stream where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* + *wella*: **Ashwell** Herts.

Asceuelle 1086 (DB). **Ashwell** Rutland.
Exewelle 1086 (DB).

Ashwellthorpe Norfolk. *Aescewelle*, *Thorp* c.1066. 'Hamlet belonging to a place called *Ashwell* ("ash-tree spring or stream")'. OE *æsc* + *wella* + OS cand. *thorp*.

Ashwick Somerset. *Escewiche* 1086 (DB). 'Dwelling or farmstead where ash-trees grow'. OE *æsc* + *wīc*.

Ashwicken Norfolk. *Wiche* 1086 (DB), *Askiwiken* 1275. '(Place at) the dwellings or buildings'. OE *wīc* in a dative plural form *wīcum* or a ME plural form *wiken*. Later addition may be OE *æsc* 'ash-tree' or a pers. name.

Askam in Furness Cumbria. *Askeham* 1535. Possibly '(place at) the ash-trees'. OS cand. *askr* in a dative plural form *askum*. For the affix, see BARROW IN FURNESS.

Askamore (*An Easca Mhór*) Wexford. 'The big bog'.

Askaganap (*Easca na gCeap*) Wicklow. 'Bog of the stumps'.

Askeaton (*Eas Géitine*) Limerick. *Eas-Gephtine* n.d. 'Géitine's waterfall'.

Askern Donc. *Askern* c.1170. 'House near the ash-tree'. OS cand. *askr* + OE *ærn*.

Askerswell Dorset. *Oscherwille* 1086 (DB). 'Spring or stream of a man called Ösgār'. OE pers. name + *wella*.

Askham, 'homestead or enclosure where ash-trees grow', OE *æsc* (replaced by OS cand. *askr*) + OE *hām* or *hamm*: **Askham** Notts. *Ascām* 1086 (DB). **Askham Bryan & Askham Richard** York. *Ascām* 1086 (DB), *Ascām Bryan* 1285, *Askham Ricardi* 1291. Manorial additions from early possession by men called *Brian* and *Richard*.

Askham Cumbria. *Askum* 1232. '(Place at) the ash-trees'. OS cand. *askr* in the dative plural form *askum*.

Askrigg N. Yorks. *Ascric* 1086 (DB). Probably 'ash-tree ridge'. OS cand. *askr* + OE **ric*.

Askwith N. Yorks. *Ascvid* 1086 (DB). 'Ash-tree wood'. OS cand. *askr* + *vithr*.

Aslackby Lincs. *Aslachebi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Áslákr'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Aslacton Norfolk. *Aslactuna* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Áslákr'. OS cand. pers. name + OE *tīn*.

Aslockton Notts. *Aslachtetune* 1086 (DB). Identical in origin with the previous name.

Aspatria Cumbria. *Aspatric* c.1160. 'Ash-tree of St Patrick'. OS cand. *askr* + Celtic pers. name. The order of elements is Celtic.

Aspenden Herts. *Absedene* 1086 (DB). 'Valley where aspen-trees grow'. OE *æspe* + *denu*.

Aspley Guise Beds. *Æpslea* 969, *Aspeleia* 1086 (DB), *Aspeleye Gyse* 1363. 'Aspen-tree wood or glade'. OE *æspe* + *lēah*, with manorial affix from the *de Gyse* family, here in the 13th cent.

Aspull Wigan. *Aspul* 1212. 'Hill where aspen-trees grow'. OE *æspe* + *hyll*.

Assaroe (*Easa Rua*) Donegal. 'Red waterfall'.

Asselby E. R. Yorks. *Aschilebi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Áskell'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Assendon, Lower & Assendon, Middle Oxon. *Assundene* late 10th cent. 'Valley of the ass, or of a man called *Assa'. OE *assa* or OE pers. name (genitive -n) + *denu*.

Assington Suffolk. *Asetona* 1086 (DB), *Assintona* 1175. 'Estate associated with a man called *As(s)a'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tīn*.

Assolus (*Áth Solais*) Cork. 'Ford of light'.

Astbury Ches. *Astbury* 1093. 'East manor or stronghold'. OE *ēast* + *burh* (dative *byrig*).

Astcote Northants. *Aviescote* 1086 (DB). 'Cottage(s) of a man called Æfic'. OE pers. name + *cot*.

Asterley Shrops. *Estrelega* 1208. 'More easterly woodland clearing'. OE *ēasterra* + *lēah*.

Asterton Shrops. *Esthampton* 1255. 'Eastern home farm'. OE *ēast* + *hām-tīn*.

Asthall Oxon. *Esthale* 1086 (DB). 'East nook(s) of land'. OE *ēast* + *h(e)alh*.

Asthall Leigh Oxon. *Estallingeleye* 1272. 'Woodland clearing of the people of Asthall'. ASTHALL + OE *-inga-* + *lēah*.

Astley, 'east wood or clearing', OE *ēast* + *lēah*: **Astley** Shrops. *Hesleie* 1086 (DB). **Astley**

Warwicks. *Estleia* 1086 (DB). **Astley** Wigan. *Asteleghre* c.1210. **Astley** Worcs. *Eslei* 1086 (DB). **Astley Abbots** Shrops. *Estleia* c.1090, *Astleye Abbatis* late 13th cent. Affix alludes to early possession by Shrewsbury Abbey.

Aston, a common name, usually 'eastern farmstead or estate', OE *ēast + tūn*; examples include: **Aston** Birm. *Estone* 1086 (DB). **Aston** Flin. *Estone* 1086 (DB). **Aston** Rothm. *Estone* 1086 (DB). **Aston Blank** or **Cold Aston** Glos. *Eastunæ* 716–43, *Estone* 1086 (DB). Affix may be OFrench *blanc* 'white, bare'. **Aston Cantlow** Warwicks. *Estone* 1086 (DB), *Aston Cantelou* 1273. Manorial affix from the *de Cantilupe* family, here in the 13th cent. **Aston, Chetwynd** Tel. & Wrek. *Estona* 1155, *Greate Aston alias Chetwynde Aston* 1619. For affix, see CHETWYND. **Aston Clinton** Bucks. *Estone* 1086 (DB), *Aston Clinton* 1237–40. Manorial affix from the *de Clinton* family, here in the late 12th cent. **Aston Fields** Worcs. *Eastun* 767, *Estone* 1086 (DB), *Aston Fields* 1649. **Aston Ingham** Herefs. *Estune* 1086 (DB), *Estun Ingan* 1242. Manorial affix from the *Ingan* family, here in the 13th cent. **Aston Rowant** Oxon. *Estone* 1086 (DB), *Aston Roaud* 1318. Manorial affix from *Rowald* de *Eston*, here in 1236. **Aston, Steeple** Oxon. *Estone* 1086 (DB), *Stipelestun* 1220. Affix is OE *stīepel* 'church steeple'. **Aston upon Trent** Derbys. *Estune* 1086 (DB). For the river-name, see TRENTHAM. **Aston, Wheaton** Staffs. *Estone* 1086 (DB), *Wetenaston* 1248. Affix is OE *hwæten* 'growing with wheat'. **Aston, White Ladies** Worcs. *Eastune* 977, *Estun* 1086 (DB), *Whitladyston* 1481. Affix from its possession by the Cistercian nuns of Whitstones.

However the following has a different origin: **Aston on Clun** Shrops. *Assheston* 1291. 'Ash-tree farmstead'. OE *æsc + tūn*. For the river-name, see CLUN.

Astrop Northants. *Estrop* 1200. 'East hamlet'. OE *ēast + throp*.

Astwood, 'east wood', OE *ēast + wudu*: **Astwood** Milt. K. *Estwode* 1151–4. **Astwood** Worcs. *Estwode* 1182.

Aswarby Lincs. *Asuardebi* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ásvarthr'. OS cand. pers. name + *bý*.

Aswardby Lincs. *Asewardby* c.1155. Identical in origin with the previous name.

Atch Lench Worcs. See LENCH.

Atcham Shrops. *Atingeham* 1086 (DB). 'Homestead of the family or followers of a man called Ætti or Ēata', or 'homestead at the place associated with Ætti or Ēata'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* or *-ing-* + *hām*. Alternatively the final element may be *hamm* 'land in a river-bend'.

Athboy (*Baile Átha Buí*) Meath. 'Town of the yellow ford'.

Athcarne (*Áth Chairn*) Meath. 'Ford of the cairn'.

Athea (*Áth an tSléibhe*) Limerick. 'Ford of the mountain'.

Athelhampton Dorset. *Pidele* 1086 (DB), *Pidele Athelamston* 1285. Originally named from the River Piddle on which it stands (see PIDDLEHINTON), later 'farmstead of a man called Æthelhelm', OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Athelington Suffolk. *Alinggeton* 1219. 'Farmstead or village of the princes'. OE *ætheling + tūn*.

Athelney Somerset. *Æthelingaeigge* 878, *Adelingi* 1086 (DB). 'Island, or dry ground in marsh, of the princes'. OE *ætheling + ēg*.

Athenboy (*Aiteann Buí*) Westmeath. 'Yellow gorse'.

Athenry (*Baile Átha an Rí*) Galway. 'Town of the ford of the kings'.

Atherfield, Little I. of Wight. *Aderingefeldra* 959, *Avrefel* 1086 (DB). 'Open land of the family or followers of a man called Ēadhere or Æthelhere'. OE pers. name + *-inga-* + *feld*.

Atherington Devon. *Hadrintone* 1272. 'Estate associated with a man called Ēadhere or Æthelhere'. OE pers. name + *-ing-* + *tūn*.

Atherstone Warwicks. *Aderestone* 1086 (DB), *Atheredestone* 1221. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Æthelrēd'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.

Atherstone on Stour Warwicks. *Eadrichestone* 710, *Edricestone* 1086 (DB). 'Farmstead or village of a man called Ēadric'. OE pers. name + *tūn*. Affix from its situation on the River Stour, a Celtic or OE river-name probably meaning 'the strong one'.

Atherton Wigan. *Aderton* 1212. 'Farmstead or village of a man called Æthelhere'. OE pers. name + *tūn*.